

Jon Underwood Bio

In 1960, I graduated from Valencia High School in Placentia, CA. I received a BS in Business Administration from the Univ. of Arizona in 1964. I entered the Univ. of California Berkeley's MBA program in the fall of 1964 and married my Univ. of Az. Sweetheart, Tammy Armstrong in August of 1965. I enlisted in the U S Army Reserve in December 1965.

After completing the MBA program, I joined the Boise Cascade Corp. at the Sunnyvale, CA. Corrugated Container operation while waiting to go through basic training at Fort Ord CA. After six months active duty, I returned to the Sunnyvale Container operation.

In November 1969, I was promoted to Sales Manager of Boise's St. Paul, MN. Container operation. In mid 1971, I was promoted to General Manager of Boise's La Porte, IND. operation. I moved to Boise's Wallula, WA. Container plant in 1972 as General Manager and our daughter, Terrye was born later that year. I was transferred to the Torrance, CA. Container operation as General Manager in 1974.

In 1976, I accepted the position as Containerboard Director of Sales and Marketing in Boise Cascade's Paper Group which was located in Portland, OR. and our son Jeffrey was born in 1977.

In 1980, our family moved to DeRidder, LA. where I became the President of Boise Southern Co., a joint venture between Boise Cascade and Southern Natural Resources. Boise Southern was an integrated Forest Products and Paper Company, with 750,000 acres of timberland, 2 Pulp and Paper mills, 3 Plywood plants and 2 Saw mills. During the following three years this became a very challenging business as interest rates soared to 21 percent and new home construction starts dropped by 50 percent.

In early 1983, a Phoenix, AZ. based firm, Southwest Forest Industries, recruited me as their Paper Group Executive VP. The Paper Group consisted of 2 Pulp and Paper Mills and 17 Corrugated Container plants. Four years later, after surviving a difficult economic downturn, Southwest was acquired by Stone Container Corp. in Chicago, ILL. Much to the delight of our family, we decided that the Phoenix area would remain our home.

During this acquisition process, a recreation oriented Residential

Communities Developer, asked me to join them as Executive VP. The company consisted of two large communities in north Scottsdale (Desert Highlands and Desert Mountain) and Las Campanas in Santa Fe, NM was in the planning phase. Twenty years later (2008) I retired as Lyle Anderson Co. COO and Desert Mountain Properties President.

When our family settled in the Phoenix area, Tammy's and my involvement our Church and Civic Organizations really took root. We found a wonderful spiritual family at the Saint Barnabas Episcopal Parish in Paradise Valley, AZ. I have served as an Usher, Finance Committee Member, Vestry Member, Junior Warden, Senior Warden, Capital Campaign Chair(at the request of Bishop John who was our interim Rector) and as Sanctuary Renovation Mgr.

I also had the opportunity to reconnect with the Univ. of AZ. In 1984, I joined the Eller College of Management's National Board of Advisors and served on three Dean Search Committees and as Board Chair. In 2004, I was asked to become a Univ. of AZ Foundation Board of Trustees member. I later served as Board Chairman and remain as a Board member today.

About 10 years ago, Bishop John asked me to Join the LVS Board. It has been a very rewarding experience to see our young students grow in their confidence and make academic progress. The LVS has been and continues to be challenging particularly as it relates to funding. But, who said life would be a relaxing walk on the beach?