

I ran my own consulting business for 20 years, traveling all over the world helping companies improve their sales and marketing strategic processes. Unfortunately, in 2005 I ruptured some tendons in my



ankle, went through four surgeries over four years, and was unable to work -- essentially unable to walk -- for over five years. I am walking again, but will never be able to hike up mountains or play tennis again -- things I loved to do. Those five years without any income, combined with the recent economic problems, have devastated my retirement plans. Thankfully my wife, Barbara, still is working as Director of HR at the most famous resort for the rich and famous in Napa Valley. I have recently got my first consulting contract in six years with a company based in Shanghai, so that is at least a start.

I have been an avid nature photographer for a long time, ever since I spent 1976 backpacking around the West. During the time I was recuperating for all my ankle surgeries I developed a new technique for digitally altering some of my photos to make them look something like Impressionist paintings. I have been showing in two art galleries in Sonoma County (where I live) for a couple of years. I also have a web site: naturedreamsimages.com. Take a look at it.

Although we live in what I think is the most beautiful and interesting place in the world in the Sonoma Valley wine country north of San Francisco, our financial situation probably means that when we finally do retire we won't be able to afford living here. So you may well see us back in the Sarasota area in a few years! In the meantime, anyone from our class visiting the Napa or Sonoma Valley wine area is welcome to contact me for a personal tour.

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