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Richard (Buzz) Erisman

Denver, Colorado



I came to Colorado in 1961 to study at the Colorado of Mines and have lived here every year since, except for one year when I lived in Jacksonville, Fl. In Florida I worked as a law clerk to a Judge on the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. I received a degree in metallurgical engineer from Mines in 1965. During my time in college I worked four summers for Bethlehem Steel. Two summers at the Homer Research labs and then two summers in the labor department.

After graduation from Mines I went directly to law school at the University of Denver. Except for my one year in Florida I have lived my whole career in Denver where I practiced mining law. One of my first clients was US Steel who had a coal mine in Western Colorado. I did legal work for that mine for over 35 years. My practice has been a worldwide mining law practice covering most valuable minerals from alumina to zeolites. My

legal work took me to Brazil, Russia, Australia, Chile and many of the US states. I represented an Alaskan Native Corporation for almost 40 years regarding development of minerals on the 12 million acres they own. Travel to Alaska was always great fun.

I continue to practice law as an arbitrator on mineral law disputes. Often these are disputes regarding the calculation of royalties payable on minerals mined and sold.

A main reason I stayed in Colorado is the weather. It is beautiful here year round. We get plenty of snow but it is generally followed by bright blue skies and a quick snow melt. Nothing like the snow and ice that lingers in Bethlehem under generally cloudy skies.

I am fortunate to have 4 children all of whom have homes in Denver. That means grandkids are nearby most of the year. My oldest son worked as the VP of Marketing for Alibaba for 10 years and his family splits their time between Denver and Tokyo.

I live with my girlfriend Sandy in a condominium that has spectacular views of the Colorado Front Range. We have been together for 10 years although I have known Sandy since the late '70's.

We enjoy playing golf here in Colorado where golf courses are often open year round. I also fish, hike and walk. Our place abuts a large city park which allows us to have walks and fishing right out the front door.

Denver differs from Bethlehem in many ways. It is a mile high which takes some getting used to. The humidity is low, unlike Bethlehem where you need to take two showers a day in the summer. In July, humidity of 25% would be high. The skies are generally blue. Denver is known as the Queen City of the Plains which means from almost any spot in the city you can see the Foothills to the West. From our 12th Floor we can see from Pikes Peak in the South to beyond Longs Peak to the North - a distance of probably 150 miles. A bad thing out here is the cheese steaks are just so-so and you can't get shoo-fly pie.

We look forward to attending our 60th reunion.

See you there!