

~~10:30 am~~
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Lansing Fisher Body Historical Team 4-6-06

(1)

Interviewee - Craig Johnson

Interviewer - Marilyn Coulter

Age - 3-27-81

Married - Single ^{Divorced} (2) children (1) boy - (1) girl

Education - 12th grade - Davenport College -
Henry Hill high school. (Business school)

Military - No.

His mom was a nurse and then went to Michigan National Bank then retired. Dad was a supervisor and Gm. Fisher Body. Retired in 1998. Craig lived not too far from Fisher Body Plant.

His dad worked long hours in Fisher. Craig never thought he would work at Fisher Body. He always dreamed about a job in an office with people working for him everyday.

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Craig put his application in at Rosemary St and Michigan Oneave. His father helped him get into the plant. Started in the trim shop also

he had a sister and 2 brothers who also worked at Fisher Body Plant.

- His sister helped him out quite a bit while in the plant at first. Planks = They turned off his machine and Craig didn't know how to ~~stop~~ start his machine again.

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Craig hired in on 2nd shift.

Atmosphere = comfortable, people get along real well, helped each other out on their jobs in Fisher Body.

Lunch = usually went to Hornys Bar or went to the store. But only 30 minutes for lunch was hard to do.

Craig does remember the "wagon" break which was 7 minutes twice a night, with milk, pop, sandwiches, etc.

Craig then went to door panel job but he knew some of the people in this dept. There were different things about working in a factory, always working faster from one job to the next.

Most of this was alot of teamwork. In his dept there was alot of talking with a radio for comfort.

music also

This lasted for 89 days then he was laid off and called back 4th, in 1981. March 27. Craig was on Snow St.

Then he was in the glass dept. Very different from his early job. Using different guns was your ~~primary~~ job was very hard if you weren't used to. Some of these chemicals would stain your clothes and they were hard to clean. One of the perks of this job was you can take breaks

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on this job. 10¢ more on hour etc.
Prunks = methone in your gloves, or
putting it where you were going to sit
working in Fisher with a God for Boss.

His dad was in the paint shop and
Craig went into team. But he was
transferred to paint. This made Craig very
uncomfortable and also employees picking
on him because of his father.

Working in the paint booth was
different. Because his Father was a boss there
Trim was open more with street clothes
Paint was nasty and coveralls and boots

Working as an African American male was
different. Only a few people in the
glass area were black people. But
some friendships were built and
maintained even outside the Fisher plant.
In the paint booth was dirty and
chemicals were being sprayed, also
they were given extra breaks because
it was so hot inside the booth.
Craig got special treatment because
his dad was a supervisor in Paint.
Then he got restricted out of the paint
dept and went back to the glass
dept. with his old teammates.

Craig was still on nights and
he preferred to work the second

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A. shift More fun, younger people etc.
Best Moments = The day his dad retired from Fisher Body, all the people who had respected his father.

A. Worst Days = When a friend of his was doing ~~drugs~~ drugs and wouldn't stop. Craig tried to help him but couldn't.

The programs of jointly, UAW + GM being NA and AA, were programs. Craig ~~overused~~ utilized these programs everyday.

Craig felt that the people in the plant needed some counseling such as AA and NA for people to use.

Eventually Craig tried to go to a different location ~~not~~ such as a body shop.

This was a different turnaround for Craig. God he stayed until the plant closed on May 5th 2005. He was on a job called spot welding (welding in a certain part on brackets).

Planners = There were many of these and all sisters from there all worked together.

Fisher Body Programs = EAP, QWL, PD.
Suggestions = Craig really didn't use these.

A. Union - election committee, 13 levels men in Unions, Community Service Committee, Conservation + Recreation Committee Chairman, Community Service Programs = United Way

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Toys for tots, poppi gales, people in need were given donations from the dept.

Craig is also Unemployment and Workforce Comp alternate representative. This with him and Howard Brown help people with unemployment sub pay and other.

A Craig spoke about his job as Conservation and Recreation chair, he wants more family friendly excursions and he was also amazed at how the people at Fisher Body are close knit people.

Concept of Quality = to know that you are a part of a finished product. Craig felt that we are the best workforce in the US and also in the world plant closing this hurts because of all his family members worked here. Also the friendships that were formed will continue at Delta Township Plant.

= Craig felt that most people see us as beer drinkers and bowlers. But we are unique as individuals and stand by who we are, take pride in what we do at work.

There are people in the plant that have degrees from college, and the level of education in the plant. Tutoring Ass. Program is a valuable program for us Craig has used this program