

Fisher Body Historical Team

10-26-05
9:20 am

Interviewer - Doug Radmacher

Interviewee - George Nelson

Seniority = 8-29-78

First Day -

Married - Single (2) daughters

Military - None

First Day = The "arm pit" of Fisher (Body Shop)

Brought to Fisher = Money.

First Day = Door Hang in body shop (15 hrs)

Wage = \$7.77 hrs

First ~~Day~~ # Day 90 days to get in before you had union representation.

Assembly line work was very well received and people were friendly.

First Boss = Gorn sites - Prey on new hires.

Ongoing most of the time.

(Higher Seniority = People would look after new hires.

Plan for George was only to work a couple of years.

Pranks - Pour water ~~to~~ on you or with a fire hose. Not as many pranks today.

Always has worked in the body shop.

Very loud in the body shop, no hearing protection. The first month his hands would cramp up at night then it get easier. Ergonomics is more in line today than in the past.

Everyone worked well together. Department softball teams, etc.

Breaks = Regular breaks and lunch, also the "Wagon" twice a day was a welcome break.

George had a hard time finding his way around when he hired in.

First impressions = new hires were looked at and catcalls whistles etc.

Lunch Break = at first stay in, then intent to shop stop Ben and returned.

Women in Body Shop = You could not work there if you were child bearing because of the lead.

GMX-130 was a downsizing of the cars to smaller cars. Cutliss Calais, Pontiac Grand Am.

Reaction to Name Change = He thought that the name change meant liked going to smaller cars. People thought they were a joke

Dick Dowler was one of the better supervisors

Co-workers go hunting, fishing, have some cottages in different spots

Usually for dinners a female would coordinate this in a department

Best Memory = Rufus Hudson a supervisor, George falsed a broken over in the Body Shop for a joke.

Skilled Trades did gant jobs in the past. Made lockers etc.

Union Involvement = went to meetings, that
time in there was a war between hourly and
management. Today this is a better relationship.
Current job = safety support for Body Shop.
Committee member for safety, safety classes, etc.
Began this in 1987, still present.

Stores in the plant were numerous, anything
you wanted to buy food, gum, etc.

Meals were almost every Friday, but that
has changed over the years.

Safety used to have an election to each
of these ~~pos~~ positions (Each shift). This is
how George got this job.

1997 = A man passed away in Building 23 and it
was a tough situation, the family came in
and thanked George and the team.

Best Benefit = All benefits are well appreciated.
George would go to his daughters school and
give a presentation for safety.

About Curing = hot, too quiet, no people.

One day they lifted up a beach and found
a secret storage compartment 40-50ft x 100'
Tunnels beneath the plant go from here
to Plant 2, + Plant 3. Also a secret tunnel
that ran to Harry's Bar across the street
from the plant.

Coal used to be used to power the plant.
George ~~is~~ responded to a ~~coal~~ coal fire
which was very dangerous to even try
to tackle.

Best advice to new hires = ~~do~~ respect what
has been laid out to you. Your job is not
owed to you, you need to appreciate what you
have.