

Fisher Body Historical Team

10-31-05
10:15 am

Interviewer = Marilyn Coulter.

Interviewee = Tom Pizzo

Seniority - 9-14-70

Retired June of 2002

Birth = 9-26-38

Married = widower

~~Married~~ (3) children (2 boys (1 girl (1 child passed away)

Education = High school, 2 years college.

Military = 12 years Army = Sgt

Dept = Material Control

First Day = Had previous UAW experience. Some day the local went on strike that night.

Headlines into the headlines racks. A large agreement the first day with management

Hired in before this date but fired for fighting and rehired in 1970.

During strike worked his day job and also picket line. This was for 30 and out. 30 years you were eligible for retirement. (79) days for strike.

Utility is able to do all jobs in the dept.

Tom always wanted to make someone smile or to smile with him at work.

No day was a failure ~~in~~ in 30 years here.

Pranks & singing a song at work and dancing but was reprimanded for sexual harassment.

Material, Trim, Cushion Room, Body Shop back to trim, also in paint shop only 6 weeks but received a permanent restriction from the Paint Shop Quality Control was

his favorite dept. Check every job or parts
on a vehicle, make sure everything was right by the
end of the line. Also on Utility in this dept.
Population changes = First hired in he used
ethnic jobs, colored, Mexicans etc. Everyone
thought this was fun and enjoyable. Jan 1995
things changed, people were not enjoying these comments
any more and sexual harassment charges were filed
Then as soon as he had a chance to retire
~~From~~ Tom chose to retire in June of 2002.

Name changes = Fisher Body will never die.
Fisher employees took pride in their work. All
people recognized that Fisher employees were
respected in high regard for their work.

Tom's dad did not want him to go to
Fisher Body so first 17 years in the army then

General Motors had the best package for
employment and benefits for employees.

Tom's father started in production and worked
here during WWII and the powerhouse, and
also welder repair on equipment. (boiler)

Good supervisor = some would play by the
book, but the good supervisor was your
dad. Concerned about you and your job, if
training was needed etc. They would look
the other way at pranks and laugh
with you instead of at you. Some
supervisors would not discipline you

unless they had too. Getting a Friday off was always hard to do back in those days. Tom took a Friday off for PTA at school, come in on Monday and received 2 weeks off. During that time Tom's dad called some shareholders to write letters to mgmt at Fisher Body ^{Tom} home back and got back pay and a verbal apology ~~to~~ in front of his peers.

Memories = just families and co workers.

- # Wages was a continuous problem way back ~~to~~ from 1981 till present.
- # Make the day go by =

- # Worst job = Installing wiper motors, also wiper blades, being on some job every night after night.

- # Smoking = 35 years smoked. This was allowed for plantwide, then went to designated areas, then no smoking except in smoking rooms, approximately 2002.

- # Lunch - packed his own from home, thought 1/2 hour from job to cafeteria to job was not enough time. Also the "wagon" was here.

- # Always participated in the dinners for holidays or retirements in the plants.

- # Friends that be made in the plant were in the plant. No activities outside the plant more of a Fisher Body ~~than~~ family than friends

- Union active = not really, no far commitment
but lost, ~~also~~ also few get to arms but lost.
- # Bargained Best Benefit = Medical coverage. But
today this will probably change due to the
higher prices of health care in this country.
Tom doesn't believe in CO/pay for retirees
- Last Day - Party Time and retirement dinner, Tom
decided that you should retire when you get
the chance, and do it before its too late.
- # Words of wisdom, get an education, get as high as
you can in the company. and remember that most
jobs will require more technology and more
education to prepare yourself for jobs in the future
Use tuition assistance program for your personal
gain, always strive to be better. Also
make someone smile today with you or
just wake the smile period.