

Michael J Lettini
Retired Boeing Executive

I graduated from the Stevens Institute of Technology in 1964 with a degree in Physics.

My wife, Inge and I were married in 1972 and have two girls (Kim and Kara) and four grandchildren (Jocelyn, Dominic, Charlie and Caitlin). We live on Mercer Island Washington. Kim and her husband Daniel live in Bellevue Washington. Kim is a Senior Manager at Bonney-Watson – Daniel is a Program Manager at Microsoft. Kara and her husband Darin live in Tacoma Washington. Kara is an attorney at a State Licensing bureau and Darin is the Northwest director for Adroit Digital (a software house).

My career has been primarily with The Boeing Company (thirty-five and a half years). I've worked on every Boeing commercial airliner and on projects like: the Minuteman, SST, AWACS (EMP protection), Saturn V rocket (weight reduction), B-2 Bomber (can't discuss), as Director of Corporate Engineering Standards and others. I received a patent for an electrical grounding device, which was used on nearly every airplane and became an Industry and Mil standard. I also had a number of other responsibilities: Enterprise leader for Operations college relations, Aerospace representative to Stanford University's AIM (Alliance for Innovative Manufacturing) program, MIT LFM (Leaders for Manufacturing) selection committee, Research consultant to Montana State Engineering school, Corporate patent evaluation committee, AIA (Aerospace Industries Association) representative, NCAT (National Center for Advanced Technology) representative, and supported the DoD (Department of Defense) on several occasions (for cost savings using commercial technology). Helped develop the Technical Fellows program at Boeing and was an evaluator. I also spent one year as Chief Engineer at King Electrical Manufacturing. And etc. etc, etc.

I retired early (2001) – I was spending too much time traveling and on 9/11, had I not chosen to fly home from Newark on a 777 I would have been on flight 93. I had training in the Boeing simulators flying 767's – so maybe I could have helped Flight 93 – I'll never know and it still haunts me. That coupled with budget struggles led me to retire and eliminate the stresses. On two occasions I was asked by Boeing to come back on contract to help out with some majors issues. One contract was for two years the other for four months. But now I am fully retired.

Stevens Tech prepared me well for various management positions that I have held at Boeing. I retired as the R&D Support Executive for all Boeing Commercial airplanes at all locations. It was great but very stressful. Especially dealing with budget restrictions.

For hobbies I love playing with the grandchildren, astronomy (have several telescopes), driving my Viper, developing/maintaining web sites, computer security and WiFi analysis, and searching for ET via SETI at HOME. I have been on the board of directors for several companies and was the CEO for a small start up company. I used to jog

nearly every day until I broke my ankle – it is held together with a metal plate and five screws, which makes' jogging difficult.

Anyway, I have had a good life because of my Stevens education. Thank You to Stevens – I would not have done it without a Stevens' education.