

Phone Interview #1 and Phone Interview #2

He loved to learn. He used SOPS (Seat Of Pants Science) He learned tech without using books. He realized that books were too far behind the bleeding edge(leading edge) of technology. He liked to learn by hacking and using documentation when forced. He depended on various groups and sources like email newsletters and information provided from manufacturers.

He grew up as a fat kid in Seattle. He lived in White Center. There was a sign "Drunk Crossing" which looked official but wasn't.

He has four sisters and one brother, Ken. The last two sisters are twins. Jeff says he wasn't the nicest older brother.

He went to a convention in NYC one time. His father was a Presiding Overseer and an athlete. They would talk. He taught Jeff about motorcycles and how to ride them. Jeff's father would get free tickets to Husky games and Sonic's games. The games were something they shared. When Jeff was slow getting ready for meeting, his father would tell him, "You have only known about this for ten years. Why aren't you ready?".

He got to use a PDP 8e

Attended North Seattle Community College where he studied Digital Electronics
He built a SOL 20 - there is one in the Smithsonian Institute

Loves to ride dirt bikes - had a Honda 55 that was bored out to 65

South Seattle CC

The year he was in 7th grade, along with Willy Krohn, took a 13 1/2 foot leaky boat to Blake Island and camped at Tillicum Village Campground. They ate canned food heated over a fire.

When he went to Assemblies he always wanted to cook hamburgers but usually worked in the Cleaning Department. He did get to flip burgers once!

Later he was a prop man for a District Convention Drama where Peter and John perform a miracle. The brother that played the part of a healed lame person had been a circus performer and when he was healed he did an awesome back flip on the stage!

He liked to sleep. Loves to sleep. He never got in the bathroom first.

Slept in the top bunk. Once he fell out and never woke-up.

After graduating from High School he attended Community College for two years and became a Field Engineer. He lived in South Park. A neighbor set fire to a boat, car and a lawnmower. The fire department responded and Jeff never woke up.

He owned two cars and two motorcycles.

Jeff became a Ministerial Servant and thought "Whoa, somebody made a mistake."

At 24 Jeff went to Bethel - his ambition in life.

He worked in the bindery and he loved working there.

The summer was hot and Building 1 Floor 9 Data Processing was air conditioned.

He met Liz after being there one year. He saw her in a coat rack and asked her, "What's wrong?" "I didn't prepare my talk." "You showed up."
He left Bethel six months later.
In 1981 they were married in New York.

Date: Tue, 25 Aug 2009 08:53:36 -0700

Subject: interview questions

From: wjmwriter@gmail.com

To: jw_nelson@hotmail.com

Hi Jeff,

here is a list of questions. Its purpose is to tell me more about what makes you different from the herd. It is neither perfect or complete. Feel free to ignore, edit or elaborate.

~Bill

Jeff Nelson Interview Questions

You always have interesting bits of knowledge to share. Where do you get them?

I read a lot of newsletters and industry (free) magazines.

What is your best way of learning something?

'Seat of Pants Science' - figure it out - the hands on way.

How do you stay current with technology knowledge when you have so many other responsibilities?

Answer is the same as the 1st question.

Tell me about your family - parents and siblings.

Mom and Dad were married almost 50 years before she died. Typical sibling rively as kids - now good friends.

Have you ever tickled Liz's feet?

Nope - rubbed them a lot.

Did you ever do fun things with any of your Aunts, Uncles, Cousins or Grandparents?

Used to fun things with my grandparents (they were in the truth) - until they died. Did not spend much time around other relatives.

Is there one anniversary that stands out in your mind that you would like to share?

25th - we spent it in San Francisco (where we honeymooned) and checked out a lot of cool restaurants.

What is one thing about Liz that makes you smile?

She is afraid of thunder and lightning

Did you ever play a practical joke?

Rarely - never had the imagination for good ones.

Was there a school teacher that made a lasting impression on you?

2nd Grade (Mrs Weaver) tough but you learned to 'buckle down' and learn. In North Seattle Community college one instructor made sure we completely understood how each Bit in a CPU/Main board functioned to execute assembler code and how FIFO/LIFO stacks worked along with other fundamental concepts key to really knowing what was going on inside the computer.

Before you got married, what kinds of goals did you dream about?

Bethel - made it too - it's where I met Liz. Marriage was never in my plans.

Do you ever dream that Jehovah will create herds and herds of dinosaurs to destroy the wicked in the cities?

Oh, I thought everyone had those dreams...

Can't say that I have, but the visual is interesting.

What is the best advice you were ever given?

Don't go through the motions, get the job done.

What things would you like to be doing now?

What do you think is your greatest talent or gift?

Ability to communicate concepts with conviction - courtesy of the Theo School.

What is the funniest movie you ever saw?

It's a mad, mad, mad, mad, mad world.

Tell me about something that just completely amazed you.

The learning ability of very young children.

What is your favorite song?

Toss up between Dire Straits 'Sultans of Swing' and Ottmar Liebert tune - can't remember the name (chemo brain).

If you could meet any one person living now for lunch, who would it be and what would ask or tell them?

The writer of the 2/15/94 study articles - what kind of research lead to the fantastic articles.

What one thing would you say was your greatest obstacle in achieving what you want in life?

Right now it's Cancer, before it was a lack of drive.

Did you ever make a life plan? Would you care to talk about it?

Nope - just went with the flow (good flow - not bad flow)

What is the worst food you ever ate?

Liver

What is your favorite restaurant and what would you eat there?

An Italian place in Scottsdale that has a fantastic Pasta and Shrimp plate.

Do you have a favorite novel?

Dune

What foreign countries have you been to? Are there any you would like to see that you have not been to yet?

England, Canada, Mexico, France, Belgium, Luxemburg, Switzerland and some islands in the Caribbean. I really want to get to Italy.

Do you have an interest in the arts - classical music, plays, theatre, opera, art, poetry, etc.?
Some plays and theatre - but not really a passion.

Have you ever painted?

Nope

What is your favorite joke to tell?

Why is a man's brain the size of a pea? ----- because it's swollen

My favorite joke is (it requires three people, you, someone else who has heard the joke and someone who has not heard it. The reaction of the person who has not heard it is the punchline):

What is the difference between a duck?

No difference, one leg is the same.

What things would you like to see or experience?

Panama Canal (going in October), Malaga Spain.

What was it like when Jessalyn and Josh was born?

Fantastic and scary at the same time.

How did becoming a father change you?

A lot less alone time - it really helps to build patience and understanding.

When did you first decide to be dedicated to Jehovah?

18

Did you have reservations before that?

Nope

What are some of your most memorable prayers?

What convention programs had the most effect on you?

Summer of 1993 - two talks that were later printed in the 2/15/94 WT were fascinating and confusing at the same time.

Did you go to the international assemblies in the 60's and 70's? What were some things that you remember about them?

Never went to and international - biggest I went to was at the King Dome in Seattle.

What did you think and feel when you first learned you were being appointed a ministerial servant?

Whoa - somebody made a mistake.

Was it always your goal to serve as an elder?

Nope.

What was the most unexpected aspect of being an elder for you?

Being appointed.

If you were not limited by health, financial or family considerations, what would be your spiritual goals today?

Full time service as a Pio.

Should you become a Gilead Graduate and have the fantasy assignment of your choosing, where would you choose to go?

Italy

What assignment would you least want to choose?

Russia

Tell me about some bible studies you have conducted.

One with my best friend in Jr High school - he eventually got baptized but is not doing much. I was studying with a teenage boy and his stepfather would always sit in the same room and "read" the paper - both later got baptized.

Describe to me how you imagine in tnsbttyr (The New System Beyond The Thousand Year Reign - yes, it is a ela)?

No stress.

What would be the first thing you would do when you realize for the very first time that you really are in the tnsbttyr?

Relax and look for family.

What resurrected person written about in the bible do you most look forward to meeting?

Noah

What would you talk to them about?

Building the ark.

What is your favorite speculation about the tnsbttyr? Space travel? Using faith for travel or construction?

Once the earth is filled and subdued (it is finite after all) what about the rest of the univers?

After Jehovah is done resting, what sort of things would you speculate he might create?

Not sure - I'm very happy with what he has already done.

Whew! Jeff.