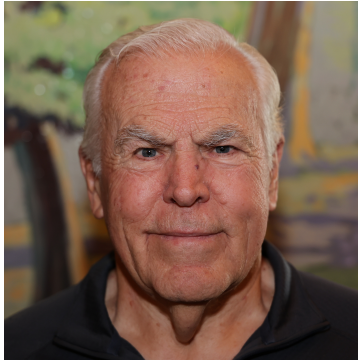


Mike Sims



I was born in Oregon, but the family moved to California when I was four years old. We settled in Santa Barbara, and I spent most of my elementary school years there with interludes in Los Angeles while my father finished his Master's degree at USC and Mariposa where he taught for a year. Junior High School was back in Santa Barbara but after Junior High my parents took positions with the Department of Interior working in education in American Samoa. I graduated from High School there and worked on a freighter coming back to the mainland. I had a variety of jobs, the best

of which was working for the Division of Highways in District 9. This was the area between Bridgeport and Death Valley. I got to work on survey crews on the new (1964) Tioga Pass Road and many other interesting and educational projects.

When I was assigned to an asphalt plant in Bakersfield I joined the Army, looking for adventure. I ended up as a medic in the 173rd Airborne Brigade based in Okinawa. We were sent into Vietnam early in 1965 and I was only there seven months before a landmine got me. I spent a year and nine months in hospitals being repaired. The Army let me start a rehab program at San Jose State where I earned a BA in Geology with a focus on Marine Science. I met my wife, Linda, at San Jose State where she was studying Marine Biology. After graduation we moved to Hawaii. I found work as a lifeguard/beachboy and we enjoyed Hawaii for a year before moving back to California. I was then employed by the Corps of Engineers as a geologist working on a dam in the Sierras. After that project I worked on the foundation of a nuclear plant in Illinois. That project was suspended for a year, so we took the year off and travelled around the world with our *Around the World on \$5 a Day* book.

After travelling and finishing up the nuclear plant, I went to Guam to work on the foundation for submarine docks for the Navy. Then it was back to California where I worked as an engineering geologist on the Central Coast and in 1981 I obtained my Civil Engineering license and started Pacific Geoscience, an engineering, geology, testing and inspection company. My wife got her MBA at Cal Poly to run the business while she worked at French Hospital in the laboratory. In more recent years I worked for Earth Systems and then retired in 2012. My wife retired from French Hospital and we have spent a lot of time hiking, paddling, travelling the world and enjoying the Central Coast.