

UHCL 30th Birthday Oral History Project

Interviewee: Richard Adams
Interviewer: Mary Ann Shallberg
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Transcriber: Shelly Henley Kelly

Shallberg: State your name and where you live.

Adams: Richard Adams; I live in Clear Lake City, Houston, Texas.

Shallberg: What department have you worked in at UH Clear Lake?

Adams: When I first started working here, I was in the graphics department over near the President's office and now I'm Director of Operations Support, which is mailroom, receiving, stores, printing and the copy center.

Shallberg: What year did you start working here and how long have you been here?

Adams: January 1981, so that's working on 25 years.

Shallberg: How did you first learn about UHCL and why did you decide to come to work here?

Adams: I was working for an ad agency over in the Galleria, and I was not happy there. I had interviewed here before that job, and while I was unhappy at the ad agency, I got a call fortunately from this school and I interviewed again and began working.

Shallberg: What challenges have you faced while working at UHCL?

Adams: Being a single parent for a number of years was difficult to juggle work

and parenting, but the university's been real good to me about flexibility. Other than that, it's a great place to work and I haven't had too many difficult challenges.

Shallberg: How has working at UHCL impacted your life?

Adams: It's been very good to me over the years. It's put food on the table and provided me a good life. I've met a lot of friends, and most of my friends actually work here. It's just a good wholesome workplace.

Shallberg: What organizations or activities have you participated in on campus and perhaps some that you've enjoyed the most?

Adams: I've been president of PASA, enjoyed that. I've been on a lot of shared governance committees, worked with the juvenile diabetes walk. I was instrumental in having the left turn protected light put up on Bay Area at entrance one. I'm real proud of that. The list could go on and on and on. It has definitely impacted my life.

Shallberg: What special memories do you have of UHCL. Do you have any little stories or things about people, or memories that you would like to share?

Adams: One of the fun memories I have is when a group of us started a band called the 8-Tracks. It was totally consisted of faculty, staff and students. We did not charge. It was just a fun, family band. We went around and played at several venues. We played at a lot of luncheons. I just enjoyed that time. We also started a choir and performed here and a few other places off campus. That was a good memory. All the special people I've met over the years.

Shallberg: What do you hope to see UHCL accomplish in the future?

Adams: I hope it keeps growing. I hope the doctoral programs expand. I hope there's always a need for students to come to the university to learn and not do it online, which seems to be the coming age of education, but I want to see the faculty student interaction continue.

Shallberg: Is there anything else you would like to share right now?

Adams: No, thank you for allowing me to record my memories of the university and I hope to continue working here until I retire.

Shallberg: Thank you very much.

Adams: Thank you.

[End of recording]