

OC EXECUTIVE

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Meet John Pitts – OC Executive of the Month

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Recently, we caught up with John to talk about how he got hooked on technology, the inspirations behind his business model, and the ways that how electronic gadgets and gizmos fall short of the joys of loved ones.

OCE: What did you want to be as a kid?

JP: I wanted to be my father. He was my hero, so I wanted to be like him more than anything.

OCE: What was your first job?

JP: My first job working for a company was as a paperboy for the Orange County Register evening edition. However, technically, I started out shining my father's shoes and for that matter anyone on the block that would let me break out my cherished shoe shine kit.

OCE: How many industries have you been a part of?

JP: Several, but the bulk of my professional life have been focused in the medical field and my passion, technology.

OCE: When did you figure out what you wanted to do?

JP: One Christmas, I received a new IBM PC Jr. From the moment I turned it on, I was enamored with it. I tell people all the time that I have not been away from a computer since. Today, I spend much more of my time fostering relationships and managing the business, but I still make time to explore the ever evolving computer technology space.

OCE: When did you feel that you "made it" as an executive?

JP: I will let you know. I am still waiting on that day...



OCE: What do you enjoy most about what you do now?

JP: The people, from our clients and the Tekcetera team to our partners and vendors. At times it all may make me a little crazy, but I would not trade it for anything. I love what I do and who I work with daily.

OCE: What would you want to do if you weren't doing what you do now?

JP: I would "want" to be a professional golfer – top 100 ranked, of course.

OCE: Is there a person or people that inspire you to remain at the top of your game?

JP: My family. I'm inspired by my father's journey, from his humble beginnings and service in two wars, all the way to him being an executive at Boeing. I'm also inspired by my mother with her years of dedication as an emergency room nurse, and my brother's lifelong commitment to the Armed Forces – everything they do and have done inspires me greatly. Professionally speaking, there are many that inspire me – Bill Gates, Steve Jobs, Warren Buffet and Donald Trump. Finally, I am inspired by my wife and her eternal belief in me and what I am capable of, even when I doubt myself.

OCE: What are your favorite hobbies?

JP: Golf, wakeboarding (nice contradiction, right?) and boating.

OCE: Where is the one city/country you love to travel to?

JP: Spain, specifically Basque country.

OCE: If there would be anything you would love to own, what would it be and why?

JP: A small island in the Caribbean. I'd create my own rules and have my family there with me – it sounds like fun.

OCE: What is the one thing you do own that reminds you of your success?

JP: It is not a possession, it is the feeling I get when I walk in to one of our offices and see some of my favorite people. "Things" cannot compare to that.

OCE: What is your one guilty pleasure?

JP: That is hard to choose! I love a fine cigar, but it has to be Bourbon, hands down. My father drank it and I could not stand the smell of it for years. Now, since he has passed, it is like a warm blanket on a cool coastal evening to me.