

Express Resume

Born in Lanai City, Hawaii. Attended Pauoa Elementary (Honolulu), Iolani School, University of Hawaii, DeVry Technical Institute (forerunner of DeVry Institute of Technology and DeVry University). Also attended programs for electronics engineering technology and computer programming. Worked for Bell & Howell Company divisions: Education Group, AV (Audio Visual), Avicom, Communications, Special Services (Surveillance, Intelligence systems). Also was a real estate and property management agent from 1968 to 1991. Became legally blind about 1991.

In 1995, found Hoopono, Hawaii State Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Started working part-time at the Honolulu Airport News Stand.

In October 1996, without any specific blind vending training, I was suddenly placed into my first blind vending facility, the Waikiki Post Office. From there, I transferred to the Kapolei State Office Tower, then to Kuhio Park Terrace; then to the VA Matsunaga Clinic at Tripler; then to the Hale Koa Hotel; then to the Anderson Mess Hall at the Kaneohe Marine Corps Base Hawaii; and now, after 24 years, I'm back to where I started, the News Stand at the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport.

Together with my 2 blind vendor partners, and a staff (including disabled and blind) of 80+ employees, we strive to provide services to the traveling public, while providing the majority of our profits to a non-profit foundation of the blind and to the Randolph Sheppard fund at Hoopono.

In July 2019, I was elected Chairperson of the HSCBV (Hawaii State Committee of Blind Vendors), a Federal Randolph Sheppard Act mandated board of blind vendors which "actively participates" in all major decisions with Hoopono's BEP (Business Enterprise Program), which is designated by the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration, as the SLA (State Licensing Agency) for Hawaii's blind vendors.