

# **Bob Chudy**

## **A.K.A.**

### **Mr. Personality**

- Bob grew up in Hartford, Connecticut in a certain part of Hartford known as the Polish Village. He lived in the same three story apartment building with his grandparents on his mother's side, his aunt and uncle, his parents and his brother Michael. His name, Chudy, in the Polish dictionary means poor or lean.
- His neighborhood was predominately Polish and everyone seemed to know everyone. He lived across the street from Colt Park.
- His first job was bagging groceries at First National Supermarket in Wethersfield, CT. He quickly advanced to working in glass bottle returns. Finally, his next assignment was the food aisle manager where he stocked shelves, ordered merchandise and kept track of inventory.
- Bob's happiest memories are his weddings. He has been married three times to the same person, YoungHee. The first wedding was a Korean ceremony in the Pusan National University faculty tearoom. The second wedding was the next day in the US Embassy in Seoul. This was done so they could be officially married in the eyes of the US government. The third wedding was nine years later in West Haven, CT. They were married in the Catholic church. They have two daughters, Stephanie and Jennifer. They also have 2 granddaughters, Mina and Yuna.
- Bob's favorite teacher at the University of Alabama was Dr. Ron Robel. He encouraged Bob to pursue a graduate degree in Asian

studies. Bob looked at his initials RJC and focused his study on Russia, Japan, and China at Kansas University.

- Bob wanted to escape the Polish Village in Hartford. He wanted to explore the world and have a different life. He had taken an aptitude test and his strength was in the field of personal relationships specifically helping people. He joined the Peace Corps in 1972 and arrived in Korea as a volunteer. There he worked in the field of International Educational Exchange. This became his dream job.
- In 1974, as a Peace Corp volunteer, he was able to make his most memorable journey of his life. He took a 30-day trip and traveled to six East Asian countries, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, and the Philippines.
- In 1985, Bob was hired by the University of Connecticut Graduate School. He became the director of the International Student Office.
- The things that make him the happiest are traveling, music, helping people and playing with the grandchildren. He gives guided tours of Cedar Hill Cemetery. He spends inclement days building Lego cities. He also loves to go out and eat.
- Bob isn't afraid to take a challenge and take a leap into the unknown!
- The most rewarding things about getting older is "Knowing you have so much more to learn. Knowledge is like the ocean it has no boundaries."
- Bob would like to be remembered as an enthusiastic, caring, persistent and determined individual with a good sense of humor. He is happy-go-lucky and optimistic.
- Bob is living life to the fullest!