Lansing Fisher Body Historical Team 5-23-06

9:20 am

Interviewer Doug Rademacher
Interviewee - Wendell (Rocky) Wright
Seniority hourly - 6-23-63 (23 yrs (5-16-63)
Seniority salary - 10-7-68 Ret in 1998
Married - Yes 46 yrs (2 children) Both girls
Military - No.
Education - High School (some College.)(GMI)
Born in Hartly KY. At the age of 15 came to Lansing and went to Eastern High School Father was coalminer, mother was housewife Rocky was a coals before Fisher Body at different restaurants also catering.

☆ Reason for hire = Best place to work for the money but still coaled on weekends.

☆ At this time there were very few people filling out applications in 1963. This reminded you of a "dungeon" because it was below ground level in an office.

☆ Started on Days in Cushion Room. Rocky was overwhelmed by the production in the cushion room at 62.29 an hour. He did not view the actual car production yet because he went strait to cushion room. When he did see production he was really scared and this was awsome.

☆. This was completely different from what he usually did when coaling

after the first day he was very tired. After 89 days Rocky was laid off. You needed 90 days to receive benefits. Very sad to be laid off, but 41 days later he was re-hired into Fisher Body. Then after 88 days he was laid off again 37 days later he was re hired again After this he wasn't laid off again. He then worked three jobs for about (7 years) Then to trim and Rocky was overwhelmed and how to install these seats on the car. People embraced him and helped him when he came into the department.

A Family members - he had one brother who worked here, also a son in law works here)

Pranks = Go to the employment office for a free Thanksgiving Turkey. They told a female employee to talk to a supervisor about his son in the olympics, but his son had no legs. This was a bad joke.

A Typical Day - at first was just 8 hours a day, then the "astrodome" (vista cruiser) and the days were 10 and 11 hours a day. Then Rocky was utility in the cushion room and was hog ringing seats together. Sometimes this you would be dangerous because these rings sometimes would be

together by some salary people and also Rocky spent time on this project. Rocky finished up on a Thursday and they put it in the parade on Saturday. This used to sit just inside the plant. But now it is shared with R E Olds museum In Aug 1985 he left for Arizona.

People Hunt in Shops = In the body shop he had his fingers twisted, now ring mistakes in the cushion room.

Rocky was in the body shop and if you want more money rocky ~~[illegible]~~ you need to be myth shop. Then he went to material dept.

★ Rocky has a 69 convertable that he still cherishes to this day. in his life.

★ Plant Closing and Future = Randy Thayer is a very good friend of Rocky's. He feels that the workforce will succeed. Because of the relationships between union and management.

★ Rocky liked how he was treated when he walked up and down the line at work. He will always be Fisher Body and GM. Today he continues to feel this way. In Florida there are very few American Cars. He enjoyed his career and he truly misses the people from the plant.