## W. ATOM YEE

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I teach chemistry at Santa Clara University. My wife Amy, a lawyer, and I have two darling little ones: Abigail and David, now three-and-a-half years old and three months old, respectively.

After college graduation I went to chemistry graduate school in California and hoped to persuade my local draft board in New Mexico that such activity deserved a deferment. Alas, they didn’t see it my way, and then I got the unlucky number “62” in the great lottery of 1969. A letter from The President came the following spring.

Aha! Good thing I went to Sunday School as a kid growing up in Albuquerque. Good thing, too, that the president of the local draft board in Albuquerque went to the same church. I believe I received one of the few Conscientious Objector classifications in the state of New Mexico based on strict religious training and belief (this all happened before the 1970 U.S. Supreme Court decision).

My two years of Alternate Civilian Service were spent in Boston at Tufts/New England Medical Center in a biochemistry lab. It was a good experience for me to get away from school and provided countless opportunities for personal growth. I’m a believer in things turning out for the better.

So I went back to California and started graduate school over again in 1972. The next ten years seem like a blur to me now. 1 remember many, many days on the tennis courts and many, many nights working in the chemistry lab. My first real job started in 1977 at the State University of New York, College at Purchase. Innovative education in upscale Westchester County. It was a good time to be in this business, and for two years I thought I was in heaven. Then the State of New York had some financial problems, and the rest of the story is not happy. I returned to California for a change of scene, resigned my faculty position in New York, and got this job at Santa Clara.

Amy and I met in the fall of 1982. I am unbelievably fortunate to havemet and married her. From the moment she explained to me that judges decide issues of law and juries decide issues of fact, 1 knew we would get along real well. We did a lot together before the kids came. Now we don’t get around so much anymore. That’s okay. We are very happy to be who we are and where we are.