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MAD ABOUT MEN!

GOOD FELLAS!

Local Men Open Up About Family, Success & their Wives!



DEAN PARKER



SKIP FINKBOHNER

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COUPLES TO ENVY!

Daphne's Appie & Steadman McMurphy, They're Mad About Each Other!



Skip &
best friend,
Huck.

“They fascinate me.” What could this high profile, esteemed trial lawyer be referring to? His big win against a major automotive company that granted a grieving family \$40 million for the senseless loss of their daughter? Or how about the case where a doctor was awarded \$192 million, an amount unheard of in Baldwin County, and the largest ever achieved in Alabama for an intellectual property/trade secrets case? Nope. George W. Finkbohner, known as Skip, is referring to his family. “My greatest accomplishment and most rewarding experience is and has always been my family. Nothing in my life has been more rewarding, more fulfilling, or more interesting than my wife and children. They’re all so different from one another, and so unique.” Having witnessed his slightly sleepy daughter nuzzled in his arms at this year’s King’s Supper was sweet enough to melt anyone’s heart.

The law is often referred to as a heartless profession, but Skip is anything but, and the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree. “As I child, I was aware that my father was a lawyer; he would take my siblings and me to his office or to the scene of an accident from time to time. I cannot remember him ever complaining or second-guessing his decision to be a lawyer. With immense respect for his judgement and wisdom, I thought it would be rewarding to practice law with him.” Skip tells us. With a law degree from Duke University, seventeen years practicing with his father, and now a partner at Mobile’s prestigious Cunningham Bounds LLC, the rest is history.

Career highlights established, we wanted to know more! With fond memories of growing up in midtown Mobile, Skip opens up about what draws him to the courtroom, a place most people fear. “The most gratifying and challenging aspect of being a trial lawyer is that my law firm and I are entrusted with the ultimate welfare of families who have suffered devastating injury or the loss of life of a loved one, or a business that’s been treated unfairly and taken advantage of. In almost all the situations we are involved in, the only thing that stands between our clients and an abyss of unfairness and financial destitution is our willingness to stand up and represent them, and to do that thoroughly, aggressively, courageously, and honorably. Unfortunately, very bad and unfair things happen to very good people. Without exception, every family and businessman that has hired me did not want to have to hire a lawyer and did not want to be involved in the legal system. Being able to level the playing field for them—to provide really top-notch representation to advocate for their interests in the face of powerful opposition with unlimited financial resources—is challenging. Winning and taking care of our clients is

extraordinarily gratifying. Practicing law never gets old or tiresome when nice people are relying on you and your law firm under extreme circumstances, and it is a responsibility that we take most seriously.” Not your average lawyer-speak, huh?

Naturally, Skip’s career has afforded him the opportunity to travel. However, he feels more comfortable here than anywhere else. “I’ve been to some very interesting and intriguing places, and some relatively exotic places, but Mobile is home. It always has been,” shares Skip. Long workdays aside, Skip enjoys visiting his children or his locally based parents and playing with his three dogs.

While in law school, Skip was introduced by a friend to his future wife, Sandra. “I was much more impressed with her than she was with me,” he shares. The couple went on to have three girls—Baxter, Rachel, and Hannah Marie, all accomplished and living in Dallas. “Sandra has done a tremendous job with the girls. I don’t know how anyone could have been a better mom, she was always there for them no matter the circumstances,” shares Skip. “She routinely took our girls and as many as a half dozen of their friends to Sandestin during summers when I worked. At one point, I think we had ten bicycles of different sizes at the beach as well as roller blades, boogie boards, etc. She would feed them breakfast, load the SUV full of chairs, ice chests, towels, and snacks and return to slather them all in sunscreen and proceed to haul them to the beach. After the beach, they would all hit the pool, then head home for dinner. Honestly, I don’t know how she did it. I know she loved every minute of it, because she did it scores of times with lots of different kids. Those memories are irreplaceable,” says Skip. And on fatherhood, Skip shares, “As a father, what makes me proudest is that the children make a good faith effort to be conscientious and considerate of others, whether it is at school, work, or home. Having been involved in sports not only promoted their self-esteem, it has taught them the world doesn’t always revolve around them and that it’s important to accommodate and get along with other people.



A tender moment with daughter Baxter.



Baxter, Hannah Marie, and Rachel in Bora Bora on family trip.

I think it’s no secret that the most important thing for a parent is simply being there. Being present when it’s inconvenient is a concrete demonstration to the child and to family members that they are important. In this regard, Sandra gets an A++, and I’ve done okay. My greatest accomplishment is and has always been my family. Nothing in my life has been more rewarding, more fulfilling, or more interesting than my wife and children. They’re all so different from one another, and so unique. They fascinate me.” There it is again, the sweetest words ever spoken by a father. Our verdict? Lawyer or not, it is clear that Mobile wins having Skip as part of our community.