

Get to KNOW...

Rui "Paulie" Silvestre

FASPE
ASPE Region 1 Director



JOB TITLE: Senior Mechanical/Plumbing Systems Sales Engineer

COMPANY: B.J. Terroni Co.

HOMETOWN: Bensalem, PA

ASPE CHAPTER: Philadelphia

IMMEDIATE FAMILY: Maria (wife), Sofia (stepdaughter) and her hubby Nunu, Otilia and Pereira Almeida (in-laws). They all have been the ROCK in my life.

PETS: Speck and Blair (cats)

"This all started back in 1985 when my mentor Ernie Rink got me involved with ASPE, and I got to know most vendors and the educational programs at the meetings that made my plumbing design work more meaningful. My company started supporting plumbing designers in ASPE in 1990, and that is when my life as an ASPE member started. Not too shabby, as I am still here. 'Why?' you might ask. ASPE has given me support in design, getting to the reps, manufacturers, and code officials that pertain to this industry. The Conventions, Symposiums, Chapter meetings, etc., have made me a better design professional, having all the tools needed to better myself in plumbing design."

WHAT BOOK DO YOU RECOMMEND EVERYONE SHOULD READ? *Chance*, by Maria J. Silvestre. This book was the beginning of love, which turned horrific due to medical reasons. The difficult journey back to love was the story of my wife and me. It brings tears to my eyes when I think of what I put her through in my time of depression, but our love for each other couldn't be any better.

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT OUTSIDE OF YOUR CAREER? The gift of meeting and clicking with people I meet. That is me giving back something that does not happen too often with some of the outside world: love and respect.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TYPE OF MUSIC, BAND, AND/OR SONG? Pop, Bee Gees, *Staying Alive*. Reasoning: Believe it or not, I enjoy dancing. (Now that is a sight to see, LOL.)

WHICH HISTORICAL FIGURE WOULD YOU MOST WANT TO MEET? George Washington. I would ask him, "Why did you decide to become the first leader of the USA, and what would be goals of satisfaction?"

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY? I was picked on unmercifully for being Portuguese. Back in my childhood years it was tough being a foreigner, LOL.

DO YOU HAVE A NICKNAME? HOW DID YOU GET IT? Well, this is obscure. Mind you, my full name is Rui Paulo Silvestre. In the neighborhood where I grew up, it was "Screwy Rui," which followed me through high school. Why? Most of my friends I grew up with all followed the same path of schools and kept the nickname going. After I graduated, I started my first engineering job where I was called "Roo Wee," and then I decided it was time for a more professional name. "Paul" would be it, or so I thought, but then it became "Paulie" by my boss at B.J. Terroni Co. Who am I to disagree with the man who pays my salary? So it stuck with me.

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE VACATION SPOT? WHERE IS IT AND WHY DO YOU KEEP GOING BACK? Porto, Portugal is where my beautiful wife is from, and I grew into it. It's a great place for all of the best wines, food, and culture. And oh yeah, it's not that far from Spain.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MEAL? IS IT PREPARED AT HOME OR FOUND AT A RESTAURANT? That would be Portuguese "Caldeirada de Marisco" in a Portuguese home or a Portuguese restaurant. By the way, the translation is "seafood stew."