

-Stetts Signs Story-

Our Story: Events Leading Up to Starting Stetts Signs

March-April- 1999:

Richard was employed as a Sign Architect, Graphic Designer & Sign Painter. His Boss at the time was a prominent member of the Masonic Lodge. (He had recently become a 32nd Degree Mason). And Richard had just finished up a Masonic Dbl.Headed Eagle Sign a few weeks earlier. Richard had begun feeling uneasy & troubled while working on the project. He also had become curious as to what this Lodge was all about. He began studying all about the Masonic Lodge. He learned several things that were not compatible with his Christian religious beliefs. (They used Alters, Temples, Rituals & Bible Oaths, while claiming they were not a religious organization, but that they believed in God & allowing people who believed in "ANY" God to join. They also DENIED JESUS CHRIST as the Only way to Heaven & they Denied the One True Jewish/Christian GOD as the ONLY GOD. He also found that they "Claim" Titles of achievement as earned Degrees for themselves that are actually Blasphemous to Christianity! Examples: The 16th Degree, they claim the Title, "Prince Of Jerusalem"; The 26th Degree, they claim the Title, "Prince Of Mercy". Both of which are Titles of the "Lord Of Lords & King Of Kings, JESUS CHRIST, the ONLY Son of GOD! Anyone claiming themselves such a Title "over the Lord" is being blasphemous & very prideful. For mostly these reasons & more, Richard decided as a Christian he couldn't do work in the future for the Masonic Lodge any more. He felt as though he was responsible for using his "artistic" talents to make images of False Gods to be erected in his community. He would not do this any more ever again!

June- 1999:

Richard wrote out a Statement saying in short, "After the year 2000, (a 6-month notice) he would no longer do any work on/for the Masonic Lodge or any Non-Christian Organization that promoted things against his Christian Religious beliefs. His Boss at the time, Fired him on the spot, but then rehired him shortly afterwards due to the fact he didn't have anyone to replace Richard. Things cooled down, but Richard began expecting to lose his job shortly after the New Year.

Jan.- 2000:

However, the New Year came & went & he didn't lose his job. In fact his Boss kept him employed for another 5-years without incident.

Aug.- 2005:

Then his Boss asked him once again to do a job for the Masonic Lodge. (Actually it was an Affiliate Organization.) Richard declined & reminded his Boss of the Statement he wrote out & gave to him 5-years earlier. His Boss was furious! He Fired Richard on the spot once again! Then as Richard was cleaning out his Desk & Shop areas, his Boss & his spouse asked Richard to stay on to at least Train a replacement. He agreed, not having another job lined up. For 3-months, Richard was training his replacement. He began to wonder what his Boss's intentions were after so long. Would he eventually let Richard go, or was he thinking he would keep both of them employed? Richard couldn't tell & wasn't sure of his Boss's intentions.

The Birth of Stetts Signs

Sept.-Oct.- 2005:

Richard searched for a New Job during that period, but wasn't able to find employment in his field. Either he wasn't needed or was over qualified. And since he wasn't informed of his Boss's intentions. He really became worried & concerned. One day after an interview, (that didn't seem very likely), he was talking with his wife. They both looked at each other & said, "maybe we should start our own business". So, they began the process of starting their own business. They purchased the basic equipment (Plotter, Programs & Misc.), started the process of getting their licenses, permits, creating a company Logo & a Sign as well as studying the subject like crazy.

Nov.- 2005:

By November 17th they had everything in place & late that night put up their Sign. On November 18th, Richard went in to work as usual. Within an hour at work, his Boss called him into the office. He had heard from a fellow employee (a guy who didn't like Richard too well), that Richard had a Sign up for his own business. His Boss said to Richard, "good luck with that" & let him go for good. So, Stetts Signs was born.

Nov. 22- 2005, First Day of Stetts Signs thru May 2006:

It was difficult the first couple of years. Richard would drive around in his falling apart little 84-Ford Ranger looking for business. Within a few months, he realized he needed a Bucket Truck to install signs. But, Rich & Christy were not able to afford such an expensive machine. Look at what GOD did for them... One day Christy said to Rich, "maybe Camp Susque would sell us your Grandfather's old Bucket Truck". You see, 10-years previously Rich's Grandfather had given his Bucket Truck to one of his Son's & he gave it to a Christian Camp Organization. Rich said to Christy, "Yah right. Even if they would sell it to us, we couldn't afford it. Do you know what they sell for? Even if they wanted a small amount like say \$2500, it would still be more than we can afford." Over a couple of weeks of her nagging Rich to call them, he gave in & called. They said, "They didn't know if they would be willing to sell it, but that money talks. So they would bring it up at their next meeting." Rich said to Christy, "See, money talks. It is just like I told you." Two weeks later, they called Rich back. They said, "If you can use the Truck, we all agreed unanimously, we will be Glad to let you have it." Rich asked, "how much?" They said, "We will let you have it for \$1.00." Rich said in disbelief, "WHAT? For \$1.00!" He couldn't believe it. To Rich & Christy, **that was a Miracle!**

2006 thru Nov. 2007:

With GOD's help & using all Rich's experience, within their 2nd year of business, they were able to land some National Account work with several National Provider Sign companies, also independently Servicing 8-Giant Foods Stores & up to 80-possible Turkey Hill Minit Market Stores. They began to grow. By 2007, they had outgrown doing work out of their Dining Room & Basement in their home. They needed more space for producing more & bigger signs. They began looking for an "inexpensive" place to rent. They really couldn't afford it, but needed to in order to produce work for some of their customers. They heard from one of their customers, who was a Christian, that he knew of someone who had commercial space for rent, who also was a Christian. So, Rich called them up to meet. When Rich met with them, he informed them that they really couldn't afford much at all, but needed to do whatever it took to complete work for their customers. To their surprise, they agreed to rent the 18-ft x 50-ft space for only \$200/month including electric & garbage. That was another "huge" blessing! They were & have been great landlords.

2007 thru 2019:

Rich & Christy still rent & work with them today. Over the years they have Partnered up with them (when needed) & expanded into bigger sections of the building. Now Stetts Signs has separate Offices, Graphic, Fabrication & CNC-Router Departments as well as their Bucket Truck under roof. Material storage areas, both interior & exterior. Today they are working on expanding into New Markets with innovative New Products & using their Extensive Experience & Knowledge in the industry to serve a broader range within the industry while still producing, servicing & maintaining Signs for the Outdoor & Indoor Advertising Business. GOD continues to Bless Stetts Signs!