I grew up in Laredo, Texas, and I am fluent in English and Spanish. Growing up and attending school, I always had a passion for math and science. Intuitively, those passions and my father led me to study chemical engineering.

After graduating from college, I moved to Houston to work at the Exxon refinery in Baytown, Texas. While at Exxon, I worked as a process engineer, a design engineer and an environmental engineer. The latter indicated to me what I wanted to do permanently.

After seven years, I left Exxon and began working for INEOS Phenol in Pasadena (formerly known as Georgia Gulf and Axiall). I have now been at this facility 25 years. I have responsibilities for all environmental compliance and also have responsibilities for marine compliance.

A question I ask when confronted with situations is, "what's the purpose?" If you cannot come up with a good answer, then it is probably not worth doing. I am married to Kevin and together we have two TAMU engineering sons/students, Tristan and Ethan.