



COLLABORATIVE FAMILY LAW GROUP
of San Diego

Member Spotlight: Forrest Mosten

A True Believer in the Collaborative Process



Forrest Woody Mosten

We asked Woody some questions about the collaborative process and some personal questions.

In the 80s I was part of a lawyer-therapist team out of my storefront office. During the mid-90s, Stu Webb and I barnstormed around the country together in a ragtag innovative lawyer group. That is when I first was inspired by taking mediation and unbundling into collaborative practice. Later, my conversations with Sue Hansen of Milwaukee, Pauline Tesler and Ron Ousky of Minneapolis got me hooked, and I started increasing my focus on collaborative work to the point that I gave up litigation altogether about 20 years ago.

What I would like to tell people about the collaborative process is that Clients maintain control over the decisions of their families with the competent guidance of caring professionals who truly understand and are trained in teamwork, empathy and resolution.

If I could have any other profession, I would be an International Red Cross professional for triage assistance to help relieve suffering from disasters, natural or person-made.

If I could walk in anyone's shoes for a day, it would be Father Gregory Boyle of Homeboy (tattoo removal, employment and social services for released convicts).

The books that have had the most impact on me are Scott Peck, The Road Less Travelled, Conroy, Beach Music.

My favorite movie is Blazing Saddles.

The topic that gets me most riled up is the treatment of undocumented persons—particularly jailing of children and separation from their parents.

Other than Collaborative Practice, my greatest passion is playing golf with other hackers and chili dippers on challenging courses.

A hidden truth that I would most like to uncover would be the potential for our planet to assure that everyone has enough to eat without fighting for food, space, or control.

My motto would be to just keep showing up with an open heart. The qualities I most like in a person is unselfish kindness.

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