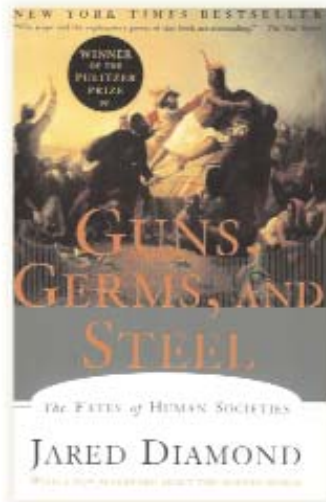


Up Close and Personal

Talking with **Charles Phillips**, president of Oracle

When it comes to running a leading technology company, Charles Phillips takes his duties as president of Oracle very seriously, dedicating long hours and intense focus to field operations, consulting, marketing, sales, customer programs, and corporate strategy.

But away from the office, this family man relaxes to jazz, travels, reads, and values the sweetness of serendipity.



FAMILY

Wife, Karen, and son, Chas, age 10

COLLEGES AND DEGREES

Bachelor of Science degree in computer science from the U.S. Airforce Academy, a Master of Business Administration degree from Hampton University, and a Juris Doctor degree from New York Law School

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BOOK?

“Guns, Germs, and Steel” by Jared Diamond

WHAT MAGAZINES DO YOU READ?

Anything to do with politics, technology, or law

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE TELEVISION SHOW?

“Columbo,” because the lead character is analytical and humble

WHO'S THE MOST INTERESTING, EXCITING PERSON YOU'VE MET?

My son, Chas

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE RESTAURANT?

Roth's Steakhouse in New York has great steaks and great jazz.



WHAT'S THE MOST DARING FEAT YOU'VE ACCOMPLISHED?

Since I'm an ex-Marine, I could name a few, but probably the most exhilarating was jumping from a helicopter

OF WHAT PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT ARE YOU MOST PROUD?

My promotion to Captain in the U.S. Marine Corps

WHAT WOULD YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS SAY IS YOUR GREATEST WEAKNESS?

I'm obsessed with work.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE HOTEL?

Las Ventanas in Los Cabos, Mexico

WHAT INFLUENCED YOUR CAREER THE MOST?

Serendipity

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE VACATION SPOT?

Madrid—the food and music are fantastic.

WHAT WAS THE TURNING POINT IN YOUR CAREER?

When I realized that taking risks was a good thing

WHAT ELSE WOULD READERS FIND INTERESTING ABOUT YOU?

I'd like to be a U.S. Senator.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO YOUR SUCCESSOR?

It's all about the team

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE QUOTE?

"Most men lead lives of quiet desperation and go to the grave with the song still in them."

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

"The best way to get a bad law repealed is to enforce it strictly."

—Abraham Lincoln

