By CAROLYN BOWDEN

In 1969, a well known interior designer, Marcy Douglas, bought a 3,000 square feet house for her son and his family. Since then a period of years they enlarged it to 66 rooms and 30,000 square feet.

Herbert Douglas was born in 1898 in Kansas City, Missouri. He moved to Houston. In his teenage years he worked part time in a furniture store, at first arranging furniture displays. When the owner of the store recognized the boy's extraordinary salesmanship skills he became full time. This led him to an Interior Designers School. During that time he became a certified interior decorator and studied construction, codes, space planning, and interior design.

The oil boom in 1923 when he was 12 years old provided him with wealth that was in oil and rail adventures. This led him to an Interior Designer profession. Eventually the name Pullman became synonymous with sleeping cars on American Railroads. The Pullman attendants, referred to as “Grand Trunk Travels,” were traditionally referred to as “Grand Trunks.”

By this time he had established himself as an interior designer and this led him away from his family’s business of selling mattresses on railroads.

That day there was not much of a selection of fine furnitures in the local stores. His clients were interested in going directly to the manufacturer. He went to New York City, New York, City and California. This was the beginning of the 1920’s and Mr. Douglas suggested they go by train or an airplane.

Sleeping cars were introduced about 1858, providing "hotel" sleeping accommodations for overnight passengers. The sleeping car that emerged around 1870 was largely the invention of a Pullman employee. Eventually the name Pullman became synonymous with sleeping cars on American Railroads. The Pullman attendants, referred to as “Grand Trunk Travels,” were traditionally referred to as “Grand Trunks.”

“George Pullman, the name of the company’s founder, George Pullman. At the time of the Pullman strike in 1894, the Pullman fleet grew to 9,801 units. Twelve thousand porters were employed by the Pullman Company. GOODE, J. Herber Douglas (sleeper cars 1940’s), the name Douglas, was born in Houston, Texas, in 1929. The sleeping car that pulled into the depot were two dressing rooms and lobbies in the rear of the car and a gallery to provide hot meals. There was even a honeymoon cabin upstairs. It was like a railroad flying Pullman CA. "GOODE."

Susan Douglas (name maiden Richardson) was born in Houston, Texas, in 1936. As a part of their jobs as Pullman employees, they had to preserve the original authentic time period interior.

As you near retirement, it’s normal to become more sensitive to your finances. Giving to a financial planner is hard, but what makes the decision even more difficult is that most people rely on investments. To navigate through these uncertain waters, you need more than hope; you need an informed and trustworthy advisor.

Most soon-to-be-retirees want some assurance that it is impossible to rely on information of financial calculators. At a minimum, if you’re close to where they want to be. While this is a good start, there’s a lot more. All needs are different, as are the tax status of your accounts, like Traditional IRAs versus Roth IRAs. Others may have other investment needs. A financial planner can provide you with a greater sense of certainty.

MCPherson is entering his fifth year as Dean in the College of Business, as well as continuing in his role as Provost of the UH Sugar Land campus. He is the UH Sugar Land campus’ Chief Academic Officer. Reporting to Provost Sherron with the overall responsibility for the leadership of the instructional programs, faculty, and campus operations. As a part of these duties, the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Provost, has named Dr. Robert McPherson as the Interim Associate Provost, Academic Affairs at the University of Houston Sugar Land. McPherson enters his fifth year as Dean in the College of Education and will continue in this role while assuming the new duties. The Associate Provost of Academic Affairs and Operations is the UH Sugar Land campus’ Chief Academic Officer. Reporting to Provost Sherron with the overall responsibility for the leadership of the instructional programs, faculty, and campus operations. 

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