

# **KATCH**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL**

Service-Disabled Veteran Owned  
**Paul Katchadourian**



**DVBE**  
59233



**Mold • Lead • Asbestos**  
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Team Pantera

**Bio:**

**My name is Paul Katchadourian and here is my story. I was born in Fresno California on June 11 1962. My Dad had a commercial waste hauling business at the time. We move to Encino Ca. when I was three so my mother could be closer to her family. I attended grade school there until 1974 when my Dad wanted to move back to Fresno to Farm grapes.**

**I worked on the farm raking in 2 dollars an hour so I could buy my own car at 16. I saved up \$3,000.00 and on my 16<sup>th</sup> birthday I went down and purchased a 1971 Datsun 240Z. I loved that car even though it didn't have air conditioning. In Fresno that's important!**

**After High school and a year of college I joined the Army. This was during Ronald Reagan's presidency and I wanted to serve. I asked the recruiter what was the hardest job they had? He said "Special Forces", only if you flunk out you are open for worldwide assignment. I enlisted as a light weapons specialist. That meant infantry basic training at Ft. Benning Georgia. in July. That was my first experience with humidity. I remember getting off the bus being stripped down and two hundred of us doing PT with no cloths on.**

**I went through all the SF training and landed on a scuba team. We trained hard and I even went through Danish combat dive school. I enjoyed the Army and was getting out after 4 years so I could go back to school and become an Officer. Two weeks prior to getting out I went off a cliff snow skiing on a training mission. I shattered my elbow and have not had full use of it since. I am now a disabled Veteran with 50% disability. My whole right side is shot from my years as a Green Beret Para-trooper. I went to school anyway and attended Fresno State as a Poly Sci. major. I figured I would work for the FBI or CIA. Well as it happens life throws you curve balls. By then I was married, raising two girls. One semester away from graduating college I lost my job because the business closed. A friend told me I could make some money hauling Grapes to the winery over the summer.**

**Over the next 15 years I owned Katch Trucking with 10 tractors hauling food grade juice from Mexico to Canada and everywhere else in-between. It was a very successful business but I got tired of hauling out of state with all the regulations and changes. I decided to sell all the trucks and even my home as a complete do over.**

**When I went to sell my home a couple that happened to be attorneys asked for a mold test. I said” Mold test? I never heard of such a thing. I guess I had a water heater that leaked years before and I had a leak under my sink that I fixed but not before it stained the bottom. They paid for the mold test and I flunked. I asked the inspector how do I un-flunk? He looked around and said \$30,000.00 should do it. I told him “Really! Labor, material, permit and taxes all came up to even 30K wow that’s convenient. I get to write a check for such an even number.**

**I decided to do some research on mold remediation. I went to school in Washington State for mold inspection and remediation. I came back to Fresno and remediated my home and passed the clearance test. Total cost was 10% of what I was told. I then decided if a guy was honest he could actually make a living doing this. From there I became a State of California Lead Inspector/Assessor. That led into General construction, Asbestos abatement, General Engineering, and back to where I started, trucking.**

**I am the now the hazardous abatement contractor for the California High speed Rail. I am working for Tutor Perini/Zachry/Parsons. I haul my own waste and am looking into more trucking opportunities.**

**Life has gone full circle.**

**Paul Katchadourian**

**Los Angeles**

<insert business logo at top>

Team Pantera Racing would like to welcome Katch Environmental as their premier sponsor for the 2014 Open Road Racing season. Katch Environmental is a Veteran Owned business in Fresno specializing in Mold, Lead and Asbestos inspection and remediation. Their sponsorship in 2014 will help Team Pantera Racing members attend the Sandhills Open Road Challenge in Arnold Nebraska, and the Silver State Classic Challenge in Ely Nevada.

Katch Environmental is owned by Paul Katchadourian, a man who introduced himself to classic fun-to-drive cars at the age of 16 when he purchased a Datsun 240Z with money he saved working on a grape farm. Later, Paul joined the Army, spending four years in the Special Forces, earning a position as a combat diver, also serving as a Paratrooper and qualifying and serving with the Green Berets.

After his military service, Paul pursued a new plan, attending Fresno State while raising two daughters with his wife. He went on to own Katch Trucking and over 15 years provided transport services for food grade juice products between locations in Mexico, the U.S.A. and Canada. Looking for a change of pace, Paul decided to sell the business and do something new.

Prompted by a mold problem in his own house, Paul made the decision to attend a school for mold inspection and remediation in the state of Washington. Once educated, Paul repaired his own home and decided to turn that knowledge into a business. While building his new venture, Paul expanded into being a State of California Lead Inspector, Assessor and General Construction, Asbestos abatement.

Today, Paul's company, Katch Environmental, is the hazardous abatement contractor for the California High Speed Rail project.

Many of Team Pantera Racing's members have also served in the military; some serving during times of war. Racing Panteras has become a passion for these men and it was with great pride they accepted the sponsorship from Katch Environmental. They are even trying to get Paul Katchadourian re-interested in classic cars enough to come out and race with them.

Team Pantera Racing managed to draw four slots at this year's Sandhills Open Road Challenge and is working to field three or four Panteras at the Silver State Classic Challenge. Sponsorship money helps offset some of the costs for travel and lodging for these various events.

With the Katch Environmental sponsorship Team Pantera Racing is looking forward to another good year.