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Vita

Joseph Edward Costa was born in New Bedford, MA on 29 June 1958. He grew up one block from shore, and one block from what he would later realize was a major PCB polluter in Buzzards Bay. In part because of his many exploratory hikes along the shores of New Bedford, and especially because of his attendance at the New Bedford Oceanography School, Sea Lab, during summers between the 6th and 9th grades, he decided at a early age to become a marine biologist. After graduating from New Bedford High School in 1976, he went off to college in California to pursue his dream, and have a little fun.

He spent his freshman year at the University of Southern California, decided this move was a great mistake, and transferred to the University of California, Berkeley. There he thrived and grew in an environment of innovation, brilliant thinkers, and diverse ideas and values. After he graduated in 1980, he returned to Massachusetts and the glamor of Woods Hole as part of the BUMP program. After a few false starts, he finally settled on a thesis that satisfied his needs (and go back to his roots?) to accomplish both basic and applied research. He finished his degree after 7 1/2 years of hard work and mostly independent funding and research.

Today Joe Costa is happily married to Maureen. They have a wonderful dog named Skee, and they look forward to their future life, many fishing trips, and family additions.