



# SecondHalf Coach

## Wealth Management



### **Anthony Slezak**

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Anthony (Tony) Slezak grew up in Derry Township, the son of Donald and Joann Slezak, retired union steel and paper workers. He attributes his work ethic to their demand for decisiveness and promotion of independence through his entire upbringing starting from an early age. With his father being a United States Marine, there was no shortage of discipline and organization in his house, qualities Tony carries into his professional career. Tony credits his parents’ love and discipline for giving him the ability to start his business in the Securities industry at the young and naïve age of 22.

Tony graduated from Derry Area High School, where he was a member of the Derry Area Varsity Football Team, and went on to earn his Bachelor of Science in Business at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP). Upon graduation in 1985, he immediately started his wealth management practice as he had studied for his securities and insurance exams while still a student at IUP. Working from his bedroom office in the beginning with no formal training outside of attaining multiple professional licenses in the Securities industry, the road to progress and success in building his practice was difficult and a took discipline and hard work. Now, looking back, he admits there is no better feeling than remembering those most difficult times and realizing the character they instilled and career they developed. Tony’s humble upbringing and entrepreneurial experience of building a business from the ground up have given him the ability to see his clients’ financial challenges from a reality-based, no-nonsense perspective.

Family has always been Tony’s biggest priority and greatest accomplishment. He met his wife Sheri while they were students at IUP and have since built a beautiful life together in Latrobe. They welcomed three children into their lives: Sarah has a college degree and military background, Julie is a teacher, and Michael is a college student. Sheri and Tony spent many years on the sidelines of soccer fields cheering on both of their daughters from their early Latrobe Parks and Rec teams through their successful college careers. Michael, like Tony, is an Eagle Scout. Tony treasures the many trips and projects they completed together with the Boy Scouts and is proud that Michael attained the same rare level of accomplishment that he earned as a young man. What makes Tony most proud is the fact that his children are grown now and want to continue a life near their parents as the life they have created with their children is a bond that can’t be replaced.

Philanthropy is an important aspect in the Slezak household. Tony was a seven-year board member at Adelphoi USA ([www.adelphoi.org](http://www.adelphoi.org)). Sheri is active with “Our Clubhouse,” an organization that provides comfort, care, and hope to those touched by cancer (<http://ourclubhouse.org>). The Slezak family proudly supports and takes part in fundraising through GOAL Magazine. They also are benefactors of programs working in the Autistic community.

Tony boasts a very active lifestyle outside of the office. He enjoys being in the gym, a habit he has had since high school football. He is an enthusiastic outdoorsman taking frequent hunting and fishing trips with friends and family. He has travelled all over the United States and all the provinces of Canada. Trophies from his hunting trips are displayed throughout the office building. As a result of this passion, he has had the pleasure of training some very fine Labrador retrievers. He is always ready to talk and brag about his dogs. Watching an upland retriever work is a great joy for him, and he proudly displays their pictures in his office as members of his family.

In spite of the many years that Tony has been in business, his energy level is higher now than ever. The ability to work with such a wonderful group of people who are all younger than him has allowed him to drink from the fountain of youth. He affectionately states, "How could anybody not feel young and energetic when you like what you do for a living and love the people that you work with. I'm the luckiest guy in the world: I get to wake up everyday to see my family go on about their successful lives and then come into my office to be with my work family. There is no greater joy."