



Growing up next door to Seghesio's Healdsburg winery did not immediately inspire Ted Seghesio to be a winemaker.

"I didn't have a strong impression of winemaking because, in the bulk business, we shipped out all the young wine each December," he recalls. Instead, Ted developed a fascination for trains, watching tank cars side up to the winery, then depart full of wine. And like many young athletes, he dreamed of becoming a baseball player.

Ted attended University of the Pacific and played baseball while earning a bachelor's in business. Returning home in 1975, he went to work in the family vineyards, expanding his knowledge of viticulture and, particularly, the Seghesio vines. In 1977, at the prompting of his mother, Fay, Ted headed to the University of California at Davis and enrolled in enology and chemistry courses. Returning to Healdsburg in 1979, Ted started converting the Healdsburg bulk winery to premium varietal production, purchasing oak barrels and stainless steel fermentors. "Mom had urged the family to produce wine under the Seghesio brand for years," Ted says. "She passed away while I was in school, but she knew her dream would be fulfilled. I think she would be proud today."

The first Seghesio wines were introduced in 1983. Ted believes it was beneficial that Seghesio entered the market when they did: "We were not locked into a past era," he says. "Our business benefits from five generations of grapegrowing and winemaking, tempered with youth and innovation."

Ted believes winemaking truly begins in the vineyard: "You must do all you can to produce the highest quality fruit, then guide them into fine wine," he explains. "We strive to produce wines that offer the highest expression of the land, guided by our extensive knowledge of our vineyards."

Ted's wines have been named to the Wine Spectator's annual Top 100 List seven times. He has been honored with Decanter's Best American Red Trophy in 2007, by Food & Wine's American Wine Awards and by the San Francisco Chronicle's Wine Competition as Winemaker of the Year.

Ted lives in Healdsburg with his wife, Dana, and enjoys bicycling and the company of his two daughters.

