Cliff Dias was born and raised in Hilo on the Big Island of Hawaii. He graduated from St. Joseph School in 1967 and left the island for the University of Portland, Oregon enrolled in the School of Business.

Dias briefly left the University to enlist in the Army Reserve during the Vietnam era. He was accepted into the Oregon Military Academy receiving his military commission and eventually achieving the rank of Captain, U. S. Army. He graduated from the University of Portland in 1972 with a B.B.A., Bachelors of Business Administration majoring in Marketing.

Unfortunately, upon graduation from the University of Portland, jobs were scarce and limited on the Big Island and so a sacrifice was made to leave his Ohana and friends and make a career on the mainland. To go from palm trees to fir trees would broaden his horizon, though. Dias entered the field of banking in 1973 and eventually rose to the top post of any bank; that of President/CEO of a multi-billion dollar financial institution in Oregon. He retired in 2006 after eleven years at OnPoint Community Credit Union which included spending over twenty years in commercial banking with such institutions as Wells Fargo and Bank of America.

Along the way of a very successful career, Dias served on many boards such as the American Red Cross and Rotary Club as well as volunteering for many projects such as winterizing homes for the low-income and elderly. He also received many awards such as the “My Boss is a Patriot” award from the Department of Defense.

While President/CEO, Dias leaves a legacy that included a number of significant accomplishments. At the height of these accomplishments is that the company he headed was named one of the “100 Best Companies to Work For in Oregon”, for five years in a row, an unprecedented record that remains in place today.

Also, near his retirement in 2005, OnPoint was selected as one of “Oregon’s Most Admired Companies” in a statewide survey. Over 800 Oregon CEO’s ranked companies on innovation, branding and marketing, quality of management, community involvement and quality of products and service.

Among his colleagues, Dias has been described as a “people oriented, customer focused, results driven leader”. He is particularly proud of the fact that OnPoint weathered extremely well the financial storm of 2008/2009 because of the very positive and strong financial condition in which he left it.

In 2008, Dias was asked to serve on the North Hawaii Community Hospital, a 40 bed acute care hospital located on the Big Island.

And in 2009, Dias was informed that he was selected as a “Significant 75” graduate out of 8000 graduates from the University of Portland School of Business.