

Born for adventure: July 7, 1946. Grew up in: Southern California.

Winter residence: For past decade, Blue River, B.C. Summer residence: For past decade, Hood River, Ore. Jake of all trades: Heli-ski guide (for many years at Mike Wiegele Heli-skiing; now at Crescent Spur Helicopter Skiing, B.C.); skydiver (more than 3,000 jumps over last 25 years); stuntman (in more than a dozen movies, including four James Bond films); emergency medical technician; avalanche forecaster; hang glider pilot; boardsailor; surfer; scuba diver; mountain biker.

Have fun, be young: "I'm an adventurer—not a nine-to-five type of guy. What I do keeps me young and fit. A lot of people are adventurous when they're young. They grab a backpack and go hike around India or something. But then they get older, they settle down and lose their sense of adventure."

One hairy ride: "In 1991, at age 45, I rode off the top of Angel Falls in Venezuela on a mountain bike for World's Greatest Stunts, a TV show. Angel Falls is the world's tallest waterfall—3,200 feet. I had a parachute. So did the bike."

A hairier ride: "I rode a mountain bike out of an airplane for a Mountain Dew commercial that same year. It took 10 takes and 10 bikes. The bikes didn't have parachutes."

The man who falls to earth: "There's nothing that feels as good as free-falling. It's so smooth and you go superfast."

Lombard, Jake Lombard: "I did stunts for Moonraker, Octopussy, Living Daylights and License to Kill. Sometimes I played Bond and sometimes I played the bad guy. The opening scene of Moonraker—a 60-second free-fall—took 60 takes."

In theaters now: "I'm in Drop Zone, a movie with Wesley Snipes and Gary Busey, where everyone is a skydiver."

Coming soon, on the small screen: "There's a Molson Ice beer commercial where two guys climb up the inside of a huge beer bottle and jump off. I'm one of the guys."

Coming soon, on the big screen: Congo, based on Michael Crichton's book. We're filming it in Costa Rica. I do a lot of behind-the-scenes safety work."

Cool, calm, collected: "I'm not some kind of lunatic or daredevil. Everything I do is thought out and planned step by step. Doing stunts is like guiding skiers in the backcountry. I can't make any mistakes either place."

—Reade Bailey