

Search

Stock Quote

Home

Business

Investing

Technology

Entrepreneurs

Op/Ed

Leadership

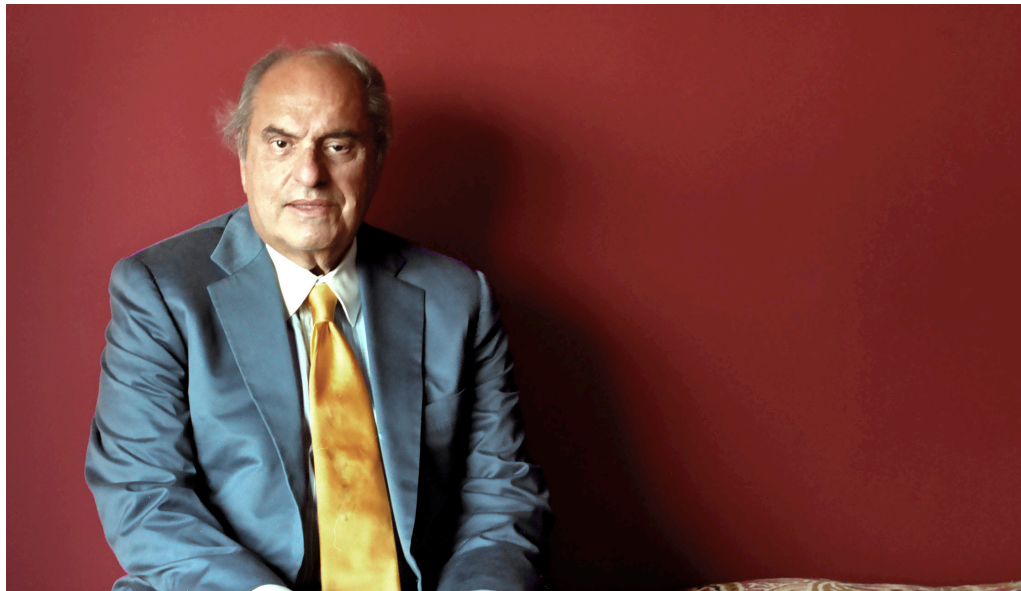
Lifestyle

Lists

Secrets of the Self-Made

Leon Charney

We play 20 questions with this billionaire



Net Worth: \$1.5 billion

Age: 67

Source of Wealth:
Real estate

1. What is the difference between a millionaire and a billionaire (besides the three extra zeros)?

Reverence for humility, isolation, envy, superficial compliments and lost relatives coming out of the woodwork.

2. Is sleep overrated?

Absolutely not.

3. As you became wealthy, what relationships did you leave behind?

Jealous compatriots.

4. What event will touch off the next economic crisis?

Russia's dominance on the supply of oil.

5. What's the bigger turn-on: the chase or the kill?

The chase.

6. Whom do you turn to for advice?

No one.

7. Your house is on fire. You can save one thing besides your family. What do you grab on your way out the door?

Great books.

8. Is writing checks to charity effective philanthropy?

Usually not.

9. What is the best bar on the planet?

House of worship.

10. The estate tax: yes or no?

No.

11. How much cash do you usually carry in your wallet?

None.

12. You can be James Bond or Michael Jordan for an evening. Who do you choose?

Neither.

13. Where do most of your deals go down (restaurants, golf courses, poker table, cellphone)?

Restaurants.

14. How do you spot a liar?

Shifty eyes.

15. You can have a front-row seat to any event in history. Where is your time machine taking you?

I was there: Camp David.

16. What are the first and last questions you ask in any job interview?

How did you feel when you walked in? How did you feel when you walked out?

17. What's the coolest number in your cell phone?

My kids'.

18. What is the future of the U.S. dollar?

As I told the Securities and Exchange Commissioner in China, we have no issue because every dollar states in God We Trust. Unfortunately, I told him, the communists don't have that option.

19. Will the government be cutting Social Security checks in 20 years?

Yes.

20. You have \$100,000 to invest. What do you do with it?

Invest in medical technology.