

Decision Maker: Ardavan Mobasheri with ACIMA Private Wealth

[Article on Richmond.com](#)

July 10, 2017



Ardavan Mobasheri is managing director/chief investment officer at ACIMA Private Wealth.

New position: managing director/chief investment officer, ACIMA Private Wealth, a Henrico County-based wealth advisory firm

Previous position: founding principal, Corporate Economic Strategy Advisors LLC

Birthplace: Tehran, Iran

Education: bachelor's degree, Lehigh University, 1990; master's degree, New York University, 2000; and master's degree, Queens College, 2005

Career: trader/strategist, Bear Stearns & Co., 1993-2000; partner and founder, TriStar Advisors LLC, 2000-02; managing director/senior economist, Bear Stearns & Co., 2002-07; senior managing director/chief economist, AIG, 2008-12; founding principal, Corporate Economic Strategy Advisors LLC, 2012-16; managing director/chief investment officer, ACIMA Private Wealth, 2016-present

Best career move: "Aside from joining ACIMA, interestingly enough saying yes to AIG in the spring of 2008. While I could never fathom what I was about to get myself into, the once-in-a-lifetime experience of being intricately involved in the bailout of the largest insurance company in the world in the midst of a global economic crises is one for the books."

The best advice he ever received: "First, do what you enjoy doing the most. The money will eventually come."

The most difficult situation faced on the job: "Reduction of force during the downturns of 2001 and 2008. Individuals are more than just employees or investments. They are ambitions, dreams, goals, perspectives and values that are likely never to return when they are gone."

Career tip for students: "Read and learn from the past, but never ever live it."

What motivates him? "Three things: Family, family and family."

Role model: "Besides my parents, John F. Kennedy, a leader who saw the future of his country through the eyes of his children and not through the eyeglasses of his parents."

Family: wife, Azita; daughter, Nika; son, Neev

Pastimes: "Travel, reading history, following my two children's adventures and helping my wife's many brilliant ideas come into fruition."

The most memorable book or movie: "Doris Kearns Goodwin's 'Teams of Rivals: The political genius of Abraham Lincoln' is a great book on the complexities of leadership."

Favorite food or restaurant: "Persian food of any and all kinds."

Ideal vacation: "Where the seas meet the slopes at the crossroad of history."