



ROOTS

ARNOLD SHOKOUHI

Managing Partner
McCATHERN, SHOKOUHI, EVANS

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ARNOLD SHOKOUHI LEFT IRAN IN 1979 with his family during the Iranian Revolution. He was an infant when his mother fled the country with his middle brother and him, after his oldest brother left on his own to avoid being drafted before the Iran-Iraq War. Shokouhi crisscrossed Europe as a child before eventually landing in Austin in 1986. Now a managing partner at his law firm, Shokouhi credits his mother with the life he leads today. “My mom is the hero of the story. She was married to my father, who was an absentee father and eventually fell out of the picture. She took my brother and me, and escaped through some tunnels and got us to Turkey. That is when we applied to the American Embassy to come to the U.S. We lived in Turkey for two years until all our documentation was approved. Our next stop was Italy, and we were there two years before we landed in

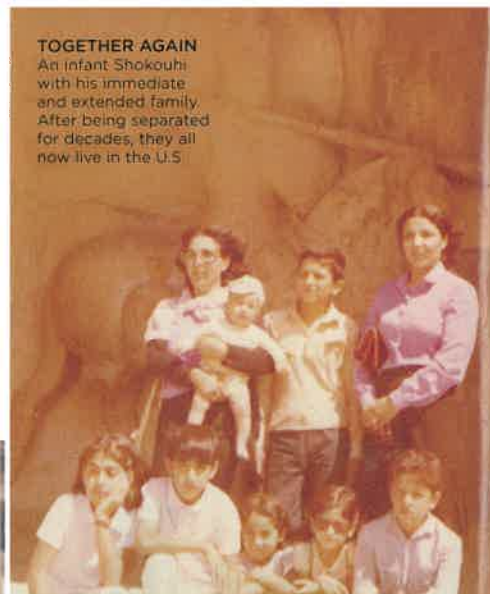
ON THE MOVE
After fleeing Iran with his mother and brother, Shokouhi lived in three different countries before he was 7 years old.



BROTHERLY LOVE
Shokouhi and his older brother Mike (far right) stuck by each other's side during their journey to America.



A SAFEGUARD
Shokouhi with his mother, Mahim (center), who did whatever necessary to ensure a better future for her family.



TOGETHER AGAIN
An infant Shokouhi with his immediate and extended family. After being separated for decades, they all now live in the U.S.



Las Vegas, of all places. From there, my mom picked Austin. She wanted a college town because she understood education would be important in her children's lives. My mom came to this country and did not speak a lick of English. My oldest brother came over from Europe and met us. So, it was my mom and her three sons. She went to cosmetology school, became a hairstylist, and now has her own salon. She never remarried and just did it on her own. We are the American dream. I have a unique American experience because we were adamant about not taking advantage of social services and making something of ourselves in the process.” **D**

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