Conejo Valley Estate Planning Council

How to Take Risk
Kevin Cavanaugh & David Lin



Roadmap

- Traditional definition of risk
- A different way to look at risk
- Lessons from history
- How to take risk



The traditional framework for risk....



The allure of financial models

- Capital Asset Pricing Model
- Sharpe Ratio
- Information Ratio

Reminder from an all-time great

"Investing is foregoing consumption now in order to... consume more at a later date."

- Warren E. Buffett

Risk re-defined

Risk = Size of Loss x Length of Time

Risk re-defined

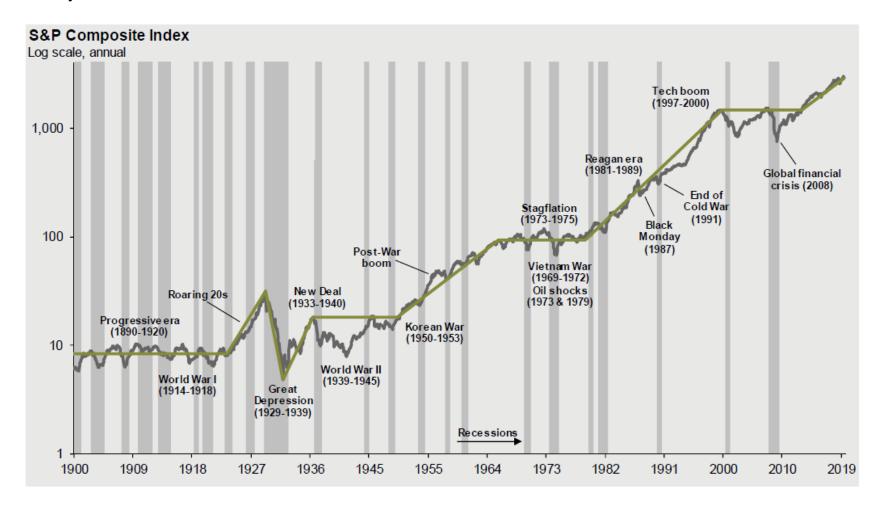
Shallow Risk

Short-lived loss Deprives you of sleep

Deep Risk

Permanent loss of wealth Deprives you of sustenance

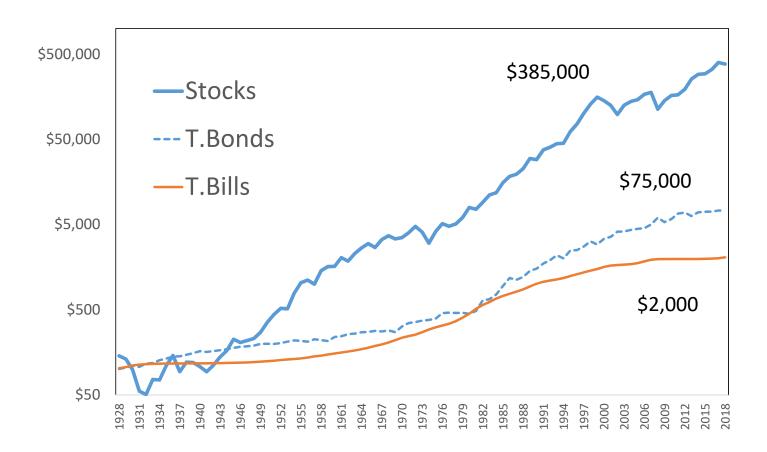
History of the U.S. Stock Market



Shallow risk

- 1. We've recovered from most drawdowns quickly
- 2. Unlikely to suffer another Great Depression, decades long natural resource shocks.

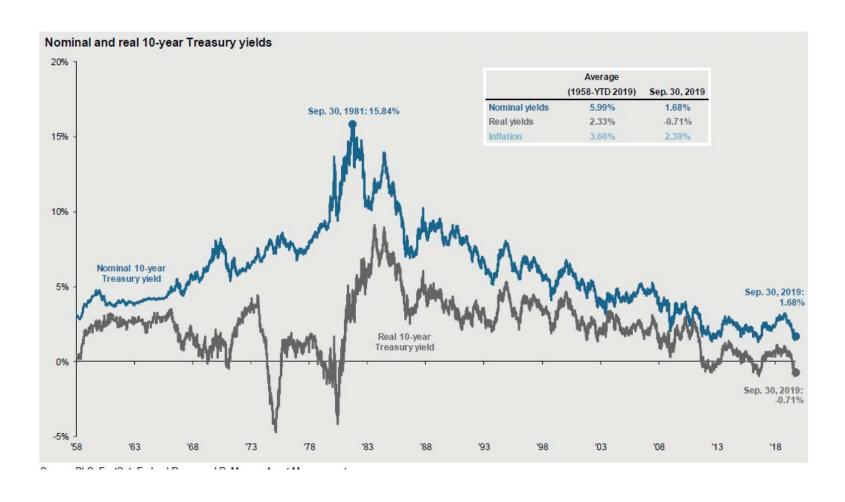
What if you invested \$100 in 1927?



Deep risk

- 1. On purchasing power, bonds are riskier than stocks.
- 2. Permanent loss of wealth hence "deep" loss.

Real yields on bonds



The Economic Cycle



Deflationary cycle

DEPRESSION LIQUIDATE DEFLATE SAVE

What works?

Own bonds Accumulate hard assets, collectibles Deleverage

Inflationary cycle



What works?

Own stocks Own income-producing assets Borrow to buy assets



