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BUS-313

15 January 2017

Mission, Vision, Values and Goals

A motto that I live by is, “To live is to experience, and to experience is to learn.” I strive to maintain a drive to gain new experiences. I find it invaluable to expand one’s horizons, and to continue learning. For example, my grandfather has continued to be a lifelong learner and is one of the individuals in my life that I respect the most. He has been a marine, a professor, a police officer, an emergency response manager, a sailor, a hunter, a writer, a painter, a musician, and is currently rebuilding a Ford Model A. I hope that one day I can live up to the amount of experiences and learned skills that my grandfather has. Over the course of this paper, I will outline my mission, vision, values, and goals.

My purpose in life is to be the best husband I can be to my wife along with striving to never stop learning. With every new experience a new perspective is gained, and I strongly believe that there always exists a second side to a coin. I have many aspirations that I want to accomplish in my life. Currently, I am focusing on attaining my Bachelor’s Degree in Business Management. Obtaining a B.S in Management is the first step in one of my first missions in life, which is to become a Project Manager. Working in teams and creating with others has always brought me many new experiences and perspectives, therefore the end goal of Project Manager

has always seemed to be a natural progression to me. Perspectives have also helped me in becoming a better husband and allowing me to further better myself.

My vision that I have had since I was a junior in high school, was that of someone who would be able to retire early and spend the rest of his life with wife, as well as be able to spend the rest of his time learning new things and experiencing the world. I have long since considered the many ways I could build up to this vision and how I could make it become a reality. Early on, I evaluated what I wanted to do professionally in life and concluded that management was a good path for me. In 10 years, I see myself with my wife, well on our way to retirement, and fully enveloped in our professional careers - myself in project management, and my wife in the aerospace industry as an engineer. With the proper investments and budgeting, we would be less than 20 years away from retirement. Along the way to retirement comes kids and saving for their college tuition so that they too will have a chance to be blessed with the many experiences college has to offer.

Values that I hold close to me are reliability, consistency, and empathy. Reliability is important to me and my life because if I was not reliable my relationships would fall apart. Reliability is an important aspect of my character that was instilled in me at a young age by my step-father. My step-father is a man who came into my life at a young age and since then, was always there for me whenever I needed someone - whether that was for a doctor's appointment, a school event, or just to be someone I could turn to for advice. His actions spoke to me, and what they taught me were to be dependable. Along with that reliability came consistency. Throughout my younger life, my step-father was always the disciplinary. He taught me the value of consistency that came in the form of punishments for every wrong doing with no exceptions. He

also taught me that even though he did not want to be the “bad guy”, it was important to stay consistent with his actions in order to build character. Although consistency in my life does not play a disciplinarian role, it does however shine through in my faithfulness to my wife, my jobs, and my schoolwork. Empathy is quite possibly the most important of my values, while simultaneously the hardest to uphold. Empathy is important for every aspect of my life whether that be with the relationship I have with my wife where I can understand her feelings and respond accordingly or at work where differing opinions or problems could arise. The human variable is the reason behind the difficulty of upholding empathy. With so many perspectives and opinions to consider, understanding another person’s feelings only becomes more difficult, though I always push myself to be more empathetic in my everyday life.

My goals in life are simple. I would like to finish college, maintain a healthy married relationship with my wife, and retire at an early age. With retirement at a younger than average age, it is my hope that any extra time will be spent with family rather than at work focusing on a career. Family is very important to me and I feel that by retiring as early as possible, I can devote more time to my family and experiencing new and fun things with them that will hopefully enrich their lives more than I would have been able to had I not retired or had to work later into my life. With my family being so important, so is my relationship with my wife, because without her our family would not be whole. Spending time with my wife is another reason why early retirement is a goal - less time at work means more time her. Currently, as our lives have become incredibly hectic with balancing two jobs and school, time together seems to be what we have the least of. It is important to me that I earn back some of that lost time, and maintaining a happy and healthy relationship with my wife is even more so. All of my goals start with earning my degree, and without it, the chances of me reaching early retirement are slim.

Mission, vision, values and goals – these are aspects of my life that are either pending or currently active, all of which are my aspirations for the future as well as the present in pursuit of new experiences, upholding my values and achieving my future goals. As long as I keep my motto close, and my values closer, I believe that my vision is attainable. I understand that life will throw curve balls, but I know that I will always have a shoulder to lean on and someone to turn to. Hopefully one day my future family will look up to me as much as I look up to my grandfather - as someone who was always striving to gain new experiences and to never stop learning.