

# LIFE LESSONS

- Decide what your core values are. They are your foundation. Guard that foundation, and your credibility with your life. Whatever structure you build is meaningless without a proper foundation. What you value and belief will dictate your actions. Test your beliefs. Make sure they are true.

- What you consider most valuable is what you will gravitate towards:

BELIEF: Make most \$ I can regardless of who is in the way

or

BELIEF: Need to be fair to all

- One can recover from all sorts of financial losses. One rarely, if ever, can recover from a loss of reputation. We are only given one to create.

- Never assume that what might appear to be impossible is. What you see depends on what you are looking for.

- You are always setting examples for others.

- 2 Golden Rules.; Never underestimate the power of humility and candor. At the end of the day, the lender is the lender. The first is scripture based. The second is worldly based.

- Life's challenges reveal our character. Don't get rattled. Get in the game; don't be afraid to fail.

“It is not the critic who counts: not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error or shortcoming, but who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who spends himself for a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows, in the end, the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who knew neither victory nor defeat”

~Theodore Roosevelt

- Don't focus on the proverbial quick buck. Long term relationships have the biggest paybacks emotionally and financially.

- Invest in your team using positive reinforcement. They are your greatest asset after your family. Anything worthwhile accomplishing is, more often than not, a collaboration of a number of people.

- Never underestimate the power of positive reinforcement. It is magical.

- Enjoy the ride. Before you know it, 20 years will come and go. Enjoy this moment. This moment is your life.
- Take the time you need with your family. Don't end up like the “Chevy's Dad”.
- Striving, which is born of using one's GOD given talents and abilities is one thing. Striving which is born from comparing oneself to others is wrong every time.
- Use the word “I” as little as you can, and the word “we” as much as you can.
- Optimism is always better than pessimism. Hope is a proven asset.
- No one can make you feel bad about yourself without your permission.
- Live within your means.
- Entrustment vs. Ownership. We are merely stewards over the gifts we have been given. Let go!
- At the end of a full circle analysis, we control but a small % of the facts in existence around us.
- The United States of America is the greatest country on this planet, and it's mechanisms for promoting human ingenuity and personal success are second to none.
- We have developed systems for how we acquire things. In fact, acquisition is what fuels our capitalistic economy. With our human ingenuity hard at work perfecting the science of acquiring “stuff”, we have at the same time laid the foundation for discouragement, disillusionment and resentment. Those emotions are birthed where gratefulness and contentment do not reside.
- Whether we have a lot or a little as a result of our efforts, living a life of gratefulness and contentment allows us to have a more significant impact on our world around us and the people in it.
- Happiness is a choice, and sometimes it's a lesson to be “relearned” many times.
- At the end of the day, we take nothing with us. We come in alone and we go out alone. Along the way we make choices; some are inconsequential and some impact our entire life and our eternity.
- There is no U-Haul trailer behind a hearse.
- A recurring question to our selves should be, “How do I take my time, my talents and my treasures and help make the world a better place while I am here?”
- Keep the balance between the present and the eternal in check daily.