



President's Reflections

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Periodically I spend some time reflecting on life and things that happen to us. My father had a huge impact on my life and I am happy to share those thoughts and reflections with you.

Developing Heart

An individual develops the heart of a champion when they have learned to give of themselves beyond what they thought possible. The ability to dig “deeper” when the game is on the line or in a life-altering situation is what we call heart or real courage. Our lessons in life are there for us to remember at appropriate times and to glean the strength and resolve when needed most when we have developed “heart”.

My father often asked me important questions, after I had dealt with a difficult situation or crisis. The most important question was this, “What did you learn from the experience?” As a follow up, he might ask, “What would you do different?” After hearing these questions many times over the years, I try to reflect on my experiences in day to day life as they apply to job and family. Likewise, my experiences have allowed me to identify certain key qualities that I like to call “heart” or the development of a champion.

Some of my reflections include:

1. **Dream big** and establish attainable “steps” to help you achieve your big dreams. Championships, a successful campaign or the securing a job might be a part of that successful dream. Success is the result of the repetitive practices you put into play focusing on what you want to accomplish. Improvement, persistence and diligence are all part of a focused process.
2. **Visualize achievement** and success. By thinking about your role in success, whatever that means to you, and by replaying what you intend to do in your mind; you begin to cement that successful outlook and commitment to success. In your mind you must complete that task as perfectly as possible and this will result in perfect practice and organization.
3. **When adversity comes** and it will, deal with it in a positive manner. When things go against you, find a way to rally those around you towards a successful outcome. Always “step it up” when you are facing that inevitable foe of adversity. By planning your response, you will help ensure a positive outcome.
4. **Care and support each other**, no matter what. Those people who really matter are those who surround you each day, they are the ones you can count on during the tough times. Be sure to stand up and support those people who really matter in good and bad times. We call this loyalty.
5. **Work hard, pray hard and play hard.** Hard work is a matter of a good habit. By putting forth a maximum of effort in all you do, you ensure that you will be doing your best when facing adversity. By using your God-given talents to their fullest, you are well on your way to become a better person. There is a level of success guaranteed when you have that determined effort to keep to the right path. There is no easy way to achieve regularly at a high level without a great work ethic.
6. **Live your life as a champion, always.** Your actions in life should reflect or emulate what you hope to accomplish. By making a full-effort in all you do, you will accomplish things at a high level. It's no secret that successful people are successful in most areas that they attempt. They understand the ingredients that make up a successful person and they live their lives accordingly.