



Lessons for Life from a Lifetime of Learning

- Most people are good and honest, even if their facial expressions don't say so.
- Through my actions I have tremendous power to either fuel or calm the temper in others.
- The tenor and inflection in my voice make a huge difference how I am being perceived.
- I am better at writing than at speaking.
- It is better to keep your mouth shut and thought a fool, than it is to open it and prove it.
- To publish something, verbally or in writing, I must prepare, prepare, and prepare.
- I have learned a lot from my children and their spouses.
- When challenged, count to ten before responding; if you're under fifty, count to 100.
- Gut instinct is often right – pay attention to it.
- Money and opportunities flow toward good ideas.
- Exposing my ideas to the scrutiny of others always improves those ideas.
- Respect the authority of superiors; they have been placed there for a reason.
- Don't ask for a salary increase.
- It is important to do things right, but it is absolutely essential to do the right things.
- An angry person often expresses a frustration in another part of their life.
- Occasionally stop and smell the roses, but don't get pricked.

- In the eons of ages gone by and those yet to come, I am but one human being trying to light a candle to those around me. I can do so only at this time.
- No one is indispensable.
- My father, who lived to be almost 101, said that age does not protect from foolishness.
- It is during troubled times that the seeds of success are planted, just as the seeds of demise are planted during good times.
- When someone praises you, say thank you; when someone correctly points out your error, apologize immediately and profusely.
- Earn money, but don't love money. It is only the means, not the end.
- I would rather have a wise person criticize my work than have a fool sing its praises.
- Give generously in time and money.
- A calm spirit will undo much anger and offense expressed by others.
- Be happy with what you have, else you will be unhappy with what you don't have.
- There is nothing more uplifting than encouragement given to others.
- What I can do is without limits – as long as I don't worry about who gets the credit.
- In solving a tricky problem, the right path usually is narrow and steep.
- Knowledge can be learned, but wisdom springs from the soul.
- Unkind people need kindness more than anything else.
- Logic has never solved an argument.
- Most of administration is encouragement of others.
- I believe in the 'acting as if' principle. If you behave as though you are (happy, unconcerned...) you will soon begin to feel (happy, unconcerned...)
- C. S. Lewis said that humility is the most underrated quality of leaders: Humility is not thinking less of myself; but thinking of myself less.
- Johann Arndt (17th Century) said that on judgment day God will not ask how much you know, but how you have loved.

Lessons I learned from my Students

- Those who can teach; the rest have to work.
- When contemplating about their teacher, students silently think: I don't care how much you know, but I do want to know how much you care.
- Become aware what your body language communicates.
- A wonderful magical and uplifting feeling comes from being punctual.

- An honest smile does wonders. Be aware of your facial expressions. These speak volumes more than do your words. Train your voice to sound inviting and soothing.
- Let not many of you become teachers, for you know that we who teach shall be judged with greater strictness. –James 3:1.
- Repetition is pedagogically sound.
- It takes a hundred positive comments to undo the damage caused by one negative utterance.
- Don't seek recognition. If deserved, it will come in time.
- Student success depends more on your attitude than your aptitude.
- To a certain extent, for better or for worse, teaching is acting.
- Of all the professions, teachers and air traffic controllers report the least amount of boredom.
- The first impression is a lasting impression. Watch those first few minutes of class!
- If you demand and take, you'll be poor; if you give, you'll be rich.
- Logic does not win an emotion-packed argument.
- Expect no thanks, but when it comes acknowledge profusely.
- If you are wrong, say so loudly and openly.
- Plan your work, and then work your plan.
- Success is directly proportional to persistence, and inversely to procrastination.
- Listen, ask, listen again, and then talk.
- It is important to do things right, and more important to do the right things.
- Get up early enough to read at least one page of uplifting thoughts.
- On the way to work listen to uplifting thoughts. Feeding your mind is too important to leave at the discretion of someone else, like a radio.
- Give a compliment every day.
- Arrange your desk so students will be next to you – not across from you.
- It is not your choice to be or not to be a model to your students. But it is your choice whether or not to be a good one.
- Creativity is to the mind what exercise is to the body. Without practice, the mind weakens.
- Henry David Thoreau said “Good for the body is the work of the body, good for the soul is the work of the soul, and good for either is the work of the other.”
- The best way to improve your own lot is to improve that of others.
- Life is not fair, and often students are not fair. But, it is important that I remain fair.

Lessons Learned

- Stiff competition is good.
- To survive I must work, work, work.
- Chemistry is beautiful.
- Persistence pays off.
- Chemistry, still beautiful.
- The power of active learning.
- The power of fortuitous coincidences.
- Plan your work, then work your plan.
- Social Life; good for the time, but has no long-lasting benefit.
- Students ask themselves about their teacher:
I don't care how much he knows, but I do want to know how much he cares.
- Teaching itself does not make much difference in student outcome, but teachers do.
- We could blame W. C. Fields, who said:
"A thing worth having is a thing worth cheating for."
- Technology can enhance, but not replace teaching.
- Even famous people have fundamental question about life.
- When the Chancellor invites you to lunch, remember it is not a free lunch.
- The philosophy of the Peace House resonates with my personal beliefs.
- Happiness does not come from material things, but from good relationships.
- We harmonize with Winston Churchill:
"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."
- Of the eons of ages gone by, and the eons of ages still to come, I am placed here, at this time, at this place, to shine my little light just now.
- Old age does not protect you from foolishness.
- Chiseled above the entrance of the old Student Union, now gone:
"...teach us to number our days, that we may get a heart of wisdom."
[Psalm 90:12](#)