

Sitting in the Detroit Metro Airport, near where I spent the first 22 years of my life, contemplating. I went to the University of Michigan – Dearborn and received a B.S. degree. I then went on to the University of Wyoming and received an M.S. degree and then a Ph. D. I did a three year post-doc at the University of California – Davis and have spent most of the last 30 years working at James Madison University as a professor.

Recently, many top companies have stated they will no longer require degrees for many jobs. More companies are following suit. Of course, they are claiming a degree is not required to do the jobs at these companies.

Going to a college or university is not to get a job. This endeavor is meant to be a learning experience, where, hopefully, one learns more about our universe, our planet, our world and, most of all, one's self. A job is something you pursue after you gain this experience. Hopefully, this learning experience opens doors. It did for me.

However, I know a man who only went through the 8th grade. He owns a business, is a millionaire, has traveled all over the Earth and has helped people all over the Earth. There are homeless people who have better solutions to our problems than highly educated people do. There are bricklayers, carpenters, electricians, plumbers, welders, etc. who have traveled all over the Earth. Many have helped put together impressive buildings, bridges, sea ports, etc. People without a high school education make ingenious inventions every day.

Getting a college or university degree does not make you special, better or guarantee you anything in life. It should make you think more about what is going on in the world and it should make you want to help others to think more about what is going on in the world. Two people with the same degree from the same university can be political rivals. This is also something to think about.

I am thinking, being a professor for many years, traveling to many places and being involved in lots of activities; I have spent time with many people: famous scientists, famous writers, great athletes, students, craftsman, homeless people, etc. None have had more value or less value than any other. All of them have shown strengths and weaknesses. The ones I remember the most and cherish the most are those who have listened, laughed, loved and shared their opinions humbly.

We all choose or are put on various tracks in life. Many times the train is driven by someone we do not have any input on how they will get us from A to B. It is best to always have your life in GOD's hands.

And ... yeah

LEARN

And ... especially

SOME MATH!