

# Work was never a chore

by Marvin Milich

When one thinks of what they would like to leave their children and grandchildren, the first thing that usually comes to mind is something material. We all want to make the lives of our children and grandchildren easier, and to that end I have tried to structure my estate planning to make that happen. However, there are far more important things to think of when answering this question. After giving it due consideration, I have concluded that I would like to give my children and grandchildren my "work ethic".



I did not have a typical childhood. I started working in my father's (and uncle's) fur factory every Saturday when I was only eight years old. By the time I was ten I was working full time every summer in addition to Saturdays. At fifteen I was basically doing all of the books and first discovered my love of Accounting. This continued until I finally graduated law school. While most of my classmates were starting their careers, I was in effect ending one and starting anew. Working was never a chore, it was something I enjoyed doing, especially knowing that I was helping my family. I carried that same work ethic over to my professional career, both in practicing law, and teaching and administering at Queens College. I have always worked hard and played hard to quote some of my friends and family.

I am concerned that many young people today do not possess the necessary work ethic to become successful. Many seem to have a sense of "entitlement" that results in their refusal to put in the time and effort necessary to succeed. It is my sincere hope that my children and grandchildren will learn from my example and make me proud of them as they climb the ladder of success and truly become as good as they can be. Success however, can not be measured strictly in monetary terms. A good work ethic also means being a leader, a caring and charitable person, and trying to make the world a better place. That is my hope and prayer for my children and grandchildren.

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