

VISION-WHERE WILL I BE IN 10 YEARS?



Where will I be in 10 years?

I'll be living with my beautiful bride, wonderful kids and loving wiener dogs. My kids will have many friends from around the neighborhood. Our house will be the "fun house" that all of the neighbor kids want to play and stay the night at. A normal day will be very loud with a lot of controlled craziness ... kids rushing to school, sports & other fun activities. Our dogs Frank & Harry will always be in the background of our home videos, playing with our kids ... jumping into the back of the car for a quick trip to the mountains for the day.

My wife and I will be celebrating our 19-year wedding anniversary. We will still love each other as intimately as when we first met back in Fresno. After 19 years of marriage, the last thing that she will feel is unloved and unappreciated. Every day I'll kiss her when I get home and do something very inappropriate to her when the kids are not looking, and I'll laugh when she yells "Craig!" and slaps my hand.

We will continue our weekly date night. We will communicate and put each other first. Our relationship is the solid rock foundation of our family, and without a commitment to keeping it strong, every other part of our life will suffer.

Our kids will see a great example of what true love is, and their future relationships will be strong and healthy because of it. They'll see how we resolve arguments. They'll see the daily affection. Our kids will be 18 and 15 years old. Zac will be preparing for college, and will have many things that he is passionate about. He'll be a typical athletic teen that will want to hang out with his friends and talk about girls, but he'll also have wide ranging interests that will guide him into a career that he will love and excel at. We'll still spend quality time together doing Father/Son activities on the weekends and my focus will be on helping him mature into a man and a leader. Aspen will be 15 and probably give me a lot of headaches and stress (from what I hear about raising a 15 year old daughter). She'll spend most of her time virtual reality chatting with her friends about boys in the 2020 Sony Holodome that we'll regret ever buying since we can't get her out of it. She'll be passionate about whatever she is interested in and focusing on doing her best at school and in her secondary activities. I'll be focusing on teaching her that she's more than a pretty face, even though society tries to teach girls to focus on looks. She doesn't want to be anything like Paris Hilton's daughter that is all over the news for her latest shallowness. She's strong and can take care of herself without a man having to take care of her. She's smart and can do anything she wants to do. She's kind and puts others first. Oh, and she's beautiful too. =)

Our kids will understand the value of hard work. They will know that many years of consistent practice and persistence is the key to success in any area of life. They will be healthy because they will be eating the right foods and exercising, following the example that we set for them. They will be leaders and not followers. Peer pressure will have a less of an impact on them since they will be confident in themselves. Our kids will be very focused on excelling at school. They'll understand that good grades and good things only come to those who work hard for them. They will take my oversized love and affection for them for granted since it's all they have ever known. Every single day their dad will kiss them (even if they turn away since their friends are watching). Every single day their dad will tell them how much he loves them and that he'll never leave them. Every single day they will feel the warmth of caring parents that do not judge them. They don't need to win their parents

approval to get love. They get it no matter what. It's unquestionable. It's never ending and it will help them to feel secure and important. They'll feel confident going out into the world and believe in themselves.

They'll always have somebody to talk to even when they do things that we do not approve of. Years from now, they'll look back at their childhood and overwhelmingly remember the warmth that they felt every morning as their dad laughed and told jokes to them around the breakfast table.

They'll care about other people and animals. They will have seen how unfortunate some other people are around the world during our volunteer missions.

During school breaks, we'll be traveling the world, learning about other cultures and enjoying time together as a family. The kids will be very used to traveling since they've been doing it since they were born. They'll have a global view of the world instead of just an American view. This will be very helpful for them in their future.

With a choice between living passively or actively, we'll always choose action. Planned spontaneity. It's the Zuber family M.O.

I'll be post-economic. I won't spend time doing things that I don't want to do but have to do for financial reasons.

I'll still be working hard because it's what I love to do and because it sets a good example for my kids. I'll still be working on things that are important and that help people and society. I'll still be passionate about the work I do and I'll still love Monday mornings.

I will also be spending a lot of time on things outside of work that I'm passionate about.

I won't be spending my leisure time sitting around or watching TV (with the exception of college football). I'll set difficult goals and work to accomplish them with the same intensity that I have for work. What type of things? Learning to fly a plane. Climbing Mt. Everest. Sailing a boat around the world. Volunteering to help create a non-profit dedicated to bringing entrepreneurship to 3rd world countries. Things like that.

Whatever I feel like doing. I'll choose to do it, set a lofty goal, and pursue it passionately.

I'll continue to love learning. Many people get to a certain age and decide they know enough. I'll be reading one new book per week. I'll have an open mind. I'll learn about new technology instead of making excuses of letting it pass me by.

I'll study human behavior and psychology to understand myself better and the feeling and behaviors of others.

I'll study raising teenagers so I can learn from the wisdom of others that have already done it, since I'm doing it for the first time and only get one crack at it.

I'll be working out with weights and doing cardio each week to stay in great shape. I'll be eating right. It's an investment into my family and myself. It would be selfish NOT to do it. I have to have the energy to live the best life that I can, and being fat and slow is not how to do it.

I want to keep up with my kids. I want my mind to stay focused and alert. I want to prevent diseases that could slow me down and burden my family. I'll have 25 year olds watching me do pull-ups in the gym. They'll ask me questions about how I stay in such great shape and comment about how they hope they are in the same shape when they are "old" like me.

When I'm not with my family, I'll be with a few close friends that I've had over the years. (Time goes by quickly and touching base once every 6 months is not enough) I'll focus on including them as part of our family and if we start to drift apart, I'll personally take action to get back together. A phone call. An invite. It doesn't take a lot, but it takes focus. Otherwise, relationships fade away.

Working hard on difficult things that you are passionate about is one of the secrets to happiness.

The life of a lottery winner, sitting on the beach and doing nothing all day, sounds like a dream to most people.

Studies prove that it's the fastest way to boredom and depression.

Close, long-term relationships are the second secret to a happy life. The TV commercials we watch lie to us. It's not things. It's people.

Preparing to write the next decade now.