Life Happens

Individuals live and make decisions that will affect the course of their life, whether it be in a positive or negative way. I recently interviewed my grandmother about the trials of her life. She had made some life altering decisions that could have defined her current life to be far more wonderful than it is now. However, she does not dwell in regret from her to decisions of leaving college, getting married, and having children. She lives on strong, while enduring the pain she holds onto. Yet, she is proud that she has done everything in her ability to get herself to stand on her own two feet.

Born Altagracia Viramontes on October 19, 1948 in Jalpa, Zacatexas, my grandmother Grace grew up in Mexico with only her mother and older siblings. She was the baby of her family and never had the chance of knowing her father who died when she was only six months old. Altagracia did not suffer from her family’s poverty. Mexico was already a poor country and her only childhood memory was that she was content playing with her dolls when she came home from school. By the time she was thirteen years old, Altagracia and her mother immigrated to California to live in Oakland with her aunt. They moved here for more family security purposes, rather than focusing solely on labor needs of the economy (Treas 92). Together they all shared a small bedroom in an apartment with one bathroom. Her family was of relative poverty, but not absolute. Altagracia was privileged to an American education. When she immigrated to California she jumped right into junior high school during 1963, where she had help and support from her school counselor.

The Chicano Movement arose through the Civil Rights Movement during the 1940’s and 1950’s. Famous cases such as Mendez v. Westminster Supreme Court (1947) established a reform against segregated schools and granted equal rights to Latino children in public schools (Nittle). Because of this successful movement, Altagracia and other Hispanic immigrants were encouraged to join the schools through the newly reformed Immigration Act of 1965 (Kennedy 137). There her counselor Americanized her name to Grace, so others can easily refer to her. Although Grace’s junior high school days were tough, she grew very fond of school. She would practice her English everyday when she got home with her aunt, and sought help from others who befriended her so quickly. By the time Grace entered Oakland Technical High School in 1965, her English was a little better. Her favorite and best subject was history, even though she never understood exactly what she was learning, she remembered it all and succeeded in the class. Grace’s other Hispanic descendents encouraged her to join the arising Spanish club on campus where she was apart of lots of fun trips just for the club.

Grace spoke of her school years with much enthusiasm. She had two boyfriends throughout her four years of school. Her first boyfriend was a white boy her age who was so interested in her, he would “carry around a little Spanish dictionary to speak to [her]” (Interview with Grace, 2011). They never went on dates because they both were apart of the lower class. Lack of money and communication abilities resulted in only seeing each other at school (Kunz 121). Inevitably both of their mothers did not know of their relationship and therefore had no say about it. Her second boyfriend was a Chinese boy. Grace shared the same type of in-school relationship with him as she did with her first boyfriend. Her mother knew about Grace’s fondness with this Chinese boy and did not like him because he was different; Grace told her that he had no romantic bond. Times during the post civil rights movement were still sensitive for any non-white individuals. Eventually her second silly teenage relationship ended when she graduated in 1968. However, a new romance was approaching.

During the summer of 1968, Grace and her mother went back to Jalpa to visit their family. While there Grace reconnected with an old friend, Jose Quezada. She described him to always be smitten over her, playing games like tag when they were little, just so he had some excuse to touch and flirt with her (Interview with Grace, 2011). Now that they were older and she was back in town, their intimacy heated up and they spent a lot of time together. They never could afford to go on dates because they were both from the same small poor town in Mexico. Instead, they spent time with her family and friends, the same group of people they were introduced from. Most commonly thirty-four percent of people find their partners through family or friends, just like Grace and Jose did (Kunz 120). When Grace returned back to the United States, her relationship with him didn’t end. He would call her and write to her frequently until he immigrated to America less than a year later. Jose lived with his father who had a job in Los Angeles, but traveled up to Oakland to propose and marry Grace.

Living blindly through the feminist movement, Grace was a privileged minority who got to go to a career college in Oakland through granted money from the government. Her love for school was able to continue through college, where she took typing classes, “I loved to type, I always got As in my typing classes” (Interview with Grace, 2011). This landed her a job in an employment office as a secretary. Her dream job was to be a secretary for a large corporation because she wanted to become skillful in other technology. The smile on her face when speaking of her college years was so genuine. She was proud of her job, she even felt important because she was the only Mexican, Spanish-speaking woman working there. But then came along the blindness of love. Jose did not propose to her in an elaborate way, nor did they have a big fancy wedding, but she was in love with him. Grace’s mother warned her that Mexican men take on strong dominant roles and wanted everything done for them by their wives. When she married Jose, Grace knew that she had to be loving and devoting to her husband even more than she already was. She decided to leave school, but Jose forced her to quit her job because “he thought that other men were going to be after me” (Interview with Grace, 2011). Grace thought it did not matter because she knew that she only loved him, but she knew that being a dedicated housewife and soon to be mother was more important than working. Jose became the breadwinner of the family. “He controlled everything, all the money, and made all the decisions. He didn’t treat me like a wife. I was the maid. He was the boss. He never told me how much money he made from work. He never took me anywhere. Never” (Interview with Grace, 2011).

During the 1970s, marriage oppresses women and the family breeds patriarchy (McElroy). Grace’s marriage fit exactly in this category. She was stuck in the patriarchal cage Jose had built around her. She did not have a car to drive, or money for the bus. She was not treated like part of the family. Her children were shielded from their father’s cruel behavior towards her. Jose had two sides to him, he was nice and loving to everyone, but resented Grace for a reason she was unaware of. His mother and sisters despised Grace because they thought she was unworthy. They would constantly tell her that Jose only married her to get a green card. “If he only married me for the green card then that’s okay, we could have divorced after a year. If he didn’t love me, why did he stay with me for so long? Make me suffer for so long?” (Interview with Grace, 2011). Grace knew that her position did not have to be solely in the house, she had made this decision to take care of the home and expected Jose to respect it, and her. She would stand up to him and defend herself. He did not like her to respond to him because it made him feel less superior. He rejected her affection and would threaten to kill her anytime she voiced her opinion. Grace did not leave her abusive marriage with Jose because she was afraid (Kunz 225).
Betty Friedan’s novel, *The Feminine Mystique* (1963), was essentially parallel to the life Grace was living as a housewife. Grace was struggling to feed the children, clean the house, and keep her husband, while suffering with a sense of dissatisfaction, always yearning for more (Friedan 64). Grace was forced to live through a false marriage, until one day in 1983 Jose came to her declaring that he wanted a divorce because his affair with another woman was becoming more serious. Despite the horrible husband he was to her, this news broke her and she nearly fainted at that moment. Her thoughts were, “How will I take care of my three kids?” However, she did not fight about the divorce. Everything went his way and she obeyed him by signing divorce papers. By the 1980s divorce rates were rising, and the divorce process became much easier. Through this arose Grace’s next and ongoing struggle in her life.

Grace became a single-mother forced to start all over and provide for her three children. According to the U.S. Census Bureau’s Current Population Survey, among Hispanic children, trends in the proportion living with a single mother declined between the late 1980s and early 1990s from 24.4% to 23.5%. There were no single mother programs to help support Grace through this new struggle. Grace’s job at a molding factory only paid her minimum wage. After President Lyndon Johnson’s “War on Poverty”, she qualified for welfare as a lower class single mother and received federal support with checks every month and food stamps (Kunz 195). The stressors of taking care of her children and working night shifts began to take a toll on her family. Her oldest daughter Gladys was a “latchkey kid” who helped take care of her brother and sister while their mom was away at work (Kunz 191). As a mother of three children, Grace placed herself in work, half-guiltily and therefore half-heartily because it took her away from home (Friedan 251).

Grace’s children became her biggest pride and joy, yet at the same time caused her the most pain. After her divorce with Jose, her children still craved quality time with their father. Grace did not understand it. She would tell them how horrible of a person he was to her, but they acted as if her bitterness was only speaking. The house became divided, and Grace’s hatred for her ex-husband intensified each time his named was mentioned. Her “strategy of blame” may have only caused a psychological concept of parental alienation that drew her children closer to their absent father (Teich 158). Children become confused when their parents bash on each other and they feel a need to take sides (Teich 159). Grace was alienated while still living with her children. They took her for granted and only focused on gaining back quality time with their dad when he had the chance to come around or speak to them. “He doesn’t deserve the kids he has” (Interview with Grace, 2011). Still to this day, all three of Grace’s kids drop everything, from their own family and job just to spend time with Jose, who now lives back in his hometown of Mexico. It pains her to see the respect and love they give to him. After thirty years Grace has slowly began attending family events that Jose comes to town for. Her children are astonished every time they see their parents back in the same room again.

Gaining a clearer insight into my grandmother Grace’s life journey was awe-inspiring. Every decision she has made was selfless, and even though things may have not benefited her, she continued her path to keep her family going. I was cautious of this interview with Grace because I knew she was still sensitive about her divorce. However, she willingly opened up to me and continuously thanked me for listening to her story, while still being a little worried because I was her and Jose’s granddaughter. Some moments I had difficulty keeping my own composure because my mind would wander off thinking about how her life could have been so much different. She had a handful of opportunities for her education and future career that could have made her a strong successful woman in society. Modern society is much different now, where most women do not consider marriage or a family until after they are settled with a successful job. But Grace left that all behind for the idea of having a family with the man who claimed to love her. Her life themes focused on immigrant families, housewives in the 1970s and 80s, and divided households. Even though the pain of her ex-husband consumes her, Grace is still growing as a person. She knows that in order for her to die with no hate in her heart, she has to open up about her issue and hope for the day Jose gives a simple apology to her.

All my life I have known my grandmother to be a social and affectionate woman. Personally, that is where I believe I inherited my social and happy qualities. At the end of our interview she gave me some words of advice, “Defend yourself, open your eyes to those stupid guys. Be your own person. And when you decide to get married, be a team, have communication. That’s the first and best thing about marriage. Do that for me” (Interview with Grace, 2011). My love and respect for my grandmother has only increased. Grace became strong and successful in a way different from education and career. I will always reflect on her story and remember to defend myself because I am a strong and important woman.

References

Interview with Grace. 2011. (11/23/11) this needs to be cited more in the text


Great sources … but need to be in alphabetical order....

#2

The Story of a Great Life

People like to say as if it were obvious, that life is hard to define (Klyce). I have heard it described so vague, such as anything that is made up of cells. A narrative is a general term used to tell a story (Infanger). In the words of my grandma Pat, who was born in Brooklyn, New York on August 28th 1927 says that life is more complicated then that. His favorite quote to describe how life is supposed to be live is “be prepared so you won’t be scared. So that when you face life’s decisions, conflict or any un fair situation you have to get ready for them, and you will never be afraid”. With my grandma believing this he is displaying the conflict theory, which view society as an unequal system that brings about conflict and change (Carl 8).

Pat’s parents immigrated from Italy to the U.S. Italians had a long history of migrating to foreign countries as a way of coping with poverty and dislocation (Italian Immigration). Pat’s parents came here for reasons that most other immigrants did and that was for a
better life and opportunity. When Italians first immigrated here they held manual labor jobs such as constructing roads, railroads, and bridges (Italian Immigration).

When Pat was a kid, he had a favorite toy and chores just like every other kid. He grew up in an apartment with electricity, bathrooms in the hallway, and no telephone. His favorite toy was this milk wagon with a milkman on it. Pat use to play to a lot of games on the streets of Brooklyn most of which included hopscotch, marbles, and handball, those were the days he looked forward to. Then when it came time for chores he remembers going down in the basement and getting coal from his fireplace because very few houses back then had gas stove.

Before going to high school, when he was a young boy Pat has always wanted to go to Italy to see where the family roots have come from. Unfortunately for him when he asked his dad if they could go his dad replied " No because Italy is still ruled by Benito Mussolini" Mussolini ruled from 1922 to 1943(Benito Mussolini Biography).

Pat graduated from Metropolitan Vocational High School. Pat loved going to school and with loving school he also managed to get straight A’s. He told me that “back in those day’s you would have to pick a trade” and that he chose how to make boats. Pat’s desire to build boats was a short-lived dream he had because in his senior year of high school he volunteered for the Navy when he was 17. He was not shipped out till after he graduated.

Pat fought in World War 2 against the Japanese. He was hit with shrapnel in his knee from something that blew up next to him. Pat was one of the lucky ones to survive. It was estimated that over fifty-five million people perished (World War II). Pat was sent home and received a purple heart for his duty to his country, something he is very proud of.

After his wounds healed and he was at home, Pat still wasn’t sure what he wanted to do with the rest of his life. He lost interest in building boats, so now was when he was confused and did not know what to do. Pat then he decided to try his luck gambling because he was very good at it. Pat was a gambler for a while and when I asked him why he didn’t have a normal job he replied that “I made more money playing craps and betting on the horses then my friends did who worked.” Pat went over to his friends house to play some cards, when their he saw her, my future grandmother rose. He was so nervous to talk to her but before he could even think about what to say they clicked. Pat described it to me as “walking on air”. Pat told me that he really wanted to get married someday, and that he knew she was the one for him. Unfortunately for my grandfather he couldn’t marry her as soon as he wanted. They couldn’t get married because rose’s father didn’t want her marrying a gambler. So for Pat it was a very easy decision he gave up the money and the quick highs and got a real job. Finally, which felt like an eternity for Pat, he got Rose’s fathers permission to propose to her. They got married in Brooklyn in 1953.

So now that Pat was married he started to work on building the highways just like his father did before him. Not only did he build them he also helped maintain them and make sure they were in working order. Pat’s life really started to come together once he was out of the Navy “it couldn’t get any better he said”. Little did Pat know at the time that life was going to be a lot better he soon found out that he was going to be a father, he was ecstatic. A recent article posted by the New York times said children do not bring happiness as a matter of fact they tend to bring unhappiness to ones life (Belkin). For Pat though this was not the case. He called his son being born “the happiest day of his life”.

Pat went on to tell me that one of his idols in his life was his mother. He told me that his mother “was the most caring and loveable person that you would ever meet in your life.” He remembers that “she was always there for me no matter what I needed she gave it to me”. His mother worked really hard to get him whatever he wanted, even though they had very little.

My grandfather Pat gave me the key to his life, with full access to open any door I wanted. Pat’s life was not really a rollercoaster ride but it had its up’s and downs. This story makes me think about my life now and how different it would’ve been back in those days. I would be married at this point! The fact that my grandfather has had all these hard times in his life, and had hit many crossroads along the way. From being in the Navy, to giving up his easy going job as a gambler so he could marry the love of his life. My grandfather’s life’s experiences definitely brought about conflict and change. I tried to explain to him what the conflict theory was and how his life resembled it so much. He replied “Christian my life has been the best for me even with the conflict it has made the man who I have always been, and the one I still can become.” The interview with my grandfather was a great experience for both my grandfather and I. I will always remember this interview with my grandfather and how much respect I have for him. This interview will have forever brought us closer.

Works Cited (NOTE: these need to be alphabetized)
her favorite childhood memory was her father dressing as Santa Claus and receiving dolls and skates. She enjoyed the beach and went on various campouts at a young age. To beat the depression, Nats’ family grew their own food in order to save what little money they had. During that time, she met Tadao Nanaumi. Later in her years, Pearl Harbor, a military station in Hawaii, was bombed by Japanese fighters. Frightened and suspicious of all Japanese Americans, they gathered them all together and scattered them all over the country. Nats was placed in a camp called Roaver in Santa Anita along with Tadao. He was later sent to Colorado and she was sent to Jerome. Though it was mandatory for Japanese citizens to stay in camps for four years, Tadao was in for just three months and offered a job, while Nats remained in camp. Tadao and Nats stayed in constant contact through correspondence. Tadao found Nats whereabouts through her twin sisters, who were nurses-aids in the camps. He proposed through a letter, and they traveled to Chicago and were married. A year or so into their marriage, Tadao was drafted into the army and sent off to Korea. Three months into duty, he received word that he was going to be a father, and was released from duty. Looking back on their new-found parenthood, Tadao was most pleased with his daughter, Jan, while Nats was most pleased with her son, Richard. When questioned about their marriage, Bats replied “We married because we were in love.” However, when pressed for an answer of love, Tadao skidded away from the subject. “I admire him because he always lets me have my way”, she joked (Tadao and Nats).

Throughout the interview, a few themes came to mind. “Like the historical experiences of many other ethnic groups in the United States, the Japanese-American historical experience was, at its core, the story of an ethnic minority struggling to find its place within U.S. society.… Japanese Americans were thrust into a precarious position following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. This is an important issue to present to students. The U.S. media would often make no distinction between Japanese Americans and Japanese imperial soldiers. This racial fear and prejudice combined with other forces, such as desire for economic gain, hysteria generated by sensationalist journalism, political opportunism, and a sincere concern for national safety. The result was a complex mixture of motives that impelled the U.S. government to forcibly intern over 110,000 people of Japanese descent from the West Coast, two-thirds of whom were U.S. citizens, into internment camps located in isolated regions of the United States” (Mukai 3.). This was a perfect example of racism, involuntary immigration, ethnic cleansing, prejudice, and discrimination. Americans did not distinguish Japanese Americans from soldiers. They forcibly removed Japanese decedents from their homes and placed them in camps, to “cleanse” America. They discriminated against the Japanese culture as a single society and degraded and shamed thousands of people.

Another themed discovered was the matriarchic family head, and the traditional Japanese values. “Japanese…tend to believe…that a close extra marital friendship, wherein feeling and emotions are shared, would have harmful effects on marriage” (Engel,!! p.6). Where the marriage was headed by a woman, unlike the traditions in Japan, the usual tradition of formality was shown In Toad’s resistance to accept love. The gender stratification (Carl) of the woman as a head would not be viewed highly in Japan, where men take high responsibility for their families. Like another theme, economy, the depression, was a major event in her life. It made her family strong and hard-working to keep their family supported through this troubling time.

Throughout the process, I learned so much from my grandparents. Though they were brought up traditionally Japanese, and though my grandfather would not admit it, they were very much in love. I loved this experience because it made me view my grandparents with a whole new respect, and the interview itself made me laugh. It made me think of the disengagement theory (Carl), and I disagree. My grandparents should be revered and respected for their age. I am proud of heritage and my grandparents should not be excluded from society based on their age. Looking on it again, it made me realize just how lucky my grandfather was to have lived and how great it was for my grandmother to love.

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#4

Harry Manos: An Inspiration and Motivation

Life is granted for several reasons; it is up to the person to pursue their ambitions. Life can bring many obstacles, which may not be easy to overcome, only thing we as people can do is work hard and give life hundreds of reasons to fight and be successful. Harry was one of many who strove to be successful and achieve all his goals, no matter how hard it was or what stood in the way. I had the honor of interviewing Harry Manos. A person who is outstanding, someone to look up to. He was born to Martha and George Manos on December 25 in 1940. Martha gave labor in Mercy Hospital in Canton Ohio. At the age of four Harry was brought to Los Angeles, California. Here is where his journey began.

George and Martha Manos were very family orientated. George lost his father when he was eleven; this tragedy contributed to him starting working at an early age and dropping out of school in the seventh grade. Being the head of the family shaped George into being a hard working, responsible, independent and always providing for his loved ones. He raised Harry into being the same, teaching him how to be goal orientated and always achieving for the best. Having the responsibility of supporting the family George had to start looking for a job. In those days there were no child labor laws. His mother spoke no English only Greek and couldn’t find work. Harry stated, “The only work my father could find was with his uncles, he had two uncles with restaurants, he pretty much despised them as they used him mostly as cheap slave labor. But it kept the family going.” (Harry’s Interview) During the Depression George and his family lost the farm where they lived. “The Great Depression was a stark worldwide economic depression in the era foregoing World War II. In most countries it on going in about 1929 and lasted pending the late 1930s or early 1940s (Rothbard 19-21). “The Great Depression is used as an example of how far the world’s economies can deterioration” (Rothbard 20-22). The Great Depression caused a numerous of changes in American society, caused people to lose their homes, starve to death and many had no jobs.

At the age of four Harry was brought from Ohio Canton to Los Angeles. Martha had no relatives except a brother and a close friend. During this episode in Harry’s life George was in the Navy. “When the U.S. got into the war due to Pearl Harbor, Dad’s job was considered critical defense work because now we needed heavy duty trucks and tanks, and he wasn’t drafted into military service, at the end of WWII he was eventually drafted into the Navy for the huge buildup to attack the Japanese mainland.” Martha raised Harry on her own which was a bit difficult but was able to manage. All men during this time were at war so women had jobs and were able to stand on their own. “World War II was a worldwide conflict lasting from 1939 to 1945, involving most of the world’s nations plus all of the great powers eventually forming two opposing military alliances: the Allies and the Axis” (Adamthwaite 56)
Harry Chris Manos, what is behind this name? Harry was chosen from Saint Haralabos, middle name Chris was shorten for Christmas for the reason being born on Christmas day. Harry says "mom had to argue with the family because they wanted to name me Christmas." The last name Manolopalous, is a Greek name which Harry’s family Americanized to Manos, “In 1920 I Americanized to Manos which many people think it’s for hands in Spanish but little did they know it’s a Greek name.” In our society many people choose to Americanize their names or last names to fit into the American culture. “The Americanization of Native Americans was an adaptation effort by the United States to convert Native American culture to European-American culture between the years of 1790–1920” (Hill 609). Names and last names from the 1930’s are very hard to pronounce or just are not modern for society and the community figures why not shorten their names and that’s when they Americanized their names.

Harry says he was very fortunate not to have any complications growing up. Harry attended Micheltorena Elementary School, Thomas Star King Junior high, which we now know as middle school, John Marshall Senior High. I asked Harry how he felt about school as a child, he proceeded saying “school was a lot of fun; I enjoyed Elementary School, Junior High School.” In ninth grade he was told the importance of grades because they influenced the outcome of going to college he stated “it became more of a chore, I became more studious more academic orientated.” After graduating from John Marshall high Harry attended Los Angeles Community College to higher his education. After attending LACC he transferred to Cal State Los Angeles to finish more units, when he finished he transferred out to USC. Along his education path he had the obstacle of no longer being able to pay his tuition at USC which resulted in being drafted to go to the army. During this era if people were in the age of eighteen and not enroll in college with twelve units and plus, they were drafted. Unfortunately Harry was one of them. Harry was drafted on the date president John Kennedy was assassinated, November 22, 1963. It’s ironic how Harry’s life changed and how John Kennedy’s life was taken.

After serving his time to the army, Harry came back to Los Angeles to continue his education returning to Cal State University to receive his bachelors. One subject Harry says he hated and was his worst was Language that is why he received his bachelors and masters in Physics, mathematics, English at Cal State University. He taught high school Physics and Calculus for thirty two years before retiring from high school. Harry took a part time position with ESL Department at LACC. “Many people become teachers to eventually move up the positions on the educational hierarchy. There are teachers who have entered the classroom to begin their journey to becoming a chief, college professor or administrator of a school district. The requirements for high level positions in the educational world may vary. Many teachers desire to gain experience and form a great reputation in order to make their dream job come true” (Pinney 45). I asked Harry what triggered him to become a teacher he said “I did not want to be in the military, I didn’t want to be a garbage collector, and I didn’t want to be a cop so I thought the best place to be is a teacher.” Harry always wanted to motivate his students to learn, not only put their skills in practice but help them as individuals to find themselves. Harry always told his students “I can teach it to you but cannot learn it for you.” Motivating students leaded Harry to join Higher Horizon program, help drop out students to graduate High school. Harry helped many students finish their courses and were able to graduate.

Harry has many accomplishments. He has been published in varies of newspapers for his writing, has published over 35 papers worldwide, some of which have been translated into Spanish and Chinese. He has presented over 100 contributed and invited papers and workshops to professional organizations in the United States, Europe, Cuba and Mexico, South America, and Asia. Mr. Manos has received numerous awards, citations, and honors including; "Excellence in Science Education Award" presented by the California Science Teachers Association, and resolutions passed by the California State Assembly for being a leader and outstanding educator, and the California State Senate for exemplary contributions to the education of his students and for being a worthy model for all educational professionals in the state.

Harry was very focused on his career path he never realized how much dedication he put in and forgot the importance of making his own family. He never got married due to lack of focusing on being in a family of his own. Harry was never satisfied with finishing one goal, he always strived for more. His education was time consuming; he spent more time being concentrated on his goals never gave to much attention to the outside temptations. “The never married are a diverse and complex group. They differ by sexual orientation, age, health status, ethnicity, and living arrangements, and are as varied as married persons by social class background, education, occupation, and income level. The life satisfaction of the never married, in general, is similar to the married and better than for other unmarried groups, particularly the divorced. Some contend that the happiness of single people is related to meeting their social and economic needs, not to the issue of being single.” (Familyjrank.org) Harry due to social impact of not feeling pressure he has to face being single and aging alone, but with the satisfaction that he accomplished many of his goals. I also believe having George being a very strong family leader gave Harry to believe he needed to focus in education and leave everything else for later. He is very happy and has no urge of getting married or missed out on the opportunities of marriage.

Harry influences many to achieve their goals and never give up. He went through many obstacles but yet he achieved his dream career which was to become a teacher. His hard work has paid off with his dedication and drastically changing teenager’s lives drastically with motivating them to pursue their dreams. Being raised with a great strong hand like Georges and being family orientated helped him follow his dreams and be where he is today. He appreciates everything his parents have done for him the great support. He would love to be remembered as a person of learning and the love of travel.

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