

Law of life: “Choose a job you love and you will never have to work a day in your life.”

When I was little it never crossed my mind how I was able to live under a roof and always have food on my plate. Up to this point in my life, I never struggled with hunger or homelessness. As a child, I lived in my own little world without a care at home with my mom and brother. I thought everything seemed so easy and perfect. Little did I know that my dad was outside working hard everyday to keep my little world perfect.

As I started growing up, I understood that my dad worked around eight hours everyday during the whole year. My dad would climb trees and cut them down every day for us to be able to own a house and pay bills. I thought it was amazing the way he would climb up to the tip of the trees without knowing the dangers he could encounter while doing so. My dad could easily slip and fall at any second. It sounds crazy to me the way he risked his life everyday for my family and me. My dad has not had the easy way of life like I did, and that’s why still up to this day he continues to remind me that I should give my all with my school work so that I can get into a career that I like and get a good job where I won’t have to risk my life every day. I never really understood how hard it was working outside until my dad took me for the first time.

The night before we went to work, my dad reminded me to take out my most worn out clothes to work in and that my shirt should preferably be long sleeved. I set my alarm at six in the morning and went to sleep. The next morning, I was no longer excited about going to work on an early summer morning. I dressed up quickly and met my dad and brother in the truck outside. When we got to the job, my dad showed me what I would be doing. He told me to place the piles of long sharp pointy branches into the wood chipper machine. After an hour of working under the hot sun, I was already exhausted. I felt hot, uncomfortable, and dirty, really dirty. I had wood shreds in my hair and even under my clothes from the wood chipper. I thought it was impossible to even finish the job. I felt like throwing up. Once we got to

the last pile of branches, I noticed something wiggling under a branch. It was a really scary snake to see if you have ophidiophobia like me. After I called it out my dad told me that he must have seen me carry about 5 of them before I realized. I was in shock. I couldn't believe I had encountered one of my biggest fears while working outside. It could have been poisonous for all I know. I could never imagine working like that ever again and the thought it made my stomach turn.

As I was sitting in the back of my dad's truck on our way back home, with my head drooping from the exhaustion of a hard working day, I remembered that just as Confucius said, "Choose a job you love and you will never have to work a day in your life." My dad didn't get to choose his job; it was just one of his few options. Working hard outside was his only choice to be able to provide for my family and me. He gave me the easiest job I could have probably done, and I still couldn't handle it. My dad is always reminding me to become something that I want to be in life so that I won't ever have to work the way that he does and I will take full advantage of that. I am grateful for my dad who goes out of his way for me and my brothers to choose what we love to do and never have to work the way he does.