

Jason Luttrell
Assignment 5.2
CSD-340T301
4/13/24

Interview

1. Where were you born?
 - a. Norfolk Virginia. On September 6th 1977 My dad was in the Navy and he was in school at the time to be a Fire Control Technician – Ballistic...which means he worked on Nuclear missiles on submarines.
2. Tell me about your childhood?
 - a. IN my early childhood we moved around because Dad was in the Navy. We ended up in Charleston SC pretty early, I think I was about 2 or 3. We stayed there, my Father eventually got out of the navy when I was still very young and I spent most of the rest of my childhood in the Charleston Area. As a boy I played in the woods a lot, hunting, fishing, building forts, playing sports, it was a very rural/suburban life. I still like to hunt, fish and camp today. We always lived in a neighborhood, but we also always backed up to woods. So I spent a lot of time in them. We also played a lot of sports, both with the kids in the neighborhood and in leagues or for school. My childhood was very active, and we were encouraged to do a lot for ourselves, including build things, fix things, help work on the house, etc. I was never a great student, but I was better than my brother.
 - b. When I was 11 or 12 my parents separated. I started to misbehave at that time and the trouble ended up with me being arrested. At trial it was clear to the judge that I needed to be with my Father and the judge sent me to live with him in Alaska, I was 14 at the time. I stayed in Alaska until after I graduated High School working at a Zoo as a caretaker and working for a local riding trainer at a barn. Both were across the street from my house in Alaska.
3. How did you get involved in the Rodeo?
 - a. When I was 16 I started hanging out with some cowboys and they encouraged me to enter the rodeo to ride bulls. I lied about my age and entered the state championship. I actually qualified for the final round that first rodeo and had to drop out because I was underage and if I had won I would have been found out. But that experience lit the fire and I wanted to ride rough stock from that point on. Once I turned 18 I started to enter rodeos in Alaska and then the lower 48. At that point I was a professional bull rider.

4. Tell me about your time in the oilfield.
 - a. My Dad worked in the oilfield and he helped me get a job working on the North Slope in Alaska. I did a lot of jobs, and I rode the rodeo during the same period, but I ended up becoming a fireman on the North Slope. I was an oil well fireman for 6 years. I got out rodeo riding early in that period.
5. How did you get into Nursing?
 - a. I was already an EMT because of my time in the Prudhoe Bay Fire Department. I was trying to get out of that because it was a dangerous job and I didn't want to tempt fate by staying on. I ended up choosing nursing because I liked the EMT work and thought I could become a nurse anesthetist and make good money. I went to Nursing school and ended up getting a job with Vanderbilt in their Neurological Intensive Care Unit (NICU). There I learned a lot about medicine that goes way beyond what most nurses do, and in the NICU I gained a lot of experience quickly because of the severity of the injuries we dealt with.
6. How did you get into organ procurement?
 - a. The NICU was good, but it was not great pay, and it didn't have a lot of room for advancement. I was approached by Tennessee Donor Services and they offered me a position in their human tissue branch. I started there and ended up moving over to the organ procurement side because of my medical background.
7. What was it like dealing with families during the organ procurement process?
 - a. It was heartbreaking and incredibly fulfilling at the same time. A lot of the time you are catching people at their worst. Organ donors often die in ways that are traumatic for the families and approaching them in the beginning of their grief was difficult. Emotions were raw, and often people were reeling from the pain of loss. On the other hand, it could be like tossing a lifeline to family members by pulling some good from the death of their loved one. Turning an unmitigated tragedy into something that could save other people's lives offered a silver lining to people. Being a part of that process was a real privilege, even though it was emotionally difficult.
8. What do you do now?
 - a. I own a business that does two things:
 - i. It supports the organ procurement industry by feeding organs nutrients and fluids while they wait for transplant. It is called organ perfusion. This is an incredible service that increases the success of transplants significantly. We come in and receive the organ, and hook it up to a pump and make sure the organ is receiving what it needs to

stay healthy outside the body while the hospital is focusing on getting the patient ready for implantation.

- ii. We also provide tissue for medical research in our Cellular Services division. In that business we get certain types of cells from human and animal tissues and supply research labs those cells. This is critical material for medical research that is aimed at saving and improving countless lives. Right now we primarily target hepatocytes, which are liver cells that are used to understand how drugs are metabolized.

9. How did you get into harvesting hepatocytes:

- a. I devised a way to harvest more viable cells from a liver in greater quantities than what traditional methods deliver. We do this in less time and get more cells and better cells than what anyone else in the industry can do. This reduces the cost of the tissue, increases the supply, and decreases the number of organs needed.

10. What advice do you have for a person in their early twenties?

- a. Don't be afraid to try new things. Much of my success has come from applying myself in an area that others were afraid to. There are many conventions in the world today, and experts tend to miss innovation because they are afraid to color outside of those conventional lines. Much of that fear is based in a fear of failure, but in my experience failure is often the precursor to disruptive success. Disruptive success changes things, it breaks down the old boundaries and opens new possibilities, and that is a good type of success to pursue.

Bio Write Up:

Nathan Luttrell was born in Norfolk, Virginia in 1977 while his dad was in the Navy training to work on nuclear missile systems for submarines. His early years were spent moving around, but by the time he was a toddler, the family settled in Charleston, South Carolina. That's where he grew up—playing in the woods, hunting, fishing, building forts, and constantly staying active. He and his friends were always outside, whether it was sports, exploring, or working on projects around the house. It was a hands-on, do-it-yourself kind of childhood that shaped how he approaches life to this day.

When Nathan was 14, after his parents split, he moved to Alaska to live with his dad. He finished high school there and worked across the street from home at a zoo and a horse barn. Around age 16, he got involved with a group of cowboys who encouraged him to try bull riding. He jumped in headfirst—literally—by sneaking into a state championship and making it to the final round before getting caught for being underage. That experience lit a fire, and by 18, he was riding professionally in rodeos across Alaska and the lower 48.

Eventually, Nathan started working in the oilfields, following a path his father had also taken. He worked various jobs on Alaska's North Slope and eventually became a fireman, specializing in oil well fires. It was dangerous work, and during that time, he became an EMT—a role that sparked a growing interest in medicine.

Looking for a safer and more stable career, he went to nursing school. After graduating, he landed a job in the Neuro ICU at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where he learned fast and gained experience treating some of the most critical and complex cases in medicine.

That background led him to a new opportunity with Tennessee Donor Services, where he started in tissue recovery and later moved into organ procurement. The work was emotionally heavy—talking to families who had just lost someone—but also deeply meaningful. Helping those families turn the loss into something life-saving gave the job a purpose that stuck with him.

Today, Nathan runs his own business that serves both the transplant and research communities. One division focuses on **organ perfusion**—keeping organs viable between recovery and transplant—while the other, called **Cellular Services**, provides liver cells (hepatocytes) to research labs. He developed a more effective way to harvest those cells, increasing yield and quality while reducing cost and the number of donor organs needed.

Nathan's career has taken unexpected turns, but he's always been willing to jump in and figure things out along the way. His advice to anyone starting out? Don't be afraid to try something new. Most people shy away from failure, but in his experience, that's often where the breakthroughs happen.

Style Guide

Color Palette

Role	Color Name	Hex
Primary	Ocean Blue	#2A6F97
Secondary	Sky Mist	#A9D6E5
Background	Soft White	#F7F9FB
Accent	Warm Sand	#FFE8D6
Text Primary	Deep Charcoal	#2E2E2E
Text Secondary	Cool Grey	#B0BEC5

Swatches

Primary

Secondary

Background

Accent

Type

The typography should be sized in relative units so that it is responsive to the screen size:

```
/* Base font setup */
html {
  font-size: 16px; /* 1rem = 16px */
}

body {
  font-family: 'Open Sans', sans-serif;
  color: var(--color-text);
  line-height: 1.6;
}

/* Responsive Headings */
h1 {
  font-size: clamp(2rem, 5vw, 3rem); /* 32px to 48px */
  font-family: 'Merriweather', serif;
  font-weight: 700;
}

h2 {
  font-size: clamp(1.5rem, 4vw, 2.25rem); /* 24px to 36px */
  font-weight: 600;
}

h3 {
  font-size: clamp(1.25rem, 3vw, 1.75rem); /* 20px to 28px */
}

p {
  font-size: 1rem; /* 16px */
}

small {
  font-size: 0.875rem; /* 14px */
}
```

Layout and Spacing

```
.container {  
  max-width: 1200px;  
  margin: 0 auto;  
  padding: 0 1rem;  
}  
  
section {  
  padding: clamp(2rem, 5vw, 4rem) 0; /* Responsive vertical padding */  
}  
  
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
  gap: 2rem;  
}  
  
@media (min-width: 768px) {  
  .grid-2 {  
    grid-template-columns: 1fr 1fr;  
  }  
}
```