Marcia H. Heydt

Creative Coding

Professor Michael Cassens

The Last Lecture

I am in awe of this assignment. I was moved from viewing The Last Lecture, and I will never forget this assignment or video. I had a project in high school where we were assigned how to prepare for our last day of life and say goodbye to our friends and loved ones. Professor Randy Pausch brings his version of saying goodbye and sharing the critical factors; in his mortal opinion, Professor Pausch unselfishly does just that. With an audience of his former students, colleagues, former professors, and even his loving wife, Randy Pausch sign off while he is still on top and gracefully explains his demise is imminent. His final lecture is profoundly poignant and inspirational.

If humans could incorporate the ideology Professor Pausch teaches in The Last Lecture and apply Dr. Carol Dewick's "Not Yet" teachings in early education, the possibilities of encouraging young minds to grow and develop in positivity and the extra encouragement could open up the minds of every child. Everyone learns and designs in their way. Sometimes a child's learning abilities are very much out of the norm. When someone learns differently, their confidence could easily be scarred by the demand every child must learn the same. If teaching with positive reinforcement, perhaps some children will not be left behind.

Randy Pausch, I remember his extraordinary courage and sage advice of how being nice can get a person farther in life and leave a positive reflection of a well-lived life, bestowing kindness and humor.