



BASKETBALL NETWORK

"Man, I quit that job so quick! I just couldn't do it" — Michael Jordan shares his experience in his first job outside of basketball

The first and only "real" job MJ ever had. "From then on, I never ever had another job."

NICOLE GANGLANI • AUG 21, 2022

Before Michael Jordan's basketball talents paved the way for him to earn millions and attain all-time world status, he had to contribute to the family budget like everyone else in the household. During his childhood years, Michael's family wasn't so well off as they worked their way up the social ladder. So one summer, Michael's mom, Deloris, signed him up as a maintenance man in a hotel.

Until Michael decided to quit

Deloris wanted MJ to work as a maintenance employee in a hotel in the first place (aside from helping the family financially) because she wanted him to realize the value of hard work (moms know best indeed). At that time, Michael's siblings already had their jobs as well as his two brothers worked as bus drivers while his two sisters were McDonald's and department store employees.

Only Michael didn't have a job that summer, so his mom pushed him to work in the hotel. Unfortunately, according to MJ, he didn't enjoy the job so much that he decided to quit immediately.

*"One summer, my mom 'You just got to work,' and she got me a job as a maintenance man in a hotel. **Man, I quit that job so quick! I just couldn't do it**, I could not keep regular hours. It just wasn't me. From then on, I never ever had another job," Jordan told GQ's David Breskin.*

Michael didn't reveal the terms and conditions that came with the hotel maintenance job but based on his own words, it seemed like he didn't enjoy the universally standard 9-hours a day type of work. This is also a massive reason why he decided to pursue sports for a living — it was just a question of whether it would be baseball or basketball.

MJ knew the money was in the entertainment industry.

Michael was the odd man among his siblings who had and enjoyed their jobs. Mike was never interested in the type of work his siblings did and what his mom signed up for because at an early age, he already knew that the money was in

the entertainment industry — sports, in particular, was what he set his eyes on.

How did Jordan realize that the entertainment world was the real deal at such a young age? Through his grandpa, who would pay to see him do his best James Brown's "Get on the Goodfoot" impersonation. From then on, Michael knew that he was born not for the corporate world but to be a superstar in front of the world's eyes.