

Alexandria Mann
MART 120
Fall 2022
Randy Pausch Last Lecture

Randy Pausch is quite the charismatic guy and his lecture was very enjoyable to watch. It's unfortunate that he died from cancer, but you could tell from everyone there that he really did make an impact. His journey in achieving his dreams was very inspiring. I will admit, it was hard to relate to some of it, but that's probably just because I'm not where he was at. He was able to become a professor, work with Disney and EA in VR tech, and say that he accomplished some impressive things. I'm not there, and won't be there for a long time. But I shouldn't complain, I just need to work harder. Nevertheless, Randy's work was really impressive.

I would have loved to have had Randy as a professor, he sounded like an absolute joy to work with and was always thinking outside the box. And it's crazy to see how far VR has come. I really only started paying attention to VR in the last few years, but I didn't realize people were working on it long before that. Technology is constantly changing, so it's easy to miss some milestones when the next one doesn't seem so far away.

I also took away the importance of working with others. Randy mentioned several colleagues that he worked with and their contributions to his work, and how they've been able to take the ETC program global. It's amazing what can be accomplished with the right people and resources. Even the support of others can significantly improve morale within a project.

Randy's infectious optimism was felt throughout the whole lecture as he reminisced about his childhood dreams and how they became a reality. And even then he stayed grounded in reality and accepted what he knew would work and rejected what wouldn't, like when he was offered the Imagineer gig for full-time, but turned it down to be a consultant instead, having his "cake and eating it too". A very smart move indeed.