

Edward-TransitionsInsights.docx

- **Personal - Elementary through High School**

- Sister being born (I was 5 years old)
 - By the time I was 5 I thought I ruled so she was a shock
- Moving from very small town (200) to small (400) - 3 miles away
 - For a 5 year old 3 miles is just like 300 miles – all your friends change
- Buying our house – in town with corn fields on two sides
 - Our 1st house (and only), instead of an apartment behind the post office
- Playing Little League baseball
 - First uniform, like real baseball – made me feel really proud
- Merging with other town kids (27 of them and 13 of us) in 7th grade
 - There were so many of them and all new
- Taking individual academic classes
 - All new teachers and individual classes
- 1st girl friend - having Sally ask me to be her boy friend (7th grade)
 - Didn't quite know what it meant but it was clearly the start of something new
- Finishing 4th in State Baseball Championship (7th grade)
 - First time I had ever played baseball at this high a level
- Being lead in Jr Play
 - Not a theater person, but teacher felt I would learn my lines. It was a real kick to be on the stage so much.
- Falling in love for the first time
 - Girl was from another town, our major athletic rival
 - What can you say
- My college process
 - I should have been more actively involved

- **Professional - Elementary through High School**

- Starting youth church group & kids making me leader for 3 years
 - I had never started anything
 - I had never had other kids pick me as their leader
- Worked for my father – 5 ½ days per week
 - I had never had a real job – working every day does get old.

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- Personal - College

- Living away from home
 - It is scary at first, but it is also for others so you quickly bond
- Shock of engineering school vs. High School
 - I felt ashamed of my first grades (B's & C's) – voted Most Likely to Succeed
 - Clearly not as well prepared as kids from large public or private schools
- Learned that I had to stand up for myself on academic decisions -
 - AP Calculus vs. Standard Calculus: Teacher & Advisor said stay in AP and I did what I felt was right (moved down to Standard) – which turned out to be right.
 - Civil vs. Electrical: Repeated that in switching majors when I was told it was too late to do so.
 - If you are going to make changes you need to be in charge
 - 1st decision of my own
- Realizing how much of a grind engineering has become
 - Not wanting to acknowledge this, makes you realize you probably made a wrong decision in coming to engineering school
 - Makes you wonder if you are just not as smart as these other kids

- Professional - College

- Freshman Summer job – at home vs. away
 - Had a chance to work as Civil Engineer away from home but came home for summer. Clearly was going to be my last summer home once I got home – realized I no longer fit into my 400 person town
- Sophomore Summer Job – Detroit
 - Big change to move to a city where you know not a single person. Stayed in YMCA for first week.
- Founding Rose Newspaper
 - This was a major creation and I had never even worked on a newspaper. But made me realize you can bring together talented people and create something that is more than you could do on your own.