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Creative Coding

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The Last Lecture Reflection

Randy Pausch's Carnegie Mellon lecture, unfortunately, though aptly named, the "Last Lecture," is a fascinating listen for anyone, regardless of whether or not they have any interest in the fields of coding or VR, because it stands as a video document of a man's final words for the world. Everything he said in this lecture he said with the full knowledge that he would not be able to do it ever again, and he did it with incredible grace and integrity. Pausch had already accepted his fate; he made this much obvious within the first few minutes of the lecture.

Pausch told his audience about following his childhood dreams and helping others to achieve their dreams as well, making sure to emphasize that one must care deeply about their dreams in order to realize them. He also talked about the ways in which one's personality must adapt to new people and new situations, because interacting with difficult people is inevitable in any field. Finally, he discussed how his legacy as a professor has affected himself and others, and how grateful he was to have experienced all that he had in life.

My greatest takeaways from Pausch's lecture are to follow my dreams despite any obstacles, and to be kind and loving to those around me; to hear these things from a dying man only further affirm them.