**Growing up as a first generation Asian-American the expectation was to always go into the medical field and during my time in undergrad, I was a Bio-Chem major with aspirations of becoming a pharmacist and making my family proud. Three years in I managed to get my Pharmacy Tech License and began working at Walgreens Pharmacy. I was set. However, over the next few months, I started to feel a sense of not belonging and began questioning why I wanted to become a pharmacist.**

**In December of 2013, I made the decision to drop all my classes, quit my job, and essentially give myself a clean slate. I eventually graduated CSUF with a Finance degree in May of 2016 and began working as an operations manager at Amazon that following July. During my time at Amazon, I felt like a sponge, soaking up every bit of knowledge that was thrown my way. I learned an enormous amount about leadership skills, multiple cross-functions, and technical skills, then got promoted and moved to another building. At my yearly development meeting with my manager, he asked me what my short-term and long-term goals were. He’d only known me for about six months and told me that my answer did not satisfy him. I remember him saying, “There is no way that someone like you is meant for something as simple as moving up the ladder at your current job.” He told me that he would meet with me again in a month and wanted me to reevaluate my answer.**

**I realized that the Amazon environment was such a fast-pace, high-intensity job I never really stopped to think about anything but Amazon and in the winter of 2019 after the holiday season I hung up my managers vest and left. I had decided then that what I really wanted was to pave my own path with the goals of having more time for family, constantly learning, and adapting to the changes in the world. What this meant to me was one day owning my own business with a mission statement surrounding innovation that would help change the world.**

**I am now currently working on my MBA with a concentration in Information Systems and work as a Project Manager at PMM Electronics. And sometimes when I look at where I started and where I am now, I have a bit of doubt that I have done too many different things. But then I feel empowered that my pallet is so diverse that it not only makes me a strong problem solver but helps me stay curious and adaptive. And because of this I believe that each experience I went through was a necessary steppingstone for what I want to accomplish in my life.**

**My aspirations for the tech world are to continue to stay ambitious, keep growing, innovate, and start my own business that will help solve the issues of today for a better tomorrow. The world will continue to move forward with technology right beside it and with each innovation comes limitless possibilities. Because of this I know I want to get an early start on better understanding the ins and outs of software development.**

**This scholarship will help me achieve my education and career goals by most importantly, helping my mental health. I currently work full-time, and with the money I had saved up from working at Amazon I have been lucky enough to not have a need for school loans for my MBA program. This scholarship would help lower the constant monetary stress that consumes my mind and allow me to focus more on my studies and my goals.**