

Title: In 1986, Ken Griffin dreamed of being a successful businessman and said computer programmers wouldn't be important much longer. Watch Michael J. Fox's The Secret of My Success from 1987 to see how Griffin's been cosplaying ever since

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for [General Electric](#).<sup>[7]</sup> Griffin's grandmother, Genevieve Huebsch Gratz, inherited an oil business, three farms, and a seed business.<sup>[8]</sup>

Griffin grew up in [Boca Raton, Florida](#), with some time in Texas, and Wisconsin.<sup>[9]</sup> He went to middle school in Boca Raton<sup>[7]</sup> followed by [Boca Raton Community High School](#), where he was the president of the math club.<sup>[9][10]</sup> In high school, Griffin ran a discount mail-order education software firm out of his bedroom called EDCOM.<sup>[10]</sup> In a 1986 article in the [Sun-Sentinel](#), Griffin stated that he thought he would become a businessman or lawyer and that he believed the job market for computer programmers would significantly decrease over the coming decade.<sup>[10]</sup>

Griffin started at [Harvard College](#) in the fall of 1986.<sup>[9]</sup> That year, one of his first investments was to buy put options on [Home Shopping Network](#), making a \$5,000 profit.<sup>[11]</sup> He also invested in convertible arbitrage opportunities in convertible bonds.<sup>[9]</sup> Despite a ban on running businesses from campus, Griffin convinced school administrators to allow him to install a [satellite dish](#) on the roof of the Cabot House [dormitory](#) to receive stock quotes.<sup>[11][9]</sup> He also asked Terrence J. O'Connor, the manager of convertible bonds at Merrill Lynch in Boston, to open a brokerage account for him with \$100,000 that Griffin had gotten from his grandmother, his dentist, and others.<sup>[7][9]</sup> His first fund launched in 1987 with \$265,000, days after his 19th birthday.<sup>[9]</sup> The fund





Brantley Foster (Michael J. Fox) is a young college graduate who has just earned a degree in business in his home state of Kansas. He travels to New York City to join a large investment firm in an entry-level position he obtained while still a student. He moves into a crummy Manhattan studio apartment and prepares for work.

When he arrives at the firm, he finds that it's closing because it was acquired in a hostile takeover and that 90% of the workforce, including himself, is now jobless. However, even without employment, Brantley refuses to give up looking for another job. He's repeatedly turned down with all his interviewers telling him that he lacks the experience necessary.

With no good prospects, Brantley decides to play his last card: prior to leaving Kansas, his mother tells him that he's related to Howard Prescott (Richard Jordan), a distant uncle & the CEO of Pemrose, a large New York investment firm and one of the richest in the world. Brantley goes to his uncle's office and convinces Prescott's secretary to give him five minutes alone with Prescott himself. Prescott and his secretary seemed very impressed with Brantley's tenacity (the young man creates a business card by photocopying his smiling face and signing it) and Prescott gives him a job



