Quang Huynh

Mrs. Mooney

6/7/22

College Essay

A Life Changing Birthday

It was a cold winter night. I was in my room minding my own business, researching about the new game that just released this year. After all, it was my birthday today. I was looking to ask to purchase the game for my 12th birthday. Then, all of a sudden, boom! It felt as if I was hit by a bullet. Instantly, I became dizzy and nauseous, my entire left side became numb. I didn’t know what was going on. I ran outside, alerting my dad about what happened, and he called 911. I was rushed to the hospital and what exactly happened? I just had a stroke.

Luckily, I was escorted to the hospital fast enough to survive and make a decent recovery. At the hospital, I was examined, and they pointed out the main symptoms of a stroke. Slurred speech, crooked smile, weak and limited movement on one side of the body. The doctors began to wonder, why did this boy have a stroke at such a young age? But the age-old question still remains a mystery to this day.

After I came home from the hospital, I had to overcome many new obstacles. My left arm was always stiff, and my movement was tense. I can’t fully control my fingers; it feels as if there is a wall preventing me from moving my hands. I had to improvise and change the way I did things in my daily life. Even typing on the keyboard was a struggle. But I persisted. Despite this new challenge life has given me, I was still determined to make the most out of this event. I was optimistic and did physical therapy in an attempt to gain back the life I previously had. Physical therapy helped, but not much.

Many activities that were a breeze now seemed impossible. Due to taking karate at a young age, my balance was great. Then, after my stroke, my balance began to tremble, and my hand eye coordination became worse. Although I should’ve been sad about this event, I remained content with my life. Stressing over things you can’t control isn’t going to help fix anything. I began to be in control of my own life and began working hard to fix the movement on the left side of my body. On that December 22nd in 2016, my life has changed forever.