When you're dealt a royal straight flush, it's easy to tell people how to play poker. Randy Pausch's mindset is influenced by the cards he was dealt. A loving set of parents, with good jobs, a lovely home, and the ability to be whoever he wants. It's hard to lose a game a poker when you have those cards. I wonder what his mindset would be if his cards were different. Cards like a single mom, substance abuse, homelessness, race, and gender all influence mindset.

Randy Pausch chased selfish dreams. They were all about him. Being a football star or defying gravity, his goals are all about making himself feel good. He exploited a classroom full of kids to put a check on his bucket list. All that he wanted out of life was his satisfaction. To me, that's why I think he is selfish.

With all that said, I really enjoyed the lecture. In fact, I listened to it three full times driving from Detroit, Michigan, to Seattle, Washington. What affected me the most was what he said about we can't control the cards we are dealt but how we play the hand. Then he paints the picture-perfect upbringing. I wonder if he walked a mile in my shoes growing up, he would have the same mindset.

The second thought I received from his lecture was I sensed he loved teaching. In my mind, great teachers are selfless, and they put other's interests first. I was surprised after watching the video he didn't have dreams of helping others or saving the planet. As much as he loved football, he would have made a great football coach. Because those are two things, he enjoyed.

Overall Last Lecture is an inspiration to chasing what you love in life. No matter what cards you have in your hand, put your best poker face on and say inside hell no; I ain't going to fold. Play every hand like you are dying is the testament of Last Lecture.