

LEGACY LETTERS PROJECT

Writer: Jay H. Honohan

Home
1510 Somerset Ln
Iowa City, IA 52240
(319) 338-6990
e-mail Nroamer@aol.com

Office
330 E. Court St.
P.O. Box 3010
Iowa City, IA 52244
(319) 351-8100
e-mail Honohan@HEBBlaw.com

Dear Students;

Years ago, when I was the City Attorney of Iowa City, in a part time capacity and engaged in the private practice of law, I felt that I was extremely busy and unable to afford time for a vacation away from my practice. Finally my wife prevailed on me to take a week off for a vacation in Minnesota.

All week long, I wondered about my practice. When we drove home after a week, as we were driving around what was called the Westlawn curve where you can get a view of the Old Capitol and downtown Iowa City, my wife waved her arm and said "Look its still there". And it was.

Whenever you begin to feel important and indispensable, remember the "Westlawn curve".

Dear Students:

When I first enrolled in college, I thought that my chosen profession was going to be journalism and I enrolled accordingly. My education was interrupted when I enlisted in the United States Navy for a four year tour. When I returned to college, I decided that journalism was not for me and transferred to psychology with a minor in education. After receiving a degree in Industrial Psychology at Iowa State University, I enrolled at the University of Iowa graduate college in clinical psychology.

I spent almost two years studying in that discipline before I decided that psychology was not for me. That what I imagined it would be like was simply not what I wanted to do. I was beginning to think that I would never find a study that really suited me or I could be successful in.

Then I enrolled in law school at the University and never regretted choosing that profession for my life's work.

Based upon my experience, I am convinced that you need to

take your time in deciding what you want to do and that you should not be afraid to change curriculums when you lose interest.

Dear Students

When I was going to high school in Boone, Iowa, Boone was a railroad town. The Northwestern railway had a round house in the east end of town, and in the 40's, train crews were changed in Boone. There were many retired railroad workers in town.

Across from the depot, there were benches where retired railroad workers sat almost all day drinking coffee and smoking cigarettes, gossiping, and checking on whether no 9 was on time when it arrived at the station. I looked at those men and I told myself then, that I was not going to spend my life and my retirement like that and I haven't. I have enjoyed being active during the years I was employed and in the years that I am retired. Keeping active has both been enjoyable and I think kept me in good health.