

12-7-11 - What Can You Control in Your Life?

I had a profound experience that relates to real estate investing and it started out very simply.

I have a new son-in-law. He married my youngest daughter seven months ago and we are very proud to have him as a part of our family. He is an 11 year Navy veteran and was recently re-upped for another six years.

I am a skeptic about anything related to the government and I have frankly been worried about the military cutting back. This fear came more to light when I heard that if the "Super Committee" failed to come to a compromise for cutting over a trillion dollars in government spending, there would be massive cuts across the board. This meant the military was included and jobs were at stake for almost everyone.

Well, a few weeks after the Not-So Super Committee failed to come up with a compromise, my son-in-law was informed that despite his re-enlistment confirmation just a month before, he would be released from active duty next year.

I could spend time on how his squadron was cut by one third and how his base commander was so upset with the order that he would be cut, that the commander offered to give up his position to keep my son-in-law on – if he could.

My son-in-law reacted with a Face book post that read,

"All I can say is thank you to the United States Navy for giving me the opportunity to serve my country with HONOR. During my career I got to see the world, be grateful that I live nowhere but the USA, have one of the greatest jobs in the world (as part of the brotherhood) and meet some of the greatest people and leaders I have come to know in my life. I had fun and will definitely miss deployments (I will truly miss being a Navy FE, as we got things done). "I can imagine no more rewarding a career. And any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile, I think I can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction: 'I served in the United States Navy.'" -JFK, 1963.

"I only wish I could have served more."

He could have been angry and vindictive, but he wrote what was in his heart and I am very proud of him for doing just that. Anger is a debilitating emotion that destroys common sense. Could you have had the same attitude if this happened to you?

What was also very interesting to me was that the following day my daughter and son-in-law attended an awards ceremony on the base and the speaker, in the course of his speech said the following, "The only two things you can control in your life are your effort and your attitude." How true this is!

I wish I had thought of this quote myself because it is so profoundly true. The most successful students whom I deal with almost daily have perhaps unconsciously learned that effort plus attitude are the keys to massive success. In the face of untold obstacles that have stopped multitudes of investors, they have not quit. In fact, their success has reinforced their confidence, doubled and tripled their effort and raised their attitude to all new levels.

Most of the most successful students had little or no experience in real estate investing but it has become a passion for each one as his/her successes add to their attitude and altitude. I have heard all the excuses why real estate investing doesn't work and for these naysayers, it doesn't and likely never will.

For the students who have overcome their fears and anxieties, put in a constant and sustained effort and maintain the proper attitude, their future is assured.

We all have choices in life and that's why we are where we are today. Now may be the time to focus on your effort and attitude because it is always in your best interest.

To your limitless success,

Dave Dinkel

PS – Please come to BREIA tonight as it is our annual charity event for the Make a Wish Foundation. Everyone who makes a donation will receive a chance to win a host of prizes including an iPad2!