

# Commencement

## Greeting

President Gaber

Board of Trustees

Staff

Parents and Family of the Graduates

Ladies and Gentlemen

And Now 2018 Graduates of the  
University of Toledo.

Wow, What a Great Day and I am Honored and Humbled to share this day with you.

1. I was born in Portsmouth, Ohio and raised by a single mom who only had an 8th grade education. Her dream was for me to get my education. (sport became my option)
2. In September it will be 50 years since I started here at the U of T.
3. You are in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the rest of your life and I am in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, try to avoid the 2 minute warning.

I want to share a few things I have learned to this day. Because I'm still learning.

- A. Mel Tucker. What do I need to do to get out of here?
  1. Stay in your room from Sunday night – Thursday night and study.
  2. Go to your class every day, and make sure the prof knows you.
  3. Finally, do not stop in the student union on the way to class or return.

Now it is my turn to share 3 things that have been important to me and I hope that can be helpful as you go through life's challenges and direction.

Be Inward, Be Outward and Be Upward.

I have these 10 resolutions that I have read that have been a part of my yearly review.

## INWARD

Resolve to take control of your destiny. Don't be so busy try to make a living that you forget to make a life. Decide who you want to be and what you want to achieve and then stride boldly towards your vision. The most precious human commodity today is Confidence.

So, Dream

Napoleon Hill

Enjoy your life whether single or Family.

## Outward

What was the Social environment when I arrive in Toledo? Mid 60s and early 70s.

John and Bobby Kennedy as well as Martin Luther King assassinated, war in Vietnam, Kent State students shot when protested.

What I learned about TEAMWORK that went beyond sport but business and family and just being around different people. Living in Canada.

So, resolve to be a global citizen, fully open to the cultures and influences of others. There is a direct correlation between personal well-being and openness to other peoples' ideas and culture. If someone has a different point of view, they're probably right as well. So welcome different opinions. Become a one-person champion of plurality. Not only will you make lots of new friends, but you'll also gather multiple reference points to help you resolve personal challenges.

Team?

## UPWARD

What are the principles that we live by?

What guides our values and attitude as we try to deal with being inward and outward.

Resolve to stay brutally optimistic. See the opportunity in every difficulty and anticipate the most favorable outcome of every situation. Whatever you look for, that's what you'll find. We can get better or we can get bitter; it all depends on the lessons we draw from each experience.



Optimism is like electricity—very little happens without it. Know this truth: you have all the resources you'll ever need to handle all the challenges you'll ever have. It's in the true emergencies that the true you emerge.

Chuck Ealey Foundation.

Undefeated Spirit-One play at a time. It is about an attitude.

## SUCCESS versus SIGNIFICANCE

My life now somewhat reflects this statement;

Resolve to be habitually generous.

Success is not something you pursue, it's something you attract by what you become. The more you give of yourself, the more favors you attract from others. People have a deep-rooted drive to give back. So, resolve to search for ways to contribute to others. Here is an interesting aphorism: Live above the line.

I the line represents others' expectations of you, consistently surpass those expectations. You'll develop what the business author Ken Blanchard calls 'raving fans,' people who become walking billboards for you.

The fulfillment of a Mother's Dream that can impact the world.

1. Our son Damon- Principal in high school in Japan.
2. Our daughter Skye – Teacher in a high school correctional facility.
3. Our daughter Jael – Is an Author and speaker on literary diversity.

Congratulations and Go Rockets and impact the world.