

Tom Coverstone Memorial Scholarship Essay

Tom Coverstone displayed great personal characteristics and as I learn more about this man, I believe everyone should aspire to be more like him. Some of these personal characteristics that stick out to me are the willingness to teach and spread his knowledge to others, the ability to balance his personal and work lives, and a constant positive attitude. Looking at these characteristics I see similarities between Tom Coverstone and myself.

I believe it is very important to teach and spread knowledge to those around you. Thankfully, I have been blessed with several opportunities throughout my life to provide my knowledge to others. As a junior and senior in high school I was nominated to be a part of CORE leaders. The CORE leaders' group was put together to help the freshman class with the upcoming struggles of being a high school student. Some of the topics we covered include how to develop good time management skills, how to effectively communicate with teachers and staff, and how to prepare for state exams. This group was brand new, and this was the first time it had ever been a part of Greenville Senior High School. Being a member of this group was a great honor and it was a great feeling being able to help my fellow students to be successful. Another opportunity where I was able to spread my knowledge was at the Greenville Youth Basketball Camps. One of the things that I enjoyed the most about these basketball camps was being able to help all members in a different way. Whether it was teaching a young kindergartener how to dribble or helping an eighth grader where to be in position on defense. Being able to help a wide variety of skill sets and seeing the joy on their faces when they were successful are something I will never forget.

Another characteristic of Tom Coverstone that I admire is the ability to balance his work and personal lives. I think this is very important as it is far to common to see someone get too

caught up in their work lives and forget what is most important in life. Similarly, in my lifetime I have balanced being a full-time student athlete. I have always been a firm believer in putting my faith, family, friends, and academics first and then focusing on athletics. Understanding that I would not be where I am today without my faith, family, and friends has taught me to appreciate all my blessings in life. However, at the same time I believe it is very important to be able to focus on our professional responsibilities as well. The ability to efficiently balance personal and professional lives is key to being successful in life.

Finally, and possibly the most important characteristic of Tom Coverstone that I see in myself is his positive attitude in any situation. I hold myself to a high standard regarding always having a positive attitude. I think it is very important to display a positive attitude as it impacts those around you greatly. A positive attitude can be contagious to peers and this allows for collaborative work to be more effective and for a more conducive work environment. No matter what the situation is I always try to focus on the positives and not allow myself to get hung up on something that is not ideal. Personally, focusing on having a positive attitude has allowed me to be successful and has eliminated stress in my life.

Overall, these characteristics are what made Tom Coverstone the man he was, and I strive to one day be like him and display similarities in all that I do. Having a positive impact on those around you can truly go a long way and I feel that is the duty of an engineer to provide education and knowledge to peers. Tom Coverstone helped found an amazing engineering company that has provided opportunities for many employers and their families. I have no doubt that Tom Coverstone is still wearing that well known smile as he sees what Choice One Engineering is doing and I would love to be a part of the Choice One team in the future.