

Idle Thoughts on Courage

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Idle Thoughts on the topic of courage.....There is nothing quite like the end of a long-standing business partnership to make you question your courage when facing the future. Author unknown states “courage in women is often mistaken for insanity” and for the last year I have given that unknown author plenty of reason to doubt my sanity.

I have learned much from my brethren in life and work since 2008 when so much of what we knew collapsed under the weight of poor financial decisions made by many. When 2013 arrived and I knew that my business partnership needed to end, I thought of those others who had no control over their destinies, who found themselves set to sea with no expectations of success for the future. And yet, many of them found a way through good luck and good fortune while some rediscovered themselves through grit and hard work and plenty of support from those around them. For some as for me, it was a matter of courage and plenty of healthy fear thrown in for good measure.

Without fear can we truly know courage? Was I crazy to leave an unhealthy work environment when some would have called it a mid-life crisis? Were the greener pastures really so green or was my vision for a better me tainted by bouts of “some-timers” disease? Some of the time, my decisions were driven by an intense desire to forge a new path while most of the time, I just knew that to spend even one more day doing the same old thing would drive me insane.

OK, well not really. But, thinking of what it means to be truly courageous and doing due diligence since any change I made would affect so many people, I forged the new path and went solo in my business and find myself 7 months later thinking well...thinking...that I survived.....with my sanity intact.

The American poet, Robert Frost, said it best when he stated, “The best way out is always through”. The end to my path is not in sight, but the debris has been swept clean and I can see through my courage that those moments of insanity were just moments of me being me. Not a bad thing all and all.