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I left New Haven in 1969 with a diploma, curiosity, a vague sense of mission that had been encouraged by Kingman Brewster and others, maybe a skill or two (but none yet ready to earn me much of living), and no clear idea of where all this was going to take me.

Twenty-five years later, the story of what I have been doing since then seems simple to recount. But the act of writing it down makes me realize that if someone had asked me at graduation what I would be writing in this space I would have had no idea of what to say. Twenty-five years into the future might just as well have been into another epoch, and, at any rate, our twenty-fifth reunion did not seem quite relevant to the concerns of the sixties.

Knowing that I didn’t know where I was headed, I purposely took a fewzigzags to begin. I started off as a VISTA Volunteer, and for two years 1 worked
with young men coming out of jail in the Bronx, a very educational experience.

1 then proceeded to horrify most of my VISTA colleagues by going to the Harvard Business School, figuring that it would be good preparation for many lines of work that I could choose to pursue. Still bitten with the public service bug, I next turned around and convinced most of my business school classmates that I was throwing away a perfectly good education by going to Washington, D.C., with the noble intention of spending “a few years” in government. I’m glad I did. Twenty years later I’m still at it and quite enjoying it.

My first year in Washington I worked at the Cost of Living Council, which at that time had the exciting and impossible task of regulating prices and wages. Later I was also able to say that this is where I had the good fortune to meet Meg Weekes, whom 1 married in 1978.

I did two more short stints, first at the Federal Energy Administration and the next at the U.S. Department of Labor, before moving to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, where I have enjoyed working ever since.

Today, my activities and interests include:

Family. This is where each day begins and ends and the focus of weekends and holidays. Meg and I have two children of our own, Abigail (born in 1981) and Nathaniel (born in 1984), and a niece, Eloise Russo (born in 1981) who lives with us. The children are all engaged in a variety of activities. Meg is currently a professor at The American University and quite active in issues affecting the D.C. public schools. Yes, we are busy. We enjoy living in Washington, D.C. Our welcome mat is out for classmates coming through this fine city.

Community Activities. I am active in this category. I recently completed two years as president of our local citizens association, working on a wide variety of issues affecting the neighborhood and the city. Now I am serving as Moderator (chief lay officer) of our church. I have also worked with several other groups. Although time-consuming, this work is fun and rewarding.

Job. I am currently directing the Office of Strategic Planning and Environmental Data at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). I have been at EPA since 1978, serving in a variety of positions. I have found this work very stimulating and challenging. There are many different interesting and important environmental issues, touching many aspects of our lives and demanding many different skills.

Rest. I get barely enough rest to report. I could use more. I think I might also have said this twenty-five years go.

The Future. I look forward to the next twenty-five years and whatever it is that I will write in this space for our fiftieth reunion.