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At my age (and yours too), I am hopefully moving beyond pretense, so 1 must confess I am responding more from fear of being represented by a blank than from a burning desire to reveal myself or wax philosophically about Yale.

I do think back fairly frequently about those four years, because it was during that New Haven time that I first began to grapple with and enjoy the intellectual process. An unfortunate corollary, reinforced by two immediately subsequent years at the Harvard Business School, was that at twenty-four I thought I was far smarter and wiser than I really was. It probably took me at least fifteen years to recover from that and to realize that a Yale degree represents more an opportunity to build on than a lasting accomplishment.

On the other hand, a most fortunate corollary was that my joy in the intellectual process was primarily the result of interplay with a great many gifted classmates, a couple of whom I still count among my closest friends. My bountiful four-year exposure to these intelligent, resourceful, and creative people will be Yale’s lasting gift to me.

I have received even greater gifts in life, principally a wonderful wife, Laurie, and two children, Elizabeth and David, whose few bad habits were inherited from the paternal side. I have been thoroughly engaged and stimulated professionally by investing in and running a group of west coast radio stations. I trust I will have the opportunity to write more about this before our fiftieth and after retirement.