##### BRUCE A. MAZO

6604 Sally Lane, Minneapolis, MN 55439

Due credit should go to one of my roommates and friends—Dick Olsen—for bringing to my attention what I consider an extremely appropriate quote: “The unexamined life is not worth living.” Thanks, Dick!

I’m also reminded of that bad joke by Mark Twain about the person who, at the age of fifteen, felt his father was an idiot, but, at the age of twenty- five, was amazed at how much his father had learned in ten years.

Although the opposite was true in my personal case, it is clear to me that we do get more conservative as we get older. However, from a strongly liberal base (at least where human values are concerned), and just as strong a probusiness base (I haven’t totally deserted my M.B.A.), I am still proud, as I write this in August of 1993, to have voted for the “boomer” Yale (albeit Law) alumnus as President.

That’s just a long introduction to say that I find that most of the values I was taught—both at Yale and before—are becoming more important in my life, as opposed to less.

I certainly flirted with, and in some cases strongly embraced, some of the nontraditional ideas that bombarded us in the sixties and seventies. And I would certainly like to think that the “tell it like it is” value of intolerance to hypocrisy is still with me—perhaps even more so!

And, although I get less sure of things in general as time goes on, I’m pretty sure that being a parent of a teenage girl and boy has made me embrace the traditional values of integrity and honesty, hard work, thrift, the golden rule, courtesy, good manners, and even faith more than ever. That pleasantly brings to mind another incited quotation (we get to get away with murder, here!)—Hillel, I believe—who, when asked to explain Judaism while standing on one foot, said: “That which is hateful to you, do not do unto your neighbor. The rest is commentary—go and study!”

One of my clients quoted his mother, saying, “Man plans and God laughs.” Since I am now in the “planning” business, that clearly was not meant positively, but I take it as such, because it has been an excellent description of my life up until this point.

In 1989, after twenty years in a somewhat traditional career path, I made a pretty dramatic career change. Little did I know that in order to be successful (which is still to be determined!), I would also have to undergo a personality transplant.

That could sound like bragging, except that Pat, my wife of twenty- three-plus years (That’s bragging!), who is undeniably my harshest critic, feels that the changes were significant and positive.

I have enclosed a picture of our recent vacation. Perhaps that seems to be extremely prosaic, but this picture represents, frankly, my proudest “accomplishment,” even though I do feel that I am honoring the “no vitae, please” request. I love my family, they love me, we were able to drive from Minnesota to the Grand Canyon and points nearby over a two-week period without killing each other and actually had a great time. The accomplishment, just to be explicit, is the relationship—not the trip.

I am happier and more hopeful than I have ever been, and I hope you are the same!