## JAMES D. SEYMOUR

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The twenty-five years since graduation have been a challenging combination of constancy and change. I have spent twenty-three years with the same wonderful woman, Sharon. We have two sons: Stephen (seventeen), who will be a senior at The Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Connecticut, and Jeffrey (fourteen), who will be a freshman at Hopkins School in New Haven. Following four years in diesel submarines and two years at Harvard Business School, I spent eighteen years at Bankers Trust Company.

During those years we have lived two-and-a-half years in Bahrain, one- and-a-half years in Manila, three years in Taipei, and four years in London (of which I spent the better part of two years working in Istanbul setting up and running a joint venture merchant bank). While I toiled away for the bank in these various locations, Sharon was always active in community organziations— for example, giving archaeological tours of the island of Bahrain (considered bysome historians the legendary garden of Eden); working with school associations; Junior League; and more recently reading to children in a school in Bridgeport. Sharon worked hard to establish a home for the boys and me in every city that we lived in (often under very difficult circumstances), only to have us move on to another job location with the bank.

My greatest personal success was to marry Sharon. She has done her best to provide a wonderful home wherever we have been living and has provided constant support and encouragement to our two boys. She has devoted endless hours to their and my education. My deepest disappointment has been the lack of time and devotion that I have given to my family over the years—an area in which I hope to improve.

Professional highlights over the last twenty-five years include: getting into Nuclear Power School in the Navy; getting out of Nuclear Power School and into Diesel School; earning the assignment early in my career to Bahrain; earning the assignment to the Taipei Branch as General Manager; setting up the joint venture in Turkey; and leaving Bankers Trust. My biggest disappointment has been in not being properly rewarded for the successes I had at the bank in a wide variety of functions, often relocating at very short notice at their request and with considerable sacrifices on the part of my family.

My ambition now is to become more involved with education and educational institutions, either directly in my work or through community programs. A major step in this direction will be to join The Common Fund at the end of this month. The Common Fund is the best in the field of investment management for educational institutions. It has almost Si5 billion under management for 1200 schools and universities. It is also located in Westport, Connecticut—one mile from our home.

This most recent dramatic change in our lives will contribute enormously to the significant improvement in our quality of life: more time at home, working for a not-for-profit; working with educational institutions; increasing our involvement in the community and our commitment to each other. We hope that one of the constancies of the future will be the caring, supporting, and developing of each other and our communities.