

ROD ABRAHAM

I attended Penn State University after high school but had neither goals nor motivation. Dropped out of school, but subsequently enrolled in night school at Temple University. There I completed 115 credits in 5 years at night and earned a BS in accounting, graduating with honors. I am a life-long student, more eager to learn now than when I was 20. In addition to various formal certificate programs, I regularly attend seminars, workshops, and short courses.

While in school, I did everything from checker at a supermarket to selling newspapers on a busy street corner to selling bleach door-to-door. While going to night school, I began working in the mailroom of an educational institution, where my motivation to excel was generated by a group of business educators. Over a 20-year period, I worked my way from assistant business manager to senior vice-president before leaving to start my own meeting management business.

Always do more than is expected of you. Strive to be the best at whatever you do, whether washing dishes, creating gourmet meals for 300 persons, managing a hotel, or orchestrating a 10,000-person convention. And master technology!