



Who Would Have Thought

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The year was 1968, and I was fresh out of the air force, preparing to start at The University of Akron in January 1969. My first class was an 8:00 a.m. Intro. to Public Speaking course. I was pleased to see several of my high school classmates also starting their college careers and recently discharged from the military.

I believe I earned a B for the course, as it served as an intro to my college career. I was nervous, as most people are who are confronted with public speaking. However, being a bit older than most of my classmates, my confidence was bolstered.

I graduated in December of 1971 and went on to

complete my Masters while teaching school.

Fast forward fifteen years to the mid-eighties and on through the nineties. By that time I was the owner of several trade and technical schools, having chosen the for-profit route over public education.

I had always enjoyed teaching and for that reason decided to apply for an adjunct position in the Communications Department of The University of Akron. My companies were going strong with the help of good people, and I had some time on my hands.

Amazingly, I was hired almost immediately to teach, and, you guessed it—an 8:00 a.m. Intro. to Public Speaking course. My tenure lasted fifteen years and was one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had. Student becomes teacher!