

Donor 1497 Pen Sketch

As a child, I've always been quite mischievous. More like I was very curious and would always try to go out of my way to make sense of my surroundings. My parents, even though quite conservative, encouraged me to do so- even if sometimes I ended up hurting myself because they believed experience is the best teacher. This is a value that was passed on to me later. Maybe that is what that got me into physics, because it helps me to understand my everyday experience and interactions with my environment. Science and mathematics were my strongest subjects in school, but I also enjoyed history. At the time of writing this, I'm starting to grow an appreciation for languages, especially Japanese and Mandarin. I am already fluent in 3 languages and I hope maybe someday when I meet you, I'd be able to speak at least 5 languages. Optimistic much? It probably runs in the family.

I enjoy playing badminton and was even good at it when I was young. I have represented my primary school for tournaments and won a few. In high school, or as some would call it middle school, I was a long-distance runner. I'd like to think I am a calm person. I don't really get mad easily and even if I do, I'd rather take some time off to think about the issue before confronting anyone. Painful lessons have taught me that complaining doesn't contribute to the solution, and I'd rather be part of the solution than the problem. Thinking about the past and complaining about it is a waste of time because no one can change what has happened. The future however, is within our power to be shaped as and how we see fit.

I am very interested in classical music, although I only got into it quite recently. My favourite musical piece right now would be "Clair de Lune" by Claude Debussy. When I was a teenager, rap was my thing. I do still enjoy old-school rap, but you can say I have mellowed down to slow paced music. Maybe aging does that to you. I enjoy reading books. Over the years, again my preferences have changed. I remember staying up late at night reading horror story books when I was just a kid. As a teenager I moved on to reading adventure and fantasy themed books. Off the top of my head, Eragon, Harry Potter and Percy Jackson were my favorites. Now I try to read more thought-provoking books; for example "The God Delusion" by Richard Dawkins. I find it enjoyable to read and talk about ideas which challenge what we assume are the norms of society. The one important mantra that I hold close to my heart is that *life is nothing but a one-way journey of experiences.*

So go out and experience it; make mistakes, learn from it, and be a better person.

Donor 1497 Goodwill Message

Becoming a parent is a very special moment for a lot of people- to be able to give this gift to someone is nothing short of a blessing, and to know that doing this makes people happy makes me happy. It would be far from the truth, if I said this doesn't give me somewhat of a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment. So I thank your parents for giving me this opportunity.

There are only a few rules that I live by. The most important one is to do what makes you happy, as long it doesn't affect your environment and the people close to you in a bad way. All I can ever hope for you is to live your life the way you see fit. Don't let anything hold you back because as cliché as it sounds, if you put in the effort, anything is achievable. I've seen it happen in my life, and I have no doubt it will happen in yours too. I guess it's obvious I am a dreamer, but what's the fun in living if you can't grasp for the good stuff?

When I was 18, I wish someone told me things were going to work out eventually. Never trust anyone with your goals and dreams. If you want something, go and get it. Have the right mindset, put in the effort and never let yourself give up. It's easy to lose sight of your goal when things get tough, so I recommend you find a reason for your goal. Why do you want it? When you have a reason to believe in, giving up will stop being an option. I had to learn this the hard way and I do wish someone told me all of these after my high school.

I really hope you are doing fine. Whomever you've become, you have your parents to thank for – so remember to appreciate them. I might be the guy you share your genes with, but they are the people who have been there for you for every second of your life up until now. Respect them. Love them with all your heart.

I wish nothing but the best for your future undertakings. I would love to see you someday to see the person you've become. You know how to find me.