



Dr. Del's (aka Craig Hane, Ph.D. in Math,) Story

In 1946 right after the end of WW2 Craig Hane, age 8, attended a three week Summer Camp for his Sunday School Class with his teacher, Mr. Theron York, with the Nazarene Church in Greencastle, Indiana. Craig still had vivid memories of WW2 and the effects it had on everyone he knew.

Craig lived in the woods along Deer Creek five miles south of Greencastle in a house with no running water. They cooked on a kerosine stove and had a pot-belly coal stove for heat in the winter and a two-hole outhouse. Lots of pleasant times in the woods and creek. Craig considered life idyllic.

The only neighbors were Craig's Uncle Jack and Aunt Inez, sort of second parents since both of Craig's parents worked full time during the War. Craig spent a lot of his time roaming the woods and creek and daydreaming.

He went to school in a four room schoolhouse with eight grades in Putnamville, Indiana and excelled at arithmetic thanks to his Uncle Jack homeschooling him.

Indeed, he could count to 100 before any of his classmates and his teacher, Miss Lewis, had him help her teach his classmates to count. Remember this was during WW2 when all adults were very occupied with the war effort.

What Craig learned from Mr. York that summer determined the rest of his life.

Obviously, the Golden Rule and Love thy Neighbor and Jesus loves you and Salvation. However, perhaps the most significant thing was that What you Believe will determine what actually happens to you. Not your desires, but your Beliefs.

Craig also was “saved” by accepting Jesus into his heart at the end of the Summer Camp after the invitation by Reverend Newby.

In 1950, at age 12, the Hick from the Sticks, Craig and his family moved into the “big city” of Greencastle and Craig went to work on myriad odd jobs saving money for college. Craig made friends with the city kids, but was always the country bumpkin who was good at arithmetic. Not much social life and Craig eagerly anticipated leaving Greencastle and going to college, where life would be much more fun he thought.

No one in Craig's family had ever gone to college. They were all very hard working men and women who told Craig college was the path to great success in some profession. Craig believed he would go to college from a very early age.

Craig had always been good at arithmetic and practical geometry thanks to homeschooling by his Uncle Jack, a barber and builder. This is recorded in the Uncle Jack videos Craig shares with parents and is good even today.

Craig had a vision and Belief that Math was fun and valuable as his Uncle Jack told him and could lead to great success, especially IF Craig would learn more math than his Uncle Jack knew.

Through the 8th Grade Craig was very good at arithmetic and practical geometry thanks to his Uncle Jack. He usually knew more than his teachers. But, after all, Uncle Jack wasn't a math teacher.

THEN, In the 9th Grade Craig struggled with Algebra and did poorly. Craig's counselor, Mr. Skeleton, told Craig that he was not college material and to plan to study "Shop" and be a working man like his family members.

Opps! What about Craig's Belief that Math would deliver him to great successes his family told him about?

Miracle? In the 10th Grade Craig had a wonderful teacher, Miss MaDonna O'Hair for Geometry and he loved it and did very well. This somewhat confirmed his Belief in Math and his future.

BUT, in the 11th Grade, his junior year, he had the same teacher from the 9th Grade for Algebra 2. This time he was much more aggressive and believed in himself.

This didn't help too much since the teacher, Mr. Hardman, didn't like Craig, who was now considered a troublemaker by asking too many questions, and Craig received another bad grade.

Craig asked Miss O'Hair for advice. He loved and excelled in Geometry, but did not like Algebra and did poorly in it. She advised him to enroll in College Algebra at DePauw University as a special student. Wow. No one at GHS had ever done that!

The GHS highschool principal Mr. McCammon and counselor Mr. Skeleton were against it. Craig was told he would embarrass the high school. Two bad grades in high school Algebra proved he would do even more poorly in college Algebra.

But, Craig's father had a "talk" with Mr. McCammon and Craig was allowed to enroll as a special student for math his senior year at DePauw. By mistake Craig was enrolled in a sophomore College Algebra Course instead of the freshman course at DePauw. Dr. Clint Gass was the professor.

Dr. Gass was a great teacher like Miss O'Hair, and "miracle of miracles" Craig earned an A in the College Algebra class. Mr. McCammon and Mr. Skeleton just couldn't understand it. Craig told them Mr. Hardman was

not a very good teacher, but they, of course, ignored him. Too bad for other GHS students.

Long story short, even though Craig had mediocre grades in high school he was accepted to the Number One Liberal Arts College in the USA at that time, Oberlin College.

Pretty sure Dr. Gass was responsible for that too. Wonderful teacher and mentor. Craig kept in touch all through his years at Oberlin when home on vacations.

Craig excelled as a Math Major at Oberlin and tutored fellow students, and then taught high school math for one year at Western Reserve High School, all four grades. Math also empowered Craig to excel in many other science subjects like Physics and Physical Chemistry.

Home for the summer and with no future plans Dr. Gass suggested Craig enter graduate school at Indiana University, which had never occurred to Craig and teach at DePauw for a semester while Dr. Gass went on sabbatical leave.

So, Craig did. Graduate school in the early 1960's in Math was a lot of fun. You can do math anywhere and need a lot of "unfocused" time. So, Motorcycles, Parties, Rugby, and many other things accompanied math education.

Four years later Craig received his Ph.D. in Algebraic Number Theory and became Associate Professor of Math at Indiana State University for three years and then at Rose Hulman Institute of Technology for four years.

By now Craig had taught all math courses from 8th Grade through first year graduate school several times. It was getting boring. So, Craig decided to apply math to the real world, not just the theoretical world.

Thus, Craig went into many business ventures. Math was always the necessary ingredient in all of these businesses ranging from three Auto Parts Stores, Action Dragway, H & H Racing Gasoline, the Hane Dynabrane and finally an industrial training company, Hane Training, which trained thousands of skilled tradesmen all over North America for over two decades. Craig's goal ever since 1952, freshman algebra, has been to improve math education in the USA.

This became more urgent with the advent of the Scientific Calculator while he was teaching at Rose Hulman in 1972, and especially urgent since 2009 with the introduction of a modern Math Tool, Wolfram Alpha, which revolutionizes how Math should be learned and practiced in virtually all STEM subjects.

"BELIEF is everything!" says Craig.

Virtually everyone can learn Practical Math today in less than a year thanks to the Scientific Calculator, and then get involved in a wonderful technical career.

Even Science and Engineering no longer have a Math Barrier, thanks to modern technologies like Wolfram Alpha. Calculus and Differential Equations are very easy now. Concepts were always easy, but the obsolete manual tools which are very difficult and were a Barrier are obsolete thanks to the Modern 21st Century Tools like Wolfram Alpha.

Craig believes the Future is very bright for Humanity thanks to modern technologies which will be able to eliminate material poverty and, thus, War.

Most importantly, Craig believes that everyone should “Invest in Yourself” as he did.

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