**Graduation time!**

This time it’s number three for me. My third, my final, an equally (as number one and number two) favorite child of mine is graduating from high school ready to take on the world. How can this be true? Who did this to us? Time. Time has done this to us. Time has brought us to this point. So, because of time, we are celebrating the Estes Park High School Class of 2019 this weekend.

Over the years, I’ve always made a point of writing a graduation article for the graduates. Thanks to Dr. Seuss, words of wisdom from the internet, special songs on the radio and simply living my life I’ve always found it easy to send out an inspirational graduation article.

However, this week I find myself at a loss of words and it’s not because I’m sad on any level. I’m equally as excited as my graduate about his graduation. I’m at a loss of words because of time. It’s simply flown by too fast!

I sit here and think about the time it’s taken to get to this point in our lives. From the birth of these graduates, through their schooling, athletics, family trips, maturing into young adults, their personal accomplishments and losses; it’s all happened over time.

Everything is hinged on time. From special moments that you’ll find yourself marking time on to wishing you had more time for special moments. Our time on this earth is about making the best of the time we have here. This graduating class more than others knows the value of that statement, having lost a couple of very dear friends during their time in high school.

I challenge this class to take advantage of their time and always respect it, because time will always win. Your future will hinge on time well spent, time well-loved and time lost.

“Your time is limited, so don’t waste it living someone else’s life. Don’t be trapped by dogma (which is living with the results of other people’s thinking). Don’t let the noise of others’ opinions drown out your own inner voice and most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition.” -Steve Jobs

Time is more valuable than money. You can get more money, but you cannot get more time. – Jim Rohn.

You will never ‘find’ time for anything. If you want time, you must make it.
Everything comes to you at the right time. Be patient.
Don’t watch the clock; do what it does. Keep going.

Time is free, but it’s priceless. You can’t own it, but you can use it. You can’t keep it, but you can spend it. Once you’ve lost it, you can never get it back. -Harvey MacKay

Don’t wait, time will never be just right.

If you love life, don’t waste time, because time is what life is made of. -Benjamin Franklin.

The greatest gift you can give someone is your time. Because when you give your time you are giving a portion of your life that you will never get back.

Your future is created by what you do today, not tomorrow.
Time has a wonderful way of showing us what really matters.
The bad news is that time flies, the good news is that you are the pilot.
Never give up, because great things take time.

I challenge the graduates of 2019 to make the time for themselves and their health. What you do today will set you up for a healthier, stronger and happier tomorrow. Make the time to be present in the places and with the people you love, because every Monday turns into a Friday and your week is gone, your year is gone and you’ll be turning 40, 50 and 60 before you know it. Time is awesome, time is gracious, time is yours!

So, this year, my advice to the class of 2019 is to respect time, because before you know it, you’ll be sitting in the stands watching your own child graduate from their high school. Time is simply that quick.

Congratulations to my Spencer Holmes who is my shining star this weekend. Congratulations to the entire class of 2019. Now go out and do amazing things!