

Robbie:

I am honored to write to you and urge you to continue to follow your passion through your special stick. No one ever knows when they are young boys what passions they will develop for whatever endeavor they take on as they grow up, but the sport of lacrosse seems to take hold of us and never lets go.

To me, Lacrosse has always been more than a sport. To many of us it becomes a way of life and the lessons we learn as players become those lessons that we pass on to the next generation as a coach and as a parent. Through lacrosse I have learned Life Lessons that I encourage you to remember and pass on to your friends and teammates and encourage these folks to do the same. Through Lacrosse, you will make friendships that will last a lifetime and develop a unique bond that just evolves from the sharing of a passion for our great sport. As a Coach, I carry with me the same level of passion that I had as a player. I love when I have discussions with young men that I coach and they say, "Coach, you really put a lot of hard work and effort in to being a success on the field." And my reply is always the same, "Funny, it has never felt like work to me." Once you cross the threshold into Passion, you will never think of anything you do with this great sport as Work.

I have learned from Lacrosse through the years the meaning of sportsmanship, camaraderie, integrity, and what it means to uphold these ideals in everything I do. Take the time to give back to others through your Love of the Game and teach others the same...it is magical.

Please consider reading *Success is a Choice* by Rick Pitino.

Continue your quest for Learning,

Paul Goldsmith

Roanoke College
Jack Turnbull Award, 1983