

# THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



## # 1769 Would You Consider a Second Career?

Retirement is often seen as the end of one's professional journey, but for many, it marks the beginning of a new chapter filled with fresh opportunities. Transitioning into a second career can provide a sense of purpose, and perhaps financial stability. I'm Jerry Roberts, and even if you're thrilled with your current career, is it possible you might be interested in going in a different direction? Let's talk it over, next on The Extra Point.

Today's Extra Point is about launching a second career. It's something I know about because I've done it.

Before I get rolling on this, let me tell a quick story. I was living here in the early 1970s and KUAM-AM, the only radio station on the island at the time, ran a daily feature called *Our Changing World*, hosted by a motivational speaker named Earl Nightingale. Oldtimers may remember.

It was on for just a few minutes, like The Extra Point, and I never missed it. One day, what Mr. Nightingale said struck a chord deep inside.

This came at a time when most people felt that someone like you or me should sign on with one employer and stick it out for the duration, retiring there.

If you didn't do that, it would be okay to work for another organization and finish your career that way. However, more than two jobs might raise an eyebrow and give someone the idea that maybe you had commitment problems or you created problems and couldn't hold a job.

That day, on KUAM, Earl Nightingale made a bold statement that it would be perfectly okay to go 10 or 20 years in one career, get trained in another field and give that 10 or 20, and then do it again — and keep doing it. This went against all conventional thought, and was a stunning concept.

I wanted to be on the radio starting in high school, had been on my college station, and in

Guam that dream turned into reality when I spent almost nine years between KUAM-AM and K57-AM.

After moving to the mainland to pursue a different direction in life, I came back some 32 years ago and launched a company that worked in three different markets. We produced large trade and consumer events, published a business magazine, and provided training services. This has been and continues to be my second career, one that has lasted three times as long as the broadcast adventure.

There are countless stories of people who have done the same thing. I found these:

Sandi spent 30 years as a high school teacher. Every morning on the way to school, she would stop at a local coffee shop and chat with the owner. About the time she was leaving the teaching business, she learned that the shop owner wanted to sell his store. She bought it and spent many happy years there.

Frank started out as a security guard, which led to becoming a team leader and eventually a middle manager. After 18 years with his company, he investigated the new field of cyber security for computer networks, took training and spent the next 10 years working in the field. Then, he discovered artificial intelligence, AI, and is now on career number three.

Evelyn, a long-time registered nurse, left that profession after 15 years to be involved in a project to counsel senior citizens about health and wellness. In her years in nursing, she had seen the end result of poor health choices, and decided that she could make a bigger difference trying to help people avoid bad outcomes.

So, could this be you? Is there another career or two within you? If you think it's possible and you're not sure how to get your thoughts together on this, here are some ideas. (Con't.)

1. What are your interests and skills? Assess what you're good at and what kinds of things spark your interest or get you excited. Make a list.

2. Research possible opportunities. Take your list and imagine what you can apply your skills and interests to. Make another list of options.

3. Decide if you'll need training. If so, what do you need to learn and where will you get it?

4. Develop your plan. Create a roadmap outlining the steps needed to launch your new career. This may include taking courses, obtaining certifications, or creating a business plan if you're going out on your own.

If you've got sufficient time for planning, take it and put the pieces together until it all makes sense. Then, when you're ready, get started.

May your second career bring you the same or even greater satisfaction and joy as did the first one. You can do it.

That's the Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3FM, the Ray Gibson Show, and First Hawaiian Bank, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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