

"You can't always do what you love, but you have the choice to love what you do." This is one of the many mottos/quotes/recipes that readers and friends have submitted thus far based on a previous article – thanks to all for the contributions (results thus far are here: <http://bit.ly/LMRecipes>).

The quote above seems perfect for the month of September, especially since early this month we celebrate those who labor. Labor Day "is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country." (dol.gov website)

I'm pleased to report that our younger son, Sam, recently landed a new job. His mom and I hope Sam's work life will be filled with lots of great experiences, including plenty of opportunities to "make a suitable number of mistakes" (one of my mottos!) Even if Sam doesn't always like "lifting and carrying" as he apprentices in the new job, we hope that he can find particular aspects he loves while in the role. "Joy of job" is a goal for most of us, especially since there are only so many who can be lucky enough to do what they love.

The wonderful thing is that Sam's new employer is doing a lot of great things with a focus on the acronym FAMILY (more here: www.glazers.com). Among other things, they are also using technology to make training engaging by substituting videos for the 100-slide PowerPoint presentation. One might say they're trying to make labor more fun and fulfilling, which can be infectious.

Many of us can make a job much more bearable just by enjoying the personal relationships with colleagues and all employees. And at other times we just have to convince ourselves that the job is worthwhile and provides for others. If we can get to the place where the people and/or the job are meaningful, at the very least we enjoy the satisfaction of going off to spend many hours at our jobs.

Why mention all that in a "column on memory-making?" Some of my best memories are of people I've worked with and incredible collaboration on projects completed.

We spend many hours in labor for our company and our families – let's get out there and make it enjoyable and memorable for ourselves and others!

Enjoy the day...and the memories!

Steve Long, an Anderson Township resident, is an "aspiring memory missionary." He and wife Kim are having fun with Long Memories efforts (www.LongMemories.info), focusing on helping others in "Making, Capturing, Organizing and Sharing Memories...Now and (Virtually) Forever!"