



# The Life Financial Group, Inc.

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*Wealth Management from a Biblical World View since 1978*

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## The One That DIDN'T Get Away

**Grandpa made sure both a big fish, and opportunities to invest in my life;  
Didn't get away**

Oh, the memories! One sunny Saturday when I was 6 years old I recall vividly, being out in a boat on Peace Valley Lake in Southeastern PA with my grandpa. This particular lake was fairly new at the time, and still was well-stocked with fish. One of the fascinating things that we would witness on a rare occasion at the lake was a large breed of fish called a Muskie, swimming across the lake with its head out of the water. This particular Saturday was one of those occasions. Within casting distance of our boat we happened to see one of these large fish swimming, head out of the water. I, in my boyish enthusiasm, begged Grandpa to cast my line out in the direction of this monstrous fish. On the inside Grandpa may have been thinking about the apparent futility of such a task. But not only did he cast my line in that direction, he went the extra mile to catch a small Sunfish and put it on my hook as bait.



Well wouldn't you know it, not long after he had cast out my line, my little fishing pole started to bend as if it were going to break in half. The pole wasn't really equipped for such a large fish, but with Grandpa's help we were able to tag-team this 28-inch Muskie into the boat! What a thrill it was to land this gigantic fish. The only disappointment for me in this whole day was the fact that the minimum legal size to keep a Muskie in the state of PA was 30 inches.

This was just one of many adventures on the lakes in the boat with Grandpa; just one of many opportunities that he took to invest in my life. The time itself that Grandpa gave to me was a treasured investment. But even beyond the time spent, he made a positive investment in my life in two additional ways. First, he was an encourager and not a discourager. He allowed me to dream. He could have written off my excitement to try and catch that fish as childish folly. But instead, he allowed and even assisted me in giving it a try. Second, he was an example of honesty and integrity. We may well have been able to walk out of the park that day with an illegally kept 28-inch Muskie without ever being caught. But Grandpa, motivated by his faith in Christ, made the honest choice even though it disappointed his 6-year old grandson to throw back that fish.

In this business we tend to naturally think about investing in financial terms. But I want to encourage you to make an investment in the relationships with those closest to you, especially in the younger generations. Give of your time and model your faith and values to them. My Grandpa went home to be with the Lord six days before my wedding back in 1993. Sadly, he did not get to experience this very significant event in my life. But the investments he made in me for the first 22 years of my life, I will never forget.

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