

## **A Journey from C-Suite to Coaching**

As a child I was always fascinated by how things worked. I would take apart my toys to see how the parts fit together. As I got older this interest steered me to want to design and build things and find ways to make things work even better.

These interests led me to get a mechanical engineering degree and work in manufacturing. Not long after starting to work at a plant I became not only interested in how the processes and machines worked, but also how parts of the business worked together.

I was fascinated by the dynamics of business management and leadership and decided to pursue an MBA. While I was pursuing my degree, I was promoted to a management position. I was managing a group of 40 maintenance and engineering people with a lot more experience than me. At that time, I was only 25.

It was my introduction to the complexities of leading and managing an organization.

I was thrown into the “management fire,” and learned mostly from mentoring, watching others and trial and error. There were many great, and a few poor examples to learn from, but I was fortunate to have collaborated with many great leaders that were also great people.

As I progressed in my career, I began to lead bigger and more complex organizations and teams. My interests evolved from how things worked to how organizations worked and how people can be most effective in their roles and working as a part of a team.

I was fortunate to have different jobs in 8 different states. I also had the opportunity to travel the world, and work with colleagues in Europe, Asia, and Latin America. I was able to experience diverse cultures and see first-hand how people and teams can be most effective in challenging situations.

Along the way, I developed a passion for mentoring and coaching people.

I wish I could say that I did all this with perfect balance in my personal life, but the reality is that many personal sacrifices were made along the way including moving my family 9 times in 30 years.

What I take from this experience today is that knowing what I wanted from my career when I was in my early 20's allowed me to unlock my path to the successful career I always wanted but it came at a price. Only now do I realize that I could have done a few things differently if I had a mentor, coach and thinking partner by my side on my journey toward becoming a C-Suite Executive.

My role today is to help business professionals like you unlock your path to the extraordinary career and life you have always wanted.

Let's start a conversation.

John Yockey