**Early Goals of the Famous**

**A shareholder once asked Warren Buffett, “Now that you've become the richest man in the country, what is your next goal?" Buffett replied, “To be the oldest.” *(Reader's Digest)***

**What Elvis Presley wanted to do when he got out of high school in 1953 was become a Memphis police officer. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Henry Ford, of automobile fame, originally planned to manufacture cheap watches on a large scale as a means of livelihood. *(E. C. McKenzie, in Tantalizing Facts, p. 70)***

**In a small Michigan town many years ago there was a teenage boy who liked to take watches apart. He had even made his own tools -- a corset stay became tweezers, a single nail and knitting needle became screwdrivers. The farmhouse was drafty, and to keep his feet warm against the wintry blasts, he kept a lighted lantern between them. Soon the neighbors brought in their watches for him to repair, and the thrifty farmers liked his work because he did not charge for it. He loved this precision tinkering and wanted to learn all he could about watches. As he taught himself watchmaking, with his free neighborhood service, he began to imagine possibilities of using the same precision methods to manufacture larger articles, so that their parts would be interchangeable. With interchangeable parts an assembly line would be possible. The modern assembly line was born in that farmhouse. The boy who fixed watches for his neighbors, just for the sheer love of the work, became the man who made millions of motor vehicles. Henry Ford ended up as a rich man, but that was not his goal when he set out to make cars. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Benjamin Franklin once considered becoming a swimming teacher. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Did you ever meet a math teacher who wanted to be president? What President U. S. Grant really wished he had been was a math teacher. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The Rev. Jesse Jackson once considered a career as a professional baseball player. However, he channeled his ability to dream in other directions. *(John E. Anderson, in Reader's Digest)***

**When Gene Kelly was given the American Film Institute’s Life Achievement Award, he blushed and said: “I never wanted to be a dancer. My whole ambition was to play shortstop for the Pittsburgh Pirates.” *(Aljean Harmetz, in New York Times)***

**The first goal in life of Joseph P. Kennedy (1888-1969) was to become a millionaire. President John F. Kennedy’s father reached the goal by the time he was thirty – and kept right on going, becoming one of the U.S.’s wealthiest men. *(Isaac Asimov’s Book of Facts, p. 61)***

**Not every man gets to do what he wants. Actor Roger Moore started out as a cartoon animator, but it didn’t work out. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Did you ever find out if Mozart had an affair with Marie Antoinette? That whimsical notion arose because he said he intended to marry her someday. He was 6 and she was 7. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Original career plans of six celebrities:  
\* Christie Brinkley -- planned to be an artist  
\* David Hyde Pierce -- planned to be a concert pianist  
\* Selma Blair -- planned to be a teacher  
\* Angie Dickinson -- planned to be an author  
\* Linda Blair -- planned to be a veterinarian  
\* Jared Leto -- planned to be an artist. *(World Features Syndicate)***

**When Theodore Roosevelt made up his mind as a boy to build up his puny body, he showed some dedication, all right. In his exercises to that end, he broke his arm, wrist, nose, shoulder and several ribs. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**All I ever wanted was for somebody to publish Harry Potter so I could go to bookshops and see it. *(J. K. Rowling)***

**When Colonel Sanders set out on the road at age 65 to sell chicken, his goal was to make $1,000 a month. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**I have been asked many times if I ever dreamed that Peanuts would become so successful. Obviously, I did not know that Snoopy was going to go to the moon and I did not know that the term “happiness is a warm puppy” would prompt hundreds of other such definitions and I did not know that the term “security blanket” would become part of the American language; but I did have the hope that I would be able to contribute something to a profession that I can now say I have loved all my life. However, I think I always surprise people when I say, “Well, frankly, I guess I did expect Peanuts would be successful, because after all, it was something I had planned for since I was six years old.” *(Charles M. Schulz, in Peanuts: A Golden Celebration)***

**When asked what she would like to be in ten years, newswoman Lesley Stahl replies, “I’d like to have a strong heart and a sly wit. I’d like to be a journalist who scares everyone to death. I’d like to have a great backhand – and legs that look fabulous in tennis shorts. In other words, I’d like to be Mike Wallace.” *(Self)***

**What Tchaikovsky really wanted to be, at first, was a lawyer. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**What the young George Washington really wanted to be was a sailor in the British Royal Navy. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Betty White originally aspired to be a forest ranger before learning women were not allowed to do the job. Instead, she pursued acting. *(The Daily Chronicle)***

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