Learning for Life by **LONNIE PICKARD**

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There are many reasons for getting a GED. On of the more obvious reasons is to get a better paying job. Going back to school for me means that I am able to participate in discussions abut the history of our country. That makes me feel better about myself.

 Going back to school has meant making new friends and meeting new people. Being able to interact with other students makes me more of a people person. We took a ten week course on learning more about a computer. That was very helpful to me. I have had a computer for 20 years and didn’t know half the things we were taught.

 Getting a GED means being able to spend more time at home because I should be able to get a job closer to home. I have always wanted to finish school. I consider it part of a bucket list. I am looking forward to the future because I’m considering taking a course after I’m done with school. Welding is something I’m good at, so I may possibly take a welding course or something in automotive.

 Being able to write this essay is a big accomplishment for me. I haven’t even written a letter to anyone before. I worked construction my whole life, so I never needed to finish school.

 Now that I have a chance to finish school and change my future, I am going to take full advantage of that. There are more benefits to having a GED as well, like being able to help grandchildren with their homework. The kids love having Grandpa help them. I am looking forward to the next chapter in my life.

 I will be sixty years old in just over a year. I’m hoping that the years ahead of me are the best years ever. I have become a better person for going back to school. Everyone is so nice here. The teacher is very good at her job, and it is easy to learn from her.