

86. One Regret (2:36)

I used to be at bases and I didn't keep crew member lists from each base so that later on, if I wanted to identify a person, I couldn't. I couldn't remember their name and if I had done like I should have every time I put out a new crew list while you're at a base just put it in a file. Chronologically. And when you get done you might have 500 of these. Doesn't make a difference. If you wanted one, there it would be.

And I never had those and that really did bother me. Like, you know, I couldn't remember even the guys I had on a base that only had 12 people. I'm talking about the LORAN station. If I were to recommend to anybody you will find that to be the one of the most valuable things you'll ever like in the future.

Well, people were a big part of me and the way I led. If they worked with me and I'm their boss, they belong to me and Carol. Carol felt the same way. If they belong to me, they belong to her.

Drew, did you get anything out of this. I mean did you hear anything about this guy that seemed a little special to you, because he's very special to all of us. So, Drew, could you comment please?

Well thank you for allowing me to provide my reaction. I think what I was most struck by as I listened to Captain High was that while there are so many things that change over the years in terms of technology, people don't really change that much. Ships might get faster, weapons more accurate and sensors might be more capable but the interactions you have with people has probably been the same since mankind first went to sea.

The concerns are the same like your family's crew back home or the watch conversations that you have. But as time goes on and you interact with so many people over and over again over the course of your career, those memories fade - unless you make a serious effort to recount them.

I think keeping a list of those folks and checking on with them from time to time not only makes them feel more appreciated, it also keeps those connections and Lessons Learned and fresh in our minds. I think it's wise to take a little bit of a leadership shortcut and learn those kinds of Leadership Lessons From those who come before us. So thanks very much.

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