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#### “It’s All About the Dash”

#### SHAA Convention - 2024, Thursday, Feb. 8, 2024

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#### **Let’s get going!**

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#### The Dash by Linda Ellis

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend

He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning...to the end.  
 He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke the following date with tears,  
but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.  
 For that dash represents all the time that they spent alive on earth.  
And now only those who loved them know what that little line is worth.  
 For it matters not, how much we own – the cars...the house...the cash.  
What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.  
 So, think about this long and hard. Are there things you'd like to change?  
For you never know how much time is left that can still be rearranged.  
 If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real,  
and always try to understand the way other people feel.  
 And be less quick to anger and show appreciation more,  
and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.  
 If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile,  
remembering this special dash might only last a little while.  
 So, when your eulogy is being read with your life's actions to rehash,  
would you be proud of the things they say about how you spent YOUR dash?

**II. Qualities of a leader:**

Think Strategically Cheerful/collaborative/team building

Accountability Conflict resolution

Communication Vision/Planning

Foster potential Flexible

Trust Growth mindset

Positivity Patience

Respect Self awareness/transparency/authenticity

**III. CALL TO ACTION:**

**Leadership “Action” Questions**

1. On a scale of 0-10, how would you rate yourself as a leader?

2. Do you like establishing goals, supporting others, being a good listener?

3. Are you willing to take the responsibility for being an effective leader?

4. Do you feel being correct is more important than being right?

5. Where do you see yourself in the future (2-5 years) in the leadership realm?

“**Leadership lessons leaders wish they had learned sooner rather than later”**

1. Leaders are there to help people grow and inspire others.

2. Successful leaders can flex and adapt to any situation.

3. Leadership is not about the leader.

4. The leader is almost always not the smartest person in the room.

5. Leaders know how to listen and respect their people.

6. Becoming a great leader is a marathon, not a sprint.

7. There are huge differences between leadership and management.

8. Every leader needs their own leadership blueprint (where are you going?).

**IV. DEVELOPING YOUR LEADERSHIP PLAN:**

**Writing a personal Leadership Statement:**

1. Communicate values

2. Develop objectives

3. How your goals impact your team

4. Keep it concise

5. Use engaging and energizing words

### **Example**

*"I will develop meaningful relationships with my team members so that I can encourage and inspire them to reach their full potential. Using empathy, communication and positivity, I'll create a* [*work environment*](https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/finding-a-job/types-of-work-environments?from=careerguide-autohyperlink-en-US) *that is both fun and effective."*

**Leadership Trends - 2024**

**V. Q and A**

**REFERENCES**

Ellis, Linda. (1996, 2004). “The Dash Poem”, www.LindaEllis.life.

Rock, David. (2023, December), “5 Trends to Watch in 2024”, Leadership Now, Fast Company. [www.fastcompany.com](http://www.fastcompany.com).