

## *Failure Is a Teacher*

The early lives of celebrated personalities reveal that some of them suffered painful discouragement from their teachers, judges or peers.

Many of them were told they would never make it, or that they simply didn't have the necessary talent. But these people wouldn't listen. They remained firm in following their own beliefs. Consider some of these "failures:"

- Woody Allen, Academy Award-winning writer/producer/director, flunked motion picture production at New York University and the City College of New York and failed English at NYU.
- Malcolm Forbes, the late editor-in-chief of *Forbes* magazine, one of the largest business publications in the world, did not make the staff of *The Princetonian*, the school newspaper at Princeton University.
- Leon Uris, author, tried three times to pass high school English, but couldn't.
- Live Ullman, two-time Academy Award nominee for Best Actress, failed an audition for the state theater school in Norway. The judges told her she had no talent.

From these – and our own – experiences we should conclude that failure should be our teacher, not our undertaker. Failure is delay, not defeat. It is a temporary detour, not a dead-end street.

--Beecher Hunter