

The Farmer and the Cow

During the Life Care Journey that our company hosts, I tell our new associates that I consider the late President Dwight Eisenhower to be a servant leader, both by his words and his example. He was someone who sought to achieve the potential of the gifts that God had bestowed within him.

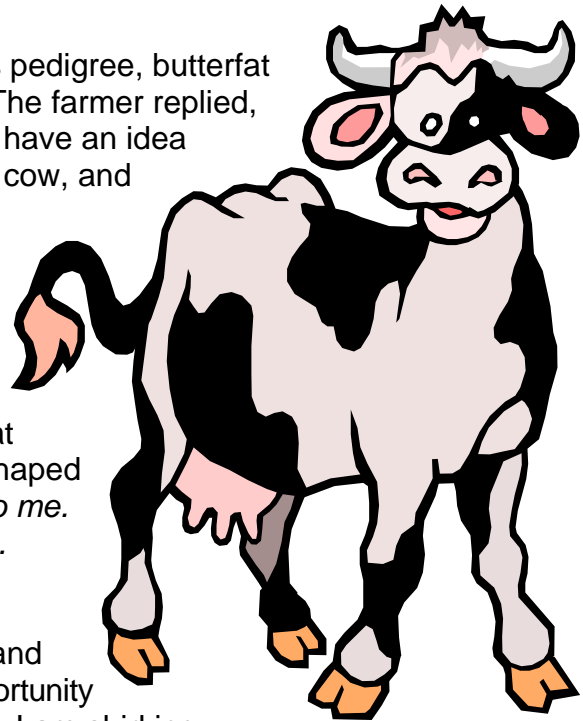
Eisenhower once told the National Press Club that he regretted not having a better political background so that he would be a better orator. He said his lack of skill in that area reminded him of his boyhood days in Kansas when an old farmer had a cow for sale.

The buyer asked the farmer about the cow's pedigree, butterfat production and monthly production of milk. The farmer replied, "I don't know what a pedigree is, and I don't have an idea about butterfat production, but she's a good cow, and she'll give you all the milk she has."

That's all any of us can do – give all that we have.

Author and trainer John C. Maxwell, in his book, *The Maxwell Daily Reader*, relates that years ago he memorized a quote that has shaped the way he lives: *My potential is God's gift to me. What I do with my potential is my gift to Him.* Maxwell goes on to write:

"I believe I am accountable to God, others, and myself for every gift, talent, resource and opportunity I have in life. If I give less than my best, then I am shirking my responsibility. I believe UCLA coach John Wooden was speaking this idea when he said, 'Make every day your masterpiece.' If we give our very best all the time, we can make our lives into something special. And that will overflow into the lives of others."



The challenge for us in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home, then, is to strive to make the most of our potential – today and every day.

– Beecher Hunter