

For those of you who don't know me, my name is * * * *. I'm one of * * * * many, many good friends. I worked for him for many years and ultimately bought Alta about 8 years ago.

I'd like to begin with a bit of levity. A paraphrase of an exchange I had with * * * * as we prepared for this moment. Both * * * * and * * * * want this to be a celebration of * * * * life. Laughing is just fine if you find any portion of what follows humorous.

* * * *, affectionately known as * * * *, was a master at getting a lot done with very little! True to form, when he asked me to tell you the story of his life in 5 minutes, I thought to myself, why am I not surprised?

I have to admit I felt challenged. That was before he gave me about 10 hours of information.

I said Hey * * * *; you're a numbers guy, everybody knows that. You want me to take 10 hours of information and give it back in 5 minutes? He said yeah, keep it short and simple!

That's when the negotiation phase went into overdrive. We settled on 7 minutes. By the time we got it done it was agreed that the nearly 15 minutes it will take, is absolutely essential to telling the story of * * * * life.