



Jan Ruhe's Rags to Riches Story

I graduated from college with a BA in Sociology but I don't recall anything I learned in college. I didn't fit in. I didn't want to go to class and study. I was uninterested and had no direction. I was in a sorority but really didn't fit in. Many of the girls wanted to hold offices and have power over the rest of us. I was uninterested. After graduation, I still had no direction. I did not know where I was headed. I didn't want to go home. I chose to go to Dallas and moved into my grandmother's home.

The first day of job hunting was crazy. I walked the streets of Dallas by myself and looked at all the large office buildings and decided to enter one of the buildings. There was an office full of men sitting at desks and a tape going across the front of the room. It was Merrill Lynch. I had never heard of this before, but I entered the office and filled out an application. Within minutes I was hired, fresh out of college, to work for 5 stockbrokers. I had no experience and no training. And my income was \$300 a month. I met a girl in the office who needed a roommate and we got an apartment together. I could not afford to eat so when men would ask me out on dates, I would only go if there was food involved!

I ultimately had a variety of other JOB's. I didn't fit in. I was married at the time to one of the Stockbrokers in the office. I wanted to stay home and have children.

When Sarah was born, in 1976, I wanted a lifestyle for her. It became apparent that my husband did not want the lifestyle I wanted. I began to dream. He did not. Another 2 babies came along, Clayton and Ashley. We were house poor; I would not go back to 8-5 job and would not leave my children for day after day. There had to be a way that I could make some extra money. I began to search the newspaper for some way to make money at home. I was invited to a couple of Network Marketing opportunity meetings but they weren't for me. Then fate took a turn, I got invited to a educational toy home party. I went, got involved and from sheer enthusiasm began to recruit people. My upline was in California and she began to train me over the phone. As the years went by, I began to grow and understand prosperity and abundance. My marriage deteriorated and ultimately ended in 1986. We had a trial by jury where my younger sister testified against me and broke my heart; I was exhausted, tired, and over 6 figures in debt. My friends expected me to be friends to them, I had nothing left to give and they didn't bother to figure that out, I had no time for friends. I found myself a single mother of 3 little children and a determined young woman who would not be denied the lifestyle.

I had the great fortune of hearing Jim Rohn early in the 1990's and became an avid, serious student of his. He taught me about getting a philosophy and told me about a little book called The Richest Man in Babylon. That book and his information had a life changing process begin in me. I went to work on me. I walked away from the 97% of people who were not going for greatness and joined the 3% who wanted greatness. I



began to study success and declared myself a leader. And then the critics moved into my life. I was criticized for everything I tried as I was personally growing and changing. My life was in chaos, a new start up company lured away 3 of my top people and they took 300 people with them from my organization in ONE month! I was devastated because I thought they were my friends. My ex husband was difficult, the children had trouble on visitations with him, I had them in counseling, I was trying to build a home based business, help them with homework, go to parent teacher conferences, take care of my car, be a home owner, pay bills, keep the children in extra-curricular activities, take care of me, be a good neighbor, daughter, and my upline took her own life. Incredible chaos. I thrived on it; I let the chaos motivate me. And it was during some of my most troubling times that I set a goal to become a Millionaire. I was driven to have the lifestyle that my mentor, Jim Rohn had taught me was there for me if I was willing to continue to ignite my enthusiasm. I made a decision to decide to not be average, but to be a champion, a leader of women. There had to be other women who were trapped in their lives and I felt a calling that it was up to me to be the leader to a new and better path for women.

During the chaos, I met my soul mate at a Charity party in Dallas. When our eyes met across a crowded room we fell in love. We married in 1990, the same month that my top 3 leaders left. Within 2 months, that company had gone out of business. It was Bill, my husband who encouraged me to write a book about my first 10 years in Network Marketing. I wrote my first book which was filled with typos and moved quickly to my second book best selling Fire Up! and then on to the incredible successful book MLM Nuts \$ Bolts. I started to dream big and thought about moving to Colorado, building a huge home, driving fancy cars, travelling the world. It was then that the universe began to rearrange itself to accommodate my dreams and goals. Wonderful people came into my life. I kept listening to Jim Rohn's tapes and began a program of self-development that I still have today. In 1994, Bill and I moved to the Aspen Valley in Colorado, bought a lot and built our dream home, bought a couple of fancy cars and I began to tell my story all over America. It was then that John Milton Fogg discovered me and what I had been through and he invited me to be an Upline Master. With that opportunity, I have spoken on the platform in front of thousands of people, with many celebrities in the Network Marketing field. I began to look to them to be my peers and over the decade of the 90's I worked hard to build relationships with every single one of them. I expanded my life so that Network Marketing is only a part of it, I became an author and speaker and then began to be invited to speak worldwide and to become a success coach. And, by the way, my 3 children have grown into remarkable young adults. Bill and I celebrate 10 years of marriage in 2000. We are playing golf 3 times a week together, loving our lives. Imagine that Jim Rohn calls me "*the American Success Story.*" Rags to riches. Next came the internet and a way to get my message out to people worldwide, thousands and thousands of people come to my website now a month. I decided to have the best website of any woman in Network Marketing in the world and was willing to invest thousands of dollars to get it. I decided to decide. And to take action. That's the entrepreneurial spirit. I have too many people to thank in this article who wrote books, did seminars and led me from mediocrity to being a Millionaire. I heard these words from my mentor that I want



to pass on to you: *“Never let it be said that you were found not trying, or not searching, or not dreaming of the better life. It is your destiny.”* That says it all.

Powerful words that changed one woman and 3 little children for the better forever. It was worth the time to go for greatness; life is too risky to take just a casual glance at the fundamentals of personal development. I am forever grateful to people around the world now who have invited me to come to their countries to spread my story. If I could go from mediocrity to being a Millionaire several times over, so can you. There is nothing quite like a view from the top. Resolve- I will=until.

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