

To laugh often and much;
to win the respect of intelligent people
and the affection of children;
to earn the appreciation of honest critics
and endure the betrayal of false friends;
to appreciate beauty,
to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better
whether by a healthy child, a garden patch
or a redeemed social condition;
to know even one life
has breathed easier because you have lived -
this is to have succeeded.

Ralph Waldo Emerson