

Dear Sifu,

Sometimes I get totally wrapped up in my writings so I just want to make it clear that this is a big thank you letter for all you have done for me. I have always felt that luck was a loser's excuse for a winner's hard work and that miracles are just events that we aren't intellectually advanced enough to explain, but finding you was completely unexplainable.

My dream college was Brown U. in Rhode Island, but my father accidentally dropped orange juice all over my application one night. I laughed, but he felt more ashamed than words can describe. I did however, get accepted to other prestigious schools unfortunately my parents couldn't afford them so I ended up at UF. I never thought in a million years I'd be here, but life's funny that way. So now I'm at a school I wasn't supposed to go to looking for a kung fu grandmaster. I asked every place I could; some schools didn't even think it was taught in the U.S. Then one day I saw one of your fliers when you did a seminar in the Women's Gym on campus. I don't know why or how we both ended up in Gainesville, but I couldn't be more thankful.

I don't know how often students truly say

thank you, but it can never be enough. I often wonder if they know who you really are. I have a friend in South Florida where I live who thought I was joking when I said you were my life. He has known of you for a long time and is kind of envious of me. For one person to know someone else hundreds or thousands of miles away when they've never met is most impressive.

I'm sure you've experienced students coming and going like the wind, but I'm noticed by many for my loyalty and staying true to my word. I have made a pact with myself to always be loyal to you and to finish my training no matter how long it takes; then again, there is so much Wing Chun can teach us that our training is never really over.

I also want to thank you for taking the time to talk to me the other day. I will heed your warnings as I go on and try to make sound decisions. I appreciate you allowing me to talk to the other students, but last night I came across a bit of history that has stopped me from talking about the business. I'm not sure if you're familiar with the War of the Roses, it is a vital lesson to be learned. In the 14th Century there were 2 families related by marriage and when the throne of England was empty they fought brother and sister against brother and sister. I feel that if Mark (not Mark [redacted]) is in another type of networking business

that would either divide the family or have all the brothers and sisters go to one side or the other causing a civil war. I hold my friendships with all my brothers and sisters too sacred to start or be a part of such calamity.

Unfortunately, there are times when I miss class, but I only allow myself 3 reasons: 1) I am sick 2) I'm studying for or am taking a major exam 3) making an unscheduled speech about my business. All three are an attempt at bettering myself and my immediate and future family. I don't want to have to go through the pain and anguish my parents have, that's my main reason for studying Wing Chun, to be emotionally and psychologically adroit at handling anything life can throw at me. There have to be times where you say to yourself "Scott, come on it's not that hard!" You, like many other of my teachers, may even get frustrated with my slow pace and I am sorry, but it is because I love learning and want to make it as perfect as I can. My favourite sign in the Luvon is "It is not the win or loss of the battle, but rather the perfection of the movements."

I hope this letter has made it a bit more clear as to who I am, why I do the things I do, and my devotion to you and to the school. Once again thank you for everything and if someday I could possess just half your knowledge I'd consider myself a very wealthy man.

I hope Brandon's feeling better. I've been sick too many times as a kid so I know how miserable it can be and when we're miserable we tend to be that way (unintentionally) to others and then the Ripples Effect takes its toll.

Sincerely,
Scott 