

A Real Hero

A contractor dies in a car accident on his 40th birthday and finds himself at the Pearly Gates. A brass band is playing, angels are singing, a crowd is cheering, and absolutely everyone wants to shake his hand.

Soon, St. Peter himself runs over, shakes his hand, and says, "Congratulations, son, we've been waiting a long time for you!"

Totally confused and a little embarrassed, the contractor says, "St. Peter, I tried to lead a God-fearing life. I loved my family, I tried to obey the 10 Commandments--but congratulations for what? I don't remember doing anything special when I was alive."

"Congratulations for what?!" says St. Peter. "We're celebrating the fact that you lived to be 160 years old! God himself wants to see you!"

Stunned, the contractor stammers, "St. Peter, I lived my life in the eternal hope that when I died, I would be judged by God and found worthy, but I only lived to be 40."

"That's impossible, son," St. Peter answers. "We've added up your time sheets."