NARY GRETEL

DISTINCTIVE TITLE

NAVIGATING CHALLENGES, EMBRACING TRIUMPHS

Mary Gretel is a luminary whose journey is as inspiring as her accomplishments. Born and raised in Jonesboro, Arkansas, Mary's upbringing was infused with the values of compassion and resilience, shaped by her family and the close-knit community around her. "I grew up in Jonesboro, the youngest of four and the only girl. I was definitely spoiled," Mary reminisces fondly.

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Written By Tatiana Zar Photography By Magda Hernandez

Armed with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Arkansas State University, Mary embarked on a career path that would ultimately lead her to the dynamic world of real estate. "Having been in banking and sales for about 25 years, I decided I was ready for a change. After 12 years of working for other companies, I decided it was time to open my own in 2004," she shares.

Her foray into the title industry marked the genesis of a remarkable journey that would see her ascend the ranks and eventually establish her own company in 2004. For Mary, the transition was not merely about changing professions; it was about embodying empathy and understanding the intricacies of her clients' experiences. "It was important to me to put myself in the buyers' and/ or sellers' shoes to understand the process and be empathetic with their concerns and questions," she affirms, underscoring her unwavering commitment to client-centric service.

Throughout her illustrious career, Mary's key to success has been her genuine care for people and ability to listen attentively. "I love helping people and I honestly care that they are comfortable with their experience," she asserts, emphasizing the cornerstone of her professional ethos. Treating her colleagues not as subordinates but as equals, Mary fosters an environment of collaboration and mutual respect, recognizing that mistakes are inherent in growth.

Yet, Mary's journey has been peppered with challenges, both personal and professional. Juggling the responsibilities of single parenthood while spearheading her own company was no small feat. "I started my company at the same time that I was raising my son on my own... And let's just say, he was the adventurous kind ... " she reflects, her voice tinged with a mix of nostalgia and pride. Through sheer

determination and prioritization of her clients and family, Mary overcame obstacles with grace, emerging stronger and more resilient.

What inspires Mary Gretel? "Getting up every day and meeting any challenge that faces me," she declares with unwavering resolve. Her approach to goal setting mirrors her steadfast determination, as she embraces opportunities with a sense of purpose and a tailored plan rooted in her wealth of experience and passion for helping others.

Mary Gretel's workday begins with early rises and a refreshing morning walk with her dog, Bebe, after catching up with the news over a cup of coffee. Returning home, she takes a moment for mindfulness to prepare for the day ahead. Then, it's off to the office, ready to tackle any challenges that come her way with determination and focus.

Mary Gretel's unwavering strength and compassion are rooted in the profound influence of her late father, who remains her guiding light even in his absence. Despite his passing when she was younger, his teachings resonate deeply within her, shaping her approach to both professional and personal challenges. His legacy of empathy and resilience continues to inspire Mary, infusing her every endeavor with a sense of purpose and determination.

Mary Gretel's core strengths embody the essence of her character: dedication, integrity, perseverance, generosity, empathy, and honesty. These qualities are not just attributes but the pillars upon which she builds her relationships and her career. Yet, amidst her myriad accomplishments, Mary treasures her family and friends above all else. For her, they are the bedrock of her existence, the source of unwavering support and boundless joy.

Professionally, owning and nurturing a successful title company stands as a testament to her tenacity and vision. However, it is the personal milestone of raising her son, Kyle, that fills her heart with unparalleled pride. Kyle's journey is a testament to her love, guidance, and unwavering belief in his potential, making her gratitude for his presence in her life immeasurable.

Beyond the realm of real estate, Mary's interests span a diverse spectrum, from college football, playing tennis, reading, and animal rescue to fine dining, traveling, and spending cherished moments with loved ones. Her philanthropic endeavors extend to causes close to her heart, including United Cerebral Palsy, animal rescue groups, and educational scholarships such as The Bob and Frances Puryear physical therapy scholarship program at ASU.

As Mary looks to the future, her vision is one of continued growth and legacy-building. "Continuing to build the company before passing it on to someone who shares my same business philosophies," she envisions, with a determination that knows no bounds. For Mary Gretel, the journey is as enriching as the destination, a testament to her indomitable spirit and unwavering commitment to excellence.

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