



In loving memory of
Rami Makhzoumi 1977 - 2011



Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening.

I would like to start by thanking Amu Fouad and Aunty May for inviting me to say a few words about their beloved son - who was also my best friend and boss. In a few moments we will be playing a short video of Rami speaking at different work seminars but first I would like to say a few words.

Rami was a wonderful human being. In him you had an unbelievably strong ethical grounding coupled with effortless charisma, intelligence and charm. There was also a cheeky sense of humour thrown into the mix. Rami had it all and people were drawn to him. People looked up to him.

All of these qualities that made Rami such a wonderful human being were the very same qualities that made him such an inspirational leader. This is why he was such a natural - he was just being himself. There was no difference whatsoever between the Rami I knew at work and the Rami I knew outside work. He was so comfortable with who he was and had the confidence to be himself all the time. When the moment came for him to assume leadership of the company his father had built, he did so in the same way he led his life - honestly, openly and selflessly.

In a world where too many people abuse positions of power, Rami did the complete opposite. He used his position to help as many people as he could, as often as he could. He valued and appreciated everyone who worked for him. As a leader Rami trusted his instincts and was never afraid to act on them or to make mistakes. He was incredibly successful and his results speak for themselves, and given his achievements it is easy to forget how young Rami was. He took over the leadership of the family business when he was just 25 years old. By the time Rami was 30, he had grown the business four-fold and was actively participating in a variety of leadership organisations. Today would have been Rami's 34th birthday.

To hear Rami addressing an audience was an unforgettable experience and I hope the video you are about to watch provides you all with a glimpse of how unique this man was.

The wound that Rami's death has inflicted upon so many of us will never heal. But a life is measured in good deeds, not in years, and we can take comfort in the fact that Rami lived his life doing nothing but good deeds. The flood of tributes that followed Rami's death is evidence of that. Rami was special, he was the best, and his life was a triumph. I feel privileged to have spent this life by Rami's side. May his soul rest in peace. Thank you.