



VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

GINA NEALY

My name is Gina Nealy, and I'm from Newark, New Jersey, and I work at Accenture as a Manager in the Accenture Federal Services Group.

My grandmother's name was Roberta Johnson, and she was a woman who worked as a laborer. I looked up to her because I saw a woman who never went to college, never graduated from high school, who worked her way up to owning her own home. She was an empowered woman. She would go out and get the things that she wanted. She was a woman who was determined to be self-sufficient, as I want to be self-sufficient and want my kids to be self-sufficient.

Determined means to me having a goal and doing everything that you can to achieve that goal. It is seeing something that you want so badly that you will sacrifice in order to get it.

So a great example of that for me was in high school; there was a high school that I wanted to go to. I traveled an hour and a half on the bus in order to get there to interview with them and to let them know why I wanted to go to that school. It was difficult to get on a bus every morning and go to school, but it didn't matter to me. I knew that I wanted to go to that school because I was determined to be somebody one day.

I could not raise my kids without my mom. She is the person who steps in when I can't do something, or I won't do something. She's the person who picks me up when I am tired and don't feel like I can go any further. And I'm grateful for her, for being that woman that she is, that will support me the way she does.

Dear Mom, I love you for everything that you do for me, Tyler, and Mackenzie. But more importantly, I love you because you do it for everyone. You don't look at a stranger, you look at a person, and I love that about you. Thank you for being you, and I pray that I become half the woman that you are one day.