



RAYMOND JAMES®

Summer 2018

Meet Gregg



As many of you know, Gregg rejoined our firm after chasing his dream to be a commercial airline pilot. As much as Gregg loved (and still loves) to fly, he loves time with his family more. When the airline changed his assignment leaving him away from his family for days at a time, Gregg didn't hesitate to trade in flying planes for tucking his kids in bed each night. The airline's loss was our gain as Gregg brings the same passion and attention to detail that made him a great pilot to our team! Here are a few fun facts about Gregg:

What's your favorite food?

Tacos, walking tacos to be precise.

Where is your favorite vacation spot?

Anywhere warm with my wife!

What's your favorite book?

Currently reading a book called "Grit" by Angela Duckworth. A great read for anyone needing some motivation. Without giving the book away, passion and perseverance far outweigh talent!

Do you have any Hobbies?

I love to golf, play hockey, fly, anything with my family

Describe your perfect weekend.

Anything simple! As a dad of four busy kids, I cherish our weekends that we don't have much planned!

What's something no one knows about you? I hold an Airline Transport Pilot license – the highest license that a pilot can obtain.

What did you want to be when you were a kid? A pilot – to this day, I still root for the two pilots to come down with food

poisoning on the flights that I'm on. Nothing life threatening for their sake, but I want to stand up when someone screams "Is there a pilot onboard??"

What do you like most about your job?

I love meeting new people and listening to their stories. I really enjoy removing the stress and anxiety that may be in people's minds when they think about retirement planning. Providing peace of mind is a very rewarding part of my job!

If you could have dinner with anyone who would you choose? My wife.....followed by Captain "Sully" Sullenberger.

What are you most afraid of?

Someday looking back and saying, 'if only...' And snakes and mice of course.

What is my dream retirement?

My dream retirement consists of flying medical or relief missions part time, other forms of volunteering, some occasional golf, and plenty of family time.

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Israel

As many of you know Clint and his wife Amber were fortunate enough to spend 10 days touring the Holy Land in May. He said that it was by far more of an experience than a vacation with tours each day beginning at 7am. Here are a few pictures:



Above: Old Town Jerusalem, Top left: Empty Tomb on Skull Hill, Bottom Right: Golan Heights

Is a nursing home the only option for long-term care?

If you or a loved one needs long-term care, other choices besides nursing home care may be available. Here are some of the other options.

Home care

Most people would prefer to stay in their homes as long as possible. Depending on your needs, you may only need help with some common daily living activities such as laundry, shopping, cooking, and cleaning. First, talk to your family to see if they can help with your needs. There are probably home health-care agencies that can assist you with some of these chores.

Accessory dwelling units

If you or a loved one owns a single-family home, adding an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) to that home may help you keep your independence while getting some help with your daily activities. An ADU, or "in-law apartment," usually provides a separate living space with a sleeping area, a place to cook, and a bathroom. Check with your local zoning office to be sure ADUs are allowed in your area. Also, the cost of adding an ADU can vary widely, depending on the size of the unit and the cost for materials and labor.

Subsidized senior housing

There are federal and state programs that help pay for housing for some older people with low to moderate incomes. Some of these housing programs also offer help with meals and other activities like housekeeping, shopping, and laundry. Residents usually live in their own apartments in the complex. Rent payments are usually a percentage of your income.

Assisted-living facilities

These facilities generally provide more services than offered in subsidized senior housing. You may receive help with bathing, dressing, using the bathroom, taking your medications, and getting to appointments. Residents often live in an apartment and may share meals in a common dining room. Social and recreational activities are usually provided. Some of these facilities have health services on site.

A nursing home may not be your only choice. Discharge planners and social workers in hospitals and home health agencies can explain your options and help arrange your care.

Quiz: Can You Answer These Social Security Benefit Questions?

Most people will receive Social Security benefits at some point in their lifetimes, but how much do you know about this important source of income? Take this quiz to learn more.

Questions:

1. Can you receive retirement and disability benefits from Social Security at the same time?

- a. Yes
- b. No

2. If your ex-spouse receives benefits based on your earnings record, your benefit will be reduced by how much?

- a. Reduced by 30%
- b. Reduced by 40%
- c. Reduced by 50%
- d. Your benefit will not be reduced

3. For each year you wait past your full retirement age to collect Social Security, how much will your retirement benefit increase?

- a. 6%
- b. 7%
- c. 8%

4. Monthly Social Security benefits are required to be paid by which of the following methods?

- a. Paper check only
- b. Paper check, direct deposit, or debit card
- c. Direct deposit or debit card

5. Are Social Security benefits subject to income tax withholding?

- a. Yes
- b. No

6. Once you've begun receiving Social Security retirement benefits, you can withdraw your claim if how much time has elapsed?

- a. Less than 12 months since you've been receiving benefits
- b. Less than 18 months since you've been receiving benefits
- c. Less than 24 months since you've been receiving benefits

Answers:

1. b. No. If you receive a disability benefit, it will automatically convert to a retirement benefit once you reach full retirement age.

2. d. Your benefit will not be reduced if your ex-spouse receives Social Security benefits based on your earnings record.

3. c. Starting at full retirement age, you will earn delayed retirement credits that will increase your benefit by 8% per year up to age 70. For example, if your full retirement age is 66, you can earn credits for a maximum of four years. At age 70, your benefit will then be 32% higher than it would have been at full retirement age.

4. c. Since 2013, the Treasury Department has required electronic payment of federal benefits, including Social Security. You can sign up for direct deposit of your benefits into your current bank account or open a low-cost Electronic Transfer Account (ETA) at a participating financial institution. Another option is to sign up for a Direct Express® prepaid debit card. Under this option, your Social Security benefits are deposited directly

into your card account, and you can use the card to make purchases, pay expenses, or get cash.

5. b. No. Withholding isn't mandatory, but you may voluntarily ask the Social Security Administration to withhold federal income tax from your benefits when you apply, or later, if you determine you will owe taxes on your Social Security benefits (not everyone does). You may choose to have 7%, 10%, 15%, or 25% of your benefit payment withheld. Ask a tax professional for help with your situation.

6. a. If something unexpected happens and you've been receiving Social Security benefits for less than 12 months after signing up, you can change your mind and withdraw your claim (and reapply at a later date). You're limited to one withdrawal per lifetime, and there are also financial consequences. You must repay all benefits already paid to you or your family members based on your application (anyone affected must consent in writing to the withdrawal), and repay any money previously withheld, including Medicare premiums or income taxes.

What's going on this summer?



Shane Ailes, AIF, RICP
First Vice President, Investments

Camping with family, kayaking, biking, lots of reading and everything we can outdoors. Taking advantage of the beautiful Michigan summers!



Sheila Gargala
Client Service Advocate

Jason and I are an active part of the Holland Rotary club. The club has been raising money by selling raffle tickets for a 1988 Alfa Romeo and we were the lucky winners!



Gregg Mulder, AAMS
Financial Advisor

I am organizing the annual Wings of Mercy 5k on August 25. For more information please visit their website at www.wingsofmercy.org/news-events



Cherie Statema
Branch Operations Specialist

Looking forward to taking the grandkids on some of grandma's famous 'treasure hunts' and spending time with our daughter when she visits from Denver!



Clint Myers, CASL
Financial Advisor

I plan on keeping busy by dating Amber, coaching high school football with Jaden, going on runs with Bella, swimming with Livi, and laughing every day!

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We're growing and you're the reason why!

Did you know that it energizes us when we meet a new family that finds planning for retirement or the wealth transfer to be a daunting challenge?! If you know someone like that, we would love to have a cup of coffee with them! Simply pass along one of our business cards or call us at 616-395-4150!

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