George Chapman

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Retired
BSc Civil Engineering (1961), PhD Civil Engineering (1964), Diploma of Management Studies (1970)

Career experiences since graduating from the University of Birmingham: 3 years John Laing Construction to become chartered engineer, 3 years technical public relations, 5 years in commercial development (acquisitions) in sand and gravel/ready-mixed concrete industry, 14 years setting up and running group of industrial mineral companies, 3 years corporate management, 9 years management consultancy in strategic planning and acquisitions for major companies, 12 years in retirement.

What is the best thing about what you are doing now?
Free to do whatever I like

What was the best thing about your time as a PhD student here?
Worked hard, played hard - Entertainments Chairman and President of the Basketball Team

In what way did living and studying in Birmingham live up to your expectations?
Didn't have any expectations except determination to get high academic achievement within time limit whilst having a good time

What advice would you give to current PhD students?
I would hesitate to give advice. Do you want to remain an academic or do you want to go out into the wide world? If the latter, disregard your PhD degree and catch up with others who left as Graduates. Consider learning about management and commerce, and continue with Continuous Professional Development. Find a spouse whose parents own a major company which they will leave to you! I didn't but still did OK.Thank you!

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