

Creating Connections in Crescendo

I've been bringing people together as long as I've been playing the piano, which is all my life. Even as a toddler, I could play songs by ear which prompted some fun neighborhood parties. After the Beatles appeared on the Ed Sullivan show, I formed a teenage garage band that ultimately played over 1000 gigs over the next four decades. Many of our gigs were wedding receptions where I met the bride and groom in advance to help them plan their debut as a married couple. Over the years I became an expert at predicting who would have successful marriages and who would not.

I didn't end up pursuing a career in music, but instead became a business executive who traveled millions of miles, creating opportunities for my employers in 67 countries. My music certainly helped to form some valuable, sustainable relationships that still thrive today. As I connected with hundreds of business colleagues, customers and suppliers, it became very apparent to me who was passionate about their work and why they were likely to succeed.

One serendipitous connection opened a new door for me—my acquisition of a recruiting firm that today has a successfully help more than 13,000 people connect with new opportunities. Since 1999 I have interviewed countless candidates, discussed their careers, and seen who has become successful and learned why.

Throughout my entire life, I've been passionate about almost anything that I do, and I preach about "living life in crescendo." This actually led me to meet my partner, my wife Melissa, who opened another door for me—writing. I've brought this mantra into my website and blogs, www.CraigSWilson.com. I hope you enjoy it.

My first novel, *Gig*, is the fictional story of teen garage-band musician, Cory Wallace. Like many teens growing up in the 60's, he dreams of becoming a rock star, against his classical piano teacher mother's wishes. (Sound familiar?) His music intrigues and eventually captures the heart of a starry-eyed young lyricist named Mary Ellen. A growing romance and love evolves even as Mary Ellen moves to New York and later London. It's Cory's commitment to his band members and, even more so, to Mary Ellen, that pushes them to face tough decisions as to what to do with their own lives. All the while, Cory's grandmother, Nan, mentors him to "live life in crescendo"—a motto she learned from her amazing husband, Cory's grandfather.

New!

They say when you finish one book you should start another. As I explored another book, with help again from my wife, Melissa, I saw that the things I care most about—people, making great connections, mentoring and inspiring others, and now with Melissa, learning how to constantly improve my loving skills, has opened up a new book path. To this end I have begun work on a book called *Dating for Life*. It's about building that one special relationship with your wife, partner or significant other, in crescendo, one date at a time.

Please sign up below for updates on *Gig* and *Dating for Life* as well as great crescendo building and dating stories.