

Richard Kollauf Video Bio

[Music]

I bring some things to this profession that clients are very interested in. I have a very varied background you could say. I first started my career at Arthur Andersen, out of law school, in the tax department. So, in that CPA world, the accounting world, the tax world, and then went to work for a client. So spent over a decade in the industry. That decade allowed me to be a Chief Financial Officer, general counsel, businessperson. After that, I spent some time with the ultra-high net worth multi-family office, so as an investment advisor, and still parlaying my skill sets with the legal and accounting practice, but yet adding to that. And then was with a bank in that ultra-high net worth multi-family office space. So, working at the bank allows me that banking world of exposure. Now here back at SVA in the CPA world, I think I've come full circle. But when I sit down with a client, that business owner, that high net worth, that ultra-high net worth client that needs help with their family, needs help with their exit planning, they know that I have been in their space, in their shoes, and I've walked around the other side of the table from them. So, it allows me to bring a lot to the equation.

A lot of people ask me what my greatest accomplishment is and they're first going to think of some type of kudos, some awards, some honor, and I could probably go through a list. To me, my greatest accomplishment is my family and my children. And they didn't do it without me, but they also put their own efforts into it. I wasn't the sole source of this. I had a great spouse, so partnering, collaborating, I had a great ability to have communication with them. I had them listening, so ultimately, where they are today, their successes today, I think I treat as an accomplishment. The ability for me to see them now as they've grown, and let's just say, I'm beaming just thinking about it.

I get excited every day coming to work because I get to meet so many clients whose experiences, whose needs are so different and me being able to help them, bring to the table what I have to bear from an education, experience, knowledge standpoint just really gets my juices flowing. Gets my blood flowing in the morning to come to work, to be at work, to work with clients. Just helping. I love helping. I love being that partner to a client that they can know and come to me as a trusted advisor who's going to be there for them. I've taken calls in the middle of the night. I've taken calls for things that really aren't on point as far as what I'm supposed to be working with them on, but they know that they can call me, and they know that I'll be able to help them if I can. And if I can't help them, we'll find a way to figure it out.

[Music]