Tough choices have to be made. It boils down to three important factors: Health, family, and your job (not necessarily in that order). It's a matter of putting your priorities in order. Here are samples of things that I had to deal with.

Something that I really hate doing is visiting the doctor before going to work or going to the doctor during the workday. I know that your health should take precedence over your job because if your health isn't up to par, you may not be able to work. Why can't doctors offices be open after 5:00 p.m. or on weekends? I don't like missing work. If I have to take off work, it should be strictly for an emergency, i.e. life and death.

There were times going back to when I was young when I **really** had to set my priorities in order. One example happened in the summer of 1989. I had to go to summer school because I failed U.S. History in my junior year. I opted to give up the golf team after my junior year because of it. I barely passed by the skin of my teeth. I also gave up my job at Andy's Party Store, where I worked in beverage stock, because my grades were not up to par during the first half of my senior year of high school.

There were times when I had to shut down Voice II Media. Here are some of those instances:

In March of 2022 I had to shut down Voice II Media and take a couple of days off from my primary employment because I had to have surgery to fix my left leg. It was on the morning of Saturday, 2/12/2022 where I slipped on a patch of ice outside of my apartment. The nature of the injury was that I had a hairline fracture in the fibula and a torn ligament in my ankle. Both had to be surgically repaired. I was sent home that same afternoon. I ended up working my primary job from home for a few months. The injury was my fault because I didn't wear proper footwear.

In November of 2022, I had planned the "Holiday Blow-Out Special" but had to cancel it because I had no voice. I could barely talk. I was visiting my parents and my father had a cold. I went to visit a doctor and found out that I had sinus infection. I use my voice at my primary job at Automated Media, Inc. where I work as a General Motors Tire Specialist. I couldn't make or receive phone calls. I was strictly working on e-mails.

In November of 2023 I had planned another "Holiday Blow-Out Special" but that got cancelled because the Brown family had a serious setback. It was on 11/15/2023 where my father found my cat Ming Too dead. His fur was cold to the touch and blood and saliva were coming from his mouth. This seriously broke my heart. The heart-break worsened because I moved out to my apartment in Plymouth, MI. Before I moved out, Ming Too was my cat as he would come to me. I wanted to take time to mourn and grieve. I re-opened Voice II Media on the first Monday of 2024.

In May of 2025 I had to close down Voice II Media because the Brown family had a very serious setback. On 5/5/2025 my mother, Mrs. Betty Brown, passed away from complications of Alzheimer's Disease. Her kidneys were at stage V (5) failure, she had another bout with atrial fibrillation, and her bladder became an issue. From the time shortly after her passing until the first Monday in July I closed down Voice II Media to take the time to mourn and grieve. My father asked that my brother and I to stay at our jobs because Mom wanted to be cremated.

My father has tried talking me into bowling in a league. I had to set him straight. One of the reasons is that I don't want to be tied down to a league.

- I may not want to go bowling for the following reasons:
  - Sadness or depression
  - Exhaustion
  - Simply not wanting to go
- There may be times when I may be forcibly prohibited from going bowling:
  - Being sick of injured
    - I've had a serious leg injury in 2022. On 2/12/2026 I slipped on a patch of ice outside of my apartment. I ended up with a hairline fracture in the fibula of my left leg and a torn ligament in my ankle. Both had to be surgically repaired. I also had to go through physical therapy.
    - I've had two bouts with gout in my left foot. The pain was a nightmare.
    - I have a tendency to sleep crooked which causes pain in my foot, toes, and ankles.
  - I may have to tend to a family emergency.
  - A job-related issue could occur.
    - I could lose my job (termination or lay-off).
    - I could be reduced to part-time work.
    - I may have an irregular work schedule.
    - I may have to work overtime that day.
    - I may have to move out of the area for work.

I did have to give up bowling for a while in January of 2021 because I was preparing to move to my apartment.

Setting your priorities may not be a popular choice. I think the next thing I may end up worrying about is my father. He's 79 years of age and widowed. If things should make a turn for the worse with him, and I'm not necessarily saying about him passing away, my brother and I will really have some serious work to do.