The morning started out like a regular work day. I got up with the family, I had breakfast, and then everyone went on his/her way. I went off to work and my daughters went off to school. As I arrived at work, everyone seemed to be in good spirits. The employees were working hard to make engine motor parts. Overall, the company was showing a profit and the employees were excited to make extra money. In a few hours, my life would take a devastating turn.

As the afternoon approached and it was getting near the end of our shift, the supervisor came around and announced that we were to meet in the cafeteria. It was twenty minutes before the end of our day, and nobody seemed to know what was going on, not even our personnel department or union. Then a man whom everyone referred to as the "Big Shot," made an unexpected visit to our plant and changed that day to one that would never be forgotten. He was the one running the show, and in a matter of ten minutes, he made the announcement that our jobs would be terminated at the end of sixty

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days. Our company, TRW Valve Inc., would be moving out of the country and they were closing our plant in Danville, Pennsylvania. I could not believe how cold and impersonal someone could be toward a group of people who had devoted an average of twenty years of service to this one company. The "Big Bang" was very quick, deafening, and powerful. The bottom line was that the decision was made and it did not matter what we said or did. My co-workers were devastated and the majority of us never saw it coming. I knew from that moment on that I would have to make changes in my life.

When I look back at where I came from, I am thankful for the good years at TRW. I think the end of my job happened for a reason; so I could have an opportunity to continue my education an get involved in a new area of interest. The biggest lesson I learned out of this experience is that a person's job is never secure. You need to make adjustments and be able to play your cards of life to the best of your ability.

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A conclusion (e lessons)