

about \$300,000, plus the cost of a driver.

In my view, Ben Graham himself would be impressed with the phenomenal discipline Hurst exerts over every aspect of his financial life. Again and again as I worked on this column, I prodded Hurst for financial details that would have taken a slob like me days to dredge out of my disorganized files. Within minutes, Hurst would fire back the answers in an impeccably typed, perfectly formatted, precisely detailed e-mail—often concluding with a quip like “Are you sure this isn’t an IRS audit?” Now, whenever I’m tempted to put off getting organized until tomorrow, I just

TO LEARN MORE

■ **BUDHURST.COM**

Jack Hurst’s website, on which he talks about his background and how he copes with his illness.

■ **ALSA.ORG**

The Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association underwrites research and offers information on ALS.

■ **EMERGECLUB.COM**

This site, funded by Neural Signals Inc., offers customized software that makes it possible for quadriplegics to go online.

think of Jack Hurst, painstakingly typing away with the muscles in his face, doing everything he can today because, after all, he’s more aware than most of us that tomorrow might be too late.

Hurst calls himself “basically a happy person.” He says, “The attitude and love demonstrated by my wife makes me happy. The friends who support us enhance my happiness.” Add it all up, says Hurst, and “I don’t have a lot of regrets, because I’ve always performed to the best of my abilities in whatever task I faced.... A person in my position doesn’t have much to complain about.”

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