During the final part of my senior year of high school, two friends and I started a snow cone company. Although all three of us were very good friends, we did not make the best business partners. Throughout the entire initial phase of the business, all three of us could not agree on any decisions. We all had the same goal in mind, but were unable to make any progress because of our stubbornness. The arguing became so bad that we were contesting one another just for the sake of contesting one another. We finally decided to take a step back and decide if we were going to continue making circles or if we all wanted to start making serious progress. After a long and tough conversation, we came to the conclusion that if we wanted this business to become a reality, we had to play off each other and work effectively together. We were eventually able to fund our business through Kickstarter and sell snow cones on Lake Austin, but it wasn’t without rough patches. After reflecting upon that experience, there are two strong takeaways worth noting, First, the saying “Business partners make good friends, but friends don’t make good business partners”, is a very important lesson to be learned. Thankfully I was able to learn that lesson when starting a small snow cone stand and not a large software company. Secondly, when working with others, it is more important to have the company goal in mind, rather than always having your way. I now realize that when starting a business, there will be sacrifices. It’s the ability to work with others though that will make the sacrifices along the way worth it in the grand scheme of things.