The Attributes of the Heroic Individual

The definition of the heroic varies slightly between cultures of the world. However, the consistent theme the heroic individual embodies is the unwavering, uncompromising dedication to advancing moral precepts. Heroic acts that achieve moral outcomes are usually driven by selfless, courageous behavior in the face of adversity or powerful social forces. The heroic is brave enough to compromise their life to greater ends. A hero assumes a principled stand—an unwavering position reflecting his/her deeply held belief about a cause or mission in life. In some cases, this unyielding passion to a cause becomes a lifelong commitment to achieving an ideal or moral absolute. The hero is thus a self-directed individual with a principled, single-minded devotion to a cause much larger than him or herself. A moral individual strives to be fair and act in ways that reflect right, good conduct regarding how one ought to act. To behave morally one must exercise good intentions to do the right thing. Intentional behavior may be driven by empathy and deep, genuine concern about the welfare of others.