

Father's Day Contest 2009

We realized that we stumbled upon an impossible task in choosing two memories/tributes to father's among the many we received. Every memory is priceless and every Dad is deserving of much more than a gift basket. So to all those who submitted a thought, tribute or memory, we hope you will express to your dad what you shared with us -that will be a gift worth more value than any gift basket we could manufacture.

-MVP Gift Bag



My Dad LOVES to golf - unfortunately - his golf attire can be a bit embarrassing. One of my funniest Dad stories happened back when I was in high school a long...long...long time ago. I was working as a waitress at a restaurant in my home town. The restaurant had these swinging doors that hid the kitchen area from the customers. A couple of my co-workers came back into the kitchen laughing because there was some guy sitting in booth number 2 dressed weird. I look out and there's dad in white patent leather shoes, red socks, red and white striped pants, a white belt, and a red polka dot shirt. (Got the visual?) Nice dad. I told the girls, "oh that's my dad". They were like..."oh sure - that's your dad".... So I go out to the table followed by the girls who pretended to be doing something else and said "Hi Dad! Going Golfing?" He says, "Yeah, I thought I'd stop in and see you first and get some coffee!" My poor co-workers apologized over and over again. Fortunately I now work in an industry that has golf apparel...Dad is the best dressed golfer on the course!

The 2nd one happened at church... I come from a Catholic family and my dad is VERY Catholic. Church is church and when you are at church you act like you are at church....church hands and all! So here I am at church with my 3 year old son Austin who is sitting next to my dad. We are sitting in the pew and my son starts fidgeting and squirming in his seat. My dad leans down and tells him to sit still, he's at church and he needs to pay attention. My son says something back to him. A minute later the same thing happens...Dad leans down and tells him to sit still and my son says something else back to my dad... My dad didn't hear what he said because Austin was whispering and so Dad says "what?" Austin repeats something back to him and my dad again whispers "what"...and then very loudly during a very quiet part of the mass my son loudly announces "I said my butt is eating my underwear!" I could of died...but my dad stands up with him, and says "well we better go take care of that" and takes him to the bathroom to fix the problem.

-Contributed by Pamela Buttell
(Proforma)



My Dad is My Hero because
he didn't have to Be!

My 'Dad' married into a family with 2 adult children. My 'Dad' saw me through the adoption of my son, a divorce, many confusing days of single parenting, and even more confusion when I remarried. My 'Dad' was the 'best Grandpa ever' to my son from the very first day. He taught his 'grandson' how to eat Krystal's and play pool; he takes him out to eat and to car shows. He was there for every birthday, every celebration. He drove us to the hospital on the day that we found out that my son had leukemia. He entertained on chemo days, he made food runs, and he was a rock on days when I didn't think I could go on anymore.

When my son became a teenager, his 'Grandpa' was there to help him sort through the confusing emotions, firm, but with an understanding ear. He is a man for my son to respect, something rare in these days and times. Oh yeah, did I mention that he has been my brother's dad too, and a 'Grandpa' to the stepson, 2 special needs children, and one other stubborn grandson that were added to the family. And that he loves my husband and two stepchildren (and the one great-grandchild that joined the pack at a later date). My 'Dad' is my hero because he didn't have to be!

-Contributed by Kathy Forrester
(Divine Designs by K)

**Thank you everyone for
sharing the influence
and impact of your Dad**