

Happy Fathers Day 2016

"Keep in Touch!"

We are so grateful to have had a father that was so willing to invest so much of himself for the future and well being of his kids. In addition to creating a company, Electron Top, for us to perpetuate he also rarely passed the opportunity to teach us something. Dad always said what was on his mind and was fervent in his beliefs along with being extremely consistent in them. He was never stingy with advice, sometimes over-generous (tongue in cheek), and his wisdom was articulate and clean with solid lessons at their core.

Throughout my life ... Dad wrote poems and letters to me which were full of wisdom. I did not always understand the significance of his writings but as I grew, so did my understanding of his logic. I was not the only recipient of literary compositions and would like to start sharing some of them with you ... from time to time.

A letter written to a Grandchild in 1997 while they were floundering around age 14.

Dear

It is not very often that you will hear from me this way. You know I love you very much and it is that love that inspired me to write this letter.

My Mother would, from time to time, write me a few verses to help me to relate to the challenge, of which there were many, in life that I was confronted with at the time. My Mom always seemed to know what I was up against - whether it was in school, while I worked for Grumman Aircraft Co. or getting into the Navy & making the grades to stay in the flight program.

What do you need to succeed - to be sure you have all the ability needed. If you have all the opportunity to get the job done ... what's missing? I think I know - Its desire! Desire to do your very best - If for no other reason for yourself. As applied to sports - look at it this way. You're on a team in a particular sport not for the purpose of winning, although that sometimes looks like the most important thing. The real and most valuable reason should be to perform your assigned task to the best of your ability and sometimes, as a member of a team, you help one of your teammates do his best as well. It always seems to wind up that the team with the most players doing their best ... wins.

At this point in your life school is no different, you are a member of the greatest team of all times ... your family and you are a very important player. The rest of the team is counting on you to do your best at whatever the job - cleaning the yard - cutting the grass and of course, at this point in time, getting a high standard for yourself in school. It is not how you compare to others, but how you compare and are doing to meet the challenge of the high standards you set for yourself - That's desire & a thirst for knowledge. You will probably find that you will have to raise your standard as it becomes easier and easier as you focus and discipline yourself along the way. The following, borrowed from a poem I wrote with Aunt Kim when she started to drive ... "Learning is like climbing a great hill of sand - if you don't keep on climbing at the bottom you'll stand".

Henry Ford said "Create a responsibility ... then meet it." Remember - It's you against your high standards - Let the others worry about their own standards.

Love you, Opa

Kimmy 2016

"Keeping in Touch" and "Keeping it Simple!"

It is perplexing that in our supposed "Go Green" society we purchase costly products that contain harsh chemicals and/ or create unnecessary waste when more simplistic, less costly solutions may be available. Clearly advertising convenience works better than thinking simply. Not to mention keeping inventory of all these uni-taskers can be a never ending task.

That being said we are starting a new "Keeping it Simple" portion of our newsletter and welcome your suggestions. A quick fix for killing weeds growing in cracks of bricks, concrete or blacktop use straight vinegar right from the bottle. It is easy, inexpensive and does not damage the environment like weed killers. Caution: Vinegar will kill even good plants so if using on weeds amongst other plants check the internet for natural dilution (water and lemon) and additives (soap & salt). I use straight vinegar and weeds are done in 24 hours.





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