

Simple True Father Story From US: an Unique Bond That Protects (Page 1)

Sometimes it's interesting to read how other dads are coping with work-life balance. Here's a story from a girl from the US. Her father was in the army and was still able to find the time to help and protect his daughter.

The Story

A father brings a lot to the family structure including guidance, protection, and being a provider. There isn't anything a father won't do to protect his child, and this common trait is shared worldwide. There is so much to be said about a unique bond between a father and daughter. This bond is so strong that most girls end up being branded "daddy's little girl" for the duration of their lives.

Growing up with a parent in the military is tough because you're always moving around and barely in one place to make friends. It is even worse when your dad is deployed to other states, other countries or undisclosed assignments for months.

There were a lot of holidays when my dad and I were separated. Thanks to my two older brothers and mom I was always merry, but I still missed his presence. The times he was there were always intended to build precious memories.

After most his active duty in the military, we ended up with a permanent residence in Fort Bragg, NC. We lived in the barracks for a while, but it wasn't long before my dad brought us a new 2-story home with a single car garage.

My dad is gentle and kind, but he was stern in his disciplinary action. The few times we needed it, he assured us, it was because he loved us and only wanted the best for his children. He showed endless affection for my mom, showered her with gifts, and always had a kind word to say including how good she looked with a new hair-do or outfit. I knew the man that would capture my heart would mimic my father because he showed me what a good man should treat me like through his unwavering affection for my mother.

In fact, my dad had his bad days, but we rarely saw it as kids. I can remember him coming home from work and being exhausted, but still having time to help me with my homework. I know the army was taking a toll on his body because he began having problems with his back. There were many nights when my dad needed his icy hot pack and his lazy-boy chair. We never held it against him for having a cold beer. He still managed to attend our quirky family functions including barbecues and movie nights.

Simple True Father Story From US: An Unique Bond That Protects (Page 2)

As a child, I suffered from fainting spells that were later diagnosed as epilepsy. Because of the seizures I was always closely watched by my family. I began to understand how difficult it was for my dad to be away from me when I had an episode. He made special calls to ask how I was feeling and to remind me of how strong I am. There were times, I felt like I wasn't going to make it without my dad's encouragement. My mom and my brothers always did their best to console me though.

It was tough when my dad was deployed to Afghanistan for a year. He had been away for prolonged periods of time before, but I had been experiencing more frequent attacks, and this made it all harder.

My mom and dad agreed, it would be better, if I was homeschooled. It really was an experience after attending public school for the past seven years. But I did really well, and my dad was more at ease knowing, I was being schooled at home in case of an emergency.

Then in one summer my dad suddenly had a plan, I just knew it. The problem was I didn't know what it is. He was calling home more than usual. Christmas was nearly five months away. My birthday had already passed in January. So what could he have up in his sleeve? He was the master of surprises and never disappointed me, but then again, I was hoping that it wasn't another move or something worse.

One day I was sitting in front of the television watching my favorite episode of Sponge Bob when the doorbell rang. I was waiting for my mom or one of my brother's to answer the door, but there wasn't a response from anywhere in the house (which wasn't normal). I scurried to the door.

When I came to the door, there was a box there with a big red ribbon and a card with my name. "Dear Chandra, I may be a million miles away, but you're always in my heart. I am always with you, even when we're apart. As your dad, I always want to be there to protect you, and I hope with this gift, I can accomplish that purpose. Love, dad".

I realized the box was moving and out comes a beautiful chocolate Labrador. I began to cry tears of joy as my family reappeared. We named him Butch. More importantly, he's a service dog that detects seizures.

Being a dad isn't always easy, but your children will recognize the effort and love you for it. I am now recently married, expecting my first child, and my dad is excited to be a granddad to my child.

Simple True Father Story From Bangladesh: Best Gift for a Little Girl

Sometimes it's interesting to read how other dads are coping with work-life balance. Here's a story from a girl from Bangladesh. Although her father works long hours, he still manages to be there when he's needed.

The Story

My father is an employee of a multi-national company, and he's always busy at work. He even has his lunch in his office. Dad's regular working day starts at 8 am and ends at 8 pm.

In Bangladesh, office hours are generally from 8 am to 8 pm, or 8 am to 10 pm. When my father comes home, he's usually exhausted and so can't give me that much thought.

In the mornings my father drops me off at school and later my mom would bring me back home. My mom is a housewife and always busy with household work.

In Bangladesh, it's quite common for 8-year-olds to walk by themselves to school and later back home though.

In my country schools are usually well decorated six-story buildings. My school has a well-decorated garden, playground and trees surround all this. I love my school because teachers are good and they teach in a friendly manner. At the tiffin time, we play games and enjoy our time. For me, every day in my school is unique.

In Bangladesh, we usually have big birthday parties. We invite our friends, relatives and our neighbors to our homes to celebrate this special day. For a child like me, it's one of the most important days of the year.

I thought my father wouldn't come to my birthday as he sent me a gift box with birthday wishes. It's the only day I really would need him beside me though. My mother explained that he was having an important meeting in his office and just could not get out of it. I tried to make a brave face.

I was feeling especially sad by the time I was supposed to cut the cake. Everyone was encouraging me to do it, and I felt tears filling my eyes.

It was precisely then when my father ran in to save the day for me. I ran to him and grabbed him. I told him that this was my biggest gift, that he had been able to come to my birthday party. I wasn't lying.

Simple True Father Story From Nebraska: the Best Dad Badge (Page 1)

Sometimes it's interesting to read how other dads are coping with work-life balance. Here's a story from a father from the US. Sometimes it's enough that you arrange a simple adventure for your whole family to enjoy.

The Story

Last minute family vacations can often lead to the greatest adventures. The night before the Great American Eclipse, we decided to pack up the Explorer and make way for Nebraska. Scotts Bluff National Monument to be exact.

Why Nebraska? The monument was the closest spot to our home in Colorado that wasn't in Wyoming. Not that there's anything wrong with Wyoming, it was just that everyone else seemed to be going there to view the eclipse. Traffic in that direction was predicted to be a nightmare of drivers stacked up for miles, which ended up to be the case.

After mapping out our four-hour route, my daughter Kayli researched when the park would open and eclipse related events in the area. We arrived at the front gate of the monument around midnight and found that we were the first ones to arrive.

Happy with what we thought was an adventure coup, we took a few pictures in front of the official monument sign and marveled at the vast number of stars in the night sky.

The last bit of research came less than one hour later. A very courteous state trooper informed us that we were not able to get in line until 5 AM, one hour before the gate opened. He also explained that approximately 15 vehicles would fit in the turn lane and once that was accomplished, all other cars would not be allowed to park along the road for safety reasons. They would have to circle the area and get in line 'after' the gates opened.

Luckily, our friend Crystal called us while we were on the road to the monument. Her father lives in Scottsbluff, and she arranged for us to sleep at his house if needed. Since we got the boot from the monument's front door, we took Crystal up on her offer.

We speculated we could get a few hours of shut-eye, leave the house around 4 AM, and get one of the coveted spots in line. Cheri and I took the guest room. Kayli rolled her sleeping bag out on the couch. I set the alarm on my phone, which I don't think I really needed as I did not sleep soundly anticipating what we might see at the eclipse later in the day.

Simple True Father Story From Nebraska: the Best Dad Badge (Page 2)

Four AM... the alarm rings. The blaring theme song from 'Archer' (an animated tv series about an international spy) rang out throughout the small home bringing everyone out of their slumber. That song always makes me laugh... at least once I realize there isn't a full jazz ensemble huddled on the nightstand. We quickly rolled up our bags, jumped in the Explorer, and motored off to the monument about 15 minutes away.

The morning sky was still very dark, partly cloudy, and the winds were slight. The streets were quiet, even at the local Walmart where a large contingent of eclipse goers was parked waiting for the event to begin... or as we found out later, staging overnight to ultimately drive over to the monument.

Getting closer to the monument's front gate, a trooper had parked at the end of the turn lane. We slowly drove up to the trooper and found the ONE last spot and jumped on in. The Explorer erupted in cheers of happiness and high-fives that our plan had actually worked.

Eclipse totality was scheduled to start at 11:49 AM so we had plenty of time to explore the grounds and visit with our eclipse neighbors.

The Rangers had set up a big screen viewing area, and kids were offered a special Great American Eclipse Junior Ranger Badge activity. Kayli had gathered almost a dozen Ranger Badges over the past few years and was beyond excited to add this very rare trophy to her collection.

Totality begins! Surreal, unfathomable, beautiful. The eclipse in all of its glory brought the adventure to its ultimate and epic end. Kayli ran to me and delivered the longest and strongest hug I've ever had from her, and the best Dad Badge I could ever hope to achieve.