



Name Surname

Professor's Name

Course

Date

My Grandpa: Childhood Role Models and Their Importance

It's such a cliché to say that people take a lot of things for granted, but we do. It's not just objects but the loved ones that we take for granted, and only when they are gone do we truly understand how much they have affected who we are today. At my grandfather's funeral, for the first time in my life, I knew who I wanted to be.

Grandpa Bruno was a hardworking, always in-a-good-mood guy. He'd wake up early in the mornings, feed his cows and pigs, then spend the rest of the day in the corn fields. When he would come back home in the afternoons all tired and sweaty, his grandchildren would surround him begging to play, and never in his life has Grandpa Bruno said no.

For as long as my grandpa was alive, my summers were filled with laughter, joy, fresh fruits, and cute animals. We would play ball together, enjoy the cold water in the summer heat, and watch old black and white movies in the afternoons. Sometimes he would take me to his fields, and we would gather fruit. I always thought it was for us, but he would stop at every neighbor's house and leave a basket of fruits at the door, never ringing the doorbell.

I have often wondered if other people had noticed how kind and loving my grandpa was. I had trouble understanding how he could live without ever getting a thank you back. It puzzled me that someone could be that selfless.



When he passed away, a sea of people came to say goodbye. Some we could not recognize, but they were telling the stories of how Grandpa would stop every day to play backgammon with them or help them carry the bags, or just chat. All these years of kindness that I thought were going unnoticed have imprinted on these people's hearts, and I knew that all my grandpa wanted was to live through his kind deeds.

At this moment, my unconscious self learned how I wanted to live my life. It was only a few years later that I started to realize how much Grandpa Bruno has shaped my identity, what I find desirable, and what my goals are.

Who you have as a role model during childhood is central to who you will become as an adult. Children learn and emulate everything from the person they find inspiring. They model their behavior after what they observe from the people around them. Adults need to be extremely cautious when setting an example.

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