

WHAT I HAVE LEARNED

Rocio C.

Grade 7

North Central Local Schools

Never give up, be persistent, have perseverance, and make good choices, those are the words that my dad taught me. No one in this life has taught me a lesson as good as my dad, Primo Castillo Cruz.

My dad grew up in a poor childhood, with ten other brothers and sisters. He had no money. When my dad retells his stories he tells me he used to savor his scare candy. My dad had ripped clothes, and only one pair of shoe. When I look at his only childhood picture, he was four years old, had an old orange and white striped shirt. He also had black boots that had a cut by the ankle so the boots would last longer as his feet grew. My dad though poor he was, he recalls that he still enjoyed his childhood.

My dad's education was very inspiring to me. Even though his traveling had so many shortcuts, it was very inspiring to me due to the fact that he had to walk about two or three hours from his wooden house in the forest mountains to the small town where he went to school. He was the best in class my grandma recalls proudly. My grandma saved his report card, and when I saw it I wasn't surprised to see straight A's in every subject. My dad had many opportunities to stay in school, even though having no money and, needing to support his family economically, held him back, stopping his education in sixth grade.

My father immigrated to the United States from Mexico at a bare age of fifteen, with his two other brothers. When my dad reached the United States he had not a cent. My dad was eager to start a better life. My dad had many jobs around the country, gardening, the chicken factory, picking fruit, and being a trucker. Those are only a few that I remember. Before his current job, he made carports for American Steel Inc, in North Carolina. It was Benny Torres who gave my dad the opportunity to be Vice President of American Steel Inc., a new company in Pioneer, Ohio.

Ever since he had that golden opportunity and using it my dad has become one of the most inspiring person that I have ever known .My father is a successful business man. My dad now, isn't just owner and Vice President of American Steel, he is making American Steel factories bigger by making and having them in Illinois, California, Pennsylvania, and now in the search for one in Texas. He also has a Ranch of 500 red and white Brahman cattle in Mexico. My father not only dreams, but he also achieves his dreams.

“Persistence is the twin sister of excellence. One is a matter of Quality; the other, a matter of time.”
Anonymous

The above quote symbolizes my dad's life because my dad had success through persistence, working hard, and devotion.

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My dad never gave up through the roughest journey. He had perseverance because he moved on even though he barely had an education. He didn't stop there. My father, Primo, made good choices. My dad had two paths, the bad one and the good one. The bad one, in which he could be a total disappointment, not work, do drugs, and be worthless. The good one in which he could be successful, move on dream and achieve, and be worthwhile. My dad chose the good path. I also learned from him that every choice counts toward your future. I am going to go over every choice I make, to be a better person, and have a brighter future.