

# My Building Grandpa

Written By:  
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Three Peaks Elementary  
4th Grade

Mrs. Ruhr

Reese - I have to tell  
you your grandpa  
sounds like a pretty  
terrific guy - I hope you  
share this with him. I  
especially like his take  
on the importance of  
kindergarten.  
And I think you must  
be a pretty terrific  
granddaughter -  
A really great essay!

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## My Building Grandpa

My Grandpa Taylor recently turned 80 years old. On his birthday my whole family gathered together to celebrate his birthday. During the visit he told us some pretty cool stories about his life. After hearing these stories that made me want to learn more about his life and that is why I have chosen to write my essay about him.

After interviewing him I learned that he grew up in Aurora, UT with 6 siblings. His family was poor and lived in a little white house with no bathrooms and 2 bedrooms. He said one of his favorite memories was baking cookies over an old wood stove in his house. As a child he worked as a paperboy. One of his favorite things coming home from doing his paper route was eating a big bowl of oatmeal that his mother had made for him. He liked to swim in the rivers with his friends. He also loved to play sports and played baseball and basketball in high school. After high school he married his high school sweetheart Kathryn Kay. He said he adored her and felt like he was the luckiest guy in the world. One of his favorite things to do with grandma was to go to drive in movies. My grandpa loves the mountains, hunting, fishing and four wheeling. He has even taken me for rides in his side by side.

He started working as a construction worker at the age of 19 he was made the boss over his own crew at the age of 25. My Grandpa is a hard worker in everything he does. He built buildings all over the western United States. I was surprised to learn that some of the buildings he built were right here in Cedar City. He built the old SUU PE building, and the SUU science building. He also built buildings at Snow College and Salt Lake community college, hospitals, elementary schools, high schools, bridges on I-70, many water and sewer treatments plants in Utah, California, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana. He told me one of his favorite projects was building the Utah County Prison because that was one of the first jobs he got to work with his son, who is my dad.

Speaking of my dad, Grandpa told me that he and my Grandma could not have children of their own. So after some years they adopted my aunt Tonya and a few years later he told me he was surprised to get another call from the adoption agency about a baby boy that he and grandma could adopt. That baby boy grew up to be my dad, Tyler. Grandpa said his family is the most important thing to him.

One of things that I love about my Grandpa Taylor is that he loves to joke around and has a lot of funny one liners that make me giggle. When he comes to visit us he tells us that kindergarten is the most important of all the grades, because that is when you learn to help each other and to be kind to everyone including yourself. He is a good example of helping others as he has held many service callings at his church, and he likes to help his neighbors whenever he can, especially shoveling their driveways when it snows. Grandpa is always kind to me because he comes to watch me dance and play sports. He told me that is one of his favorite things to do. I think he is a very kind-hearted man.

Grandpa Taylor is very loyal. He worked for the same construction company for over 50 years, and just last week he celebrated 60 years of being married to my grandma. After he retired he went on a service mission for his church to Adam Ondi Omen in Missouri. He loves to tell me stories about his mission. I am so happy that I chose to interview my Grandpa. I learned things about him that I never knew. I think it is cool that he built so many things that we all use everyday. I learned that he is kind, funny, grateful, loyal and a hard worker. I love my grandpa!!