

My Blue Papa

By Taylor Hugie

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"Blue" is the perfect
color for a grandpa
born on the coldest
day!"

He sounds like a
great grandpa - you
should share this
essay with him!

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My Blue Papa is amazing. His full name is Gary Clarence Hugie. He got the name Blue Papa from his granddaughter, Alyssa. She named all her grandpa's by their favorite color. He is a hard worker, very smart, and funny, and I really like his smile. He is always friendly and never says any bad words. He makes me laugh a lot.

Papa's birthday is Feb 12, 1937. He was born in Logan Utah. It was the coldest day in history for that date on his birthday. His dad had to get a fire started under the truck just to warm up the oil to get the truck to start. His mom had to warm up stones and wrap them in blankets just to keep the truck warm to get to the hospital. Papa got pneumonia when he was 2 years old and almost died. The doctors said that he was going to die. Some elders from his church came to give a blessing. Even his grandma came to stay and help. His mom had to stay awake for 2 days to take care of him so he would live.

When Grandpa moved to California he had just turned 5 years old. He said that he took a train from Ogden, Utah at negative 40 degrees to California that was warm and sunny. He was a member of a street gang called Dakota Street Gang. There were only 7 kids and they just played all the time together.

When my Blue Papa was a child he went to his grandparent's house and helped with the farm. Papa had a white chicken that would sit on his shoulder that he named Lady. He was told not to eat his grandma's raspberries. One day he got in trouble for eating the raspberries when he was on the way to the garden to help his grandma. Grandpa had a favorite horse named Shorty that he got to ride all the time. This is funny because Shorty was really big. One of his chores was to milk the cows twice a day. He teased his brother about milking the cow. He told him that you pull the tail up and down in order for the milk to come out. He even got his brother to try it out.

Grandpa was only 19 years old when he met Grandma, and she was only 15 years old. Grandma's name is Dorothy Louise. Grandma slipped a note into his pocket while he was working at a grocery store. She asked Grandpa to go to the Sadie's dance. His sister begged him to go. That was the first time Grandpa met Grandma. His favorite date with Grandma was when they went ice skating together. They got married on March 29, 1958. His favorite memory was when he went to the temple and was sealed together forever 10 years after they had been married. They had 5 kids, 3 boys and 2 girls. My grandpa is the oldest.

He worked as a salesman for Wonderbread for 37 years. He would get up early every day between 4 and 6 AM. He was the top salesman for California, and the 2nd top salesman for Wonderbread in the whole United States. He has traveled to many different places. He went to Texas, Indiana, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, South Dakota, Oklahoma, North Dakota, California, and Washington.

Blue Papa always wanted to be liked, be honest, and do a good job. He is a great grandpa and a great example for me. I love my grandpa so much. He even helped build my bedroom.