

by Cameron Crews

I would choose to go back to a few years before my grandfather passed away and spend as much time as possible with him, I was around twelve years old when my Dad's father Roland passed. He was an amazing old man and I have nothing but good memories of him. I don't remember asking to be taken over to his house ever, but our family would visit every month or so and it would be a really fun time.

I remember Roland telling my sister and myself to "hang in there" every single time we would leave, without failure. So, looking back and realizing everything he had done for my family and myself I really wish I had been around him more to learn from him and tell him how much I appreciate him. I looked up to him then and I hope one day my grandchildren look up to me the same way.

When I think of him it reminds me to take it slow sometimes and appreciate what I have, because it might not always be here. I think the way he raised my father is quite similar to the way I was raised and I'm very proud to have come from such men, I say this because I've noticed plenty of similarities between mine and my father's way of doing things and perspectives.

Knowing this gives me pride and some purpose. In the end I hope I left him knowing that he was loved and how appreciated he was to me personally, as well as how he will continue to be an inspiration in my life as I remember what I have and pursue what I wish to be.