

Why My Grandparent Should Be the AARP South Dakota Grandparent of the Year

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Most children say they have a grandpa, but I think mine beats them all. His name is Ellef Severson, Jr. He is 77 years old. During the years I've spent with my grandpa there are many things he's taught me, like driving a pickup. He also bought me a horse and taught me to ride her.

My grandpa is caring. He thinks of other people's feelings. He cares a lot about our family and is a giving person. He teaches me how to work on the farm. He tries to come to my school activities.

He is also very intelligent. He has been in the farming business for over 40 years. In the dirty thirties, he graduated with an 8th grade diploma because he had to go work for money. He also taught himself many things over the years.

My grandpa is hardworking. He works on a farm and has to operate different kinds of machinery. In the summertime, he spends several hours planting and haying. He has over 525 animals to take care of.

My grandpa is very thoughtful because he comes to our house for special occasions or comes down for something else. At Christmas he brings the most presents. My grandpa is diabetic and he has a hard time walking. This makes things harder for him.

My grandpa is very generous because he offers to buy things for me and my family. He offers to pay for lunch and dinner when we go places. When I work on the farm or at the house, he pays me. When his neighbor's water froze and the pipes busted, he let her attach a hose to his outside faucet for free.

My grandpa is dedicated because he took care of his family when his wife died. Their children were 6 and 8 years old. He raised them himself and stepped up to be a dad and a mom to them.

One time he took my mom and I fishing. He told me that you could catch fish by catching grasshoppers, so we ran around catching grasshoppers first. When we used the grasshoppers we actually caught catfish!

My grandpa took Ashley and I snowboarding. He would watch us ride down the hills. He was proud of us when we made it to the bottom of the hill. He would get a chuckle when we fell.

He teaches me how to cook. He taught me how to make homemade vegetable soup. We think it's the best soup. When I come to visit him, he makes goulash better than everyone else.

In conclusion, I think my Grandpa Ellef should be the AARP South Dakota Grandparent of the Year. He is a very kind man. He has a hard time walking and he lived through the dirty thirties. He has overcome many challenges in his life. He survived a truck accident, he was hauling grain and he drove over a bridge and the bridge collapsed. He's a survivor.