



ALWAYS SAY HELLO

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"Hi, I'm Clif with one f." That is the sentence that is repeated over and over whenever I am near my grandfather, Clif Clendenan.

Whenever I am with him he makes sure to introduce himself to everyone he sees and instantly cheers them up. At first, I thought it was very odd: introducing yourself to everyone you come by? They do not want to talk to you, I would think. But when I saw how those people's faces lit up after he merely said hello and how much happier they became simply from him introducing himself, I decided that I was going to start doing that. He would then introduce me to them, not only would that make them happier, but that would delight me, too. One of the main reasons that his patients come to his chiropractic office is his outgoing personality. He knows all of his returning patients by their name, he knows their profession, and he talks about their families. This makes the patients feel valued, which in turn, makes them want to return.

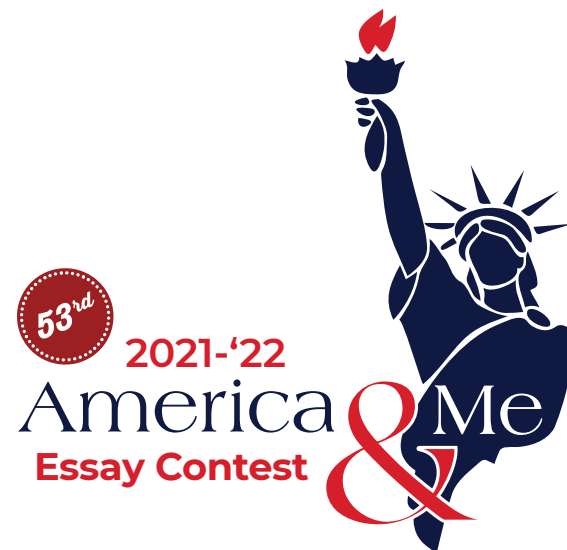
He teaches me many important life lessons and things to do, but the one that adhered to me the most is always say hello. There could be many reasons that this one stuck, but my theory is this is the one that he lives out the most. He always says hello.

Forty years ago, he decided he wanted to start a chiropractic office. Ever since, he has been helping his community and building relationships. Every single day he works very hard to give his best to his valued patients. While others would retire or take a smaller role after this many years, he is still going strong, and he loves his job more than ever. His determination and hard-working attitude inspires me.

Even with all this, for as long as I have been alive, he makes time for basketball. He wakes up early two mornings a week to play basketball at the local high school with college students and other, younger men. As a basketball player myself, I admire this, and when I get older, I will try to include this in my life. Is this

necessary? Definitely not. Do most people his age think about a thing like this? No. But he makes time for the things he loves.

To sum up, if my Grandpa was half the man that he is, he would still be my hero. His determination, hard-working spirit, and outgoing personality inspires me to be as similar to him as I can. Remember to always say hello.



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