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Trucking Importance

The importance of the trucking to me began when I was very little. I learned about trucking as I learned how to walk, read, and ride a bike. In my family, trucking runs in our blood we have our own company and I have other family members who have their own. They deliver a variety of things from concrete and cattle feed to military supplies. While growing up, I was fortunate to be able to do my little part to help my family out. I remember the early mornings where I'd get to go trucking along with my dad for the day, sitting on my grandparents' deck waiting for them to return from their months of traveling, and going to the shop to wash and work on the semis.

To begin, I am not a morning person, but when my dad asked me to go with him, I would rarely turn it down. I knew that trucking with him would mean learning about semis all day, but I would get to spend time with one of my biggest role models. How could I turn down a day with my dad? In regards to trucking, my dad hauls cattle feed to local farmers. The farmers use that feed to produce meat and other dairy products for the consumers right here in our small community. Due to being such a small town, we've gotten the opportunity to be the only wet cake, byproduct of ethanol that can be fed to cattle, haulers in town. This has allowed my dad teach me about trucking with actual customers. Thanks to him, I have met many different people and learned how each job differs to the next.

My grandparents are another example of how trucking has influenced my life. They have been trucking for a company, Landstar, since I was four years old! Through this company, they have been given the privilege of hauling important loads to our very own U.S. military. They have traveled all over the United States and are usually gone for weeks to months at a time. That aspect of things has really put the idea of family into perspective for me. While trucking, you're away from family, but it reminds you how lucky you are to have a family waiting for you to return to home, to be grateful for all the time you get to spend with your family, and to not take them for granted. Although, when I was little, it was difficult to understand what my grandparents did and why they left for months. The loads they were carrying were very demanding, due to the fact the supplier is the government. However, even with the demanding job, they got to meet new interesting people and even bring them home to meet us as well. When they got back, I was always eager to hear the fun and neat stories they would tell. Out of all the truck drivers in my family, my grandparents are definitely the ones I would want to be like the most. Through trucking, they have been able to assist those who serve our country, which is touching to our family as my grandpa was in the service.

Finally, learning how to properly wash and work on semis was not always my favorite part, but it definitely taught me how to work hard and care for the things I have. I remember being only four years old and going out to help wash the semi with my dad. It was always my job to wash the wheels, and thanks to this, I learned how to take pride in my work, even though I was only four. As I got older, I was asked to have more responsibilities with washing and even got assigned to help grease the truck and trailer. The opportunity to learn all of this has helped shape me into the person I am today. As a female, I am lucky to have been raised with the knowledge of knowing how to change a tire, change oil, and make sure everything is running

smoothly on my car. It is one of the best things that my dad has ever taught me, and I couldn't be more thankful.

Growing up with a truck driver as parent, grandparents, uncle, and cousin does come with hardships, but the benefits greatly outweigh them. Personally, the truck drivers in my life have impacted me because of the impact each has on our community and our country. In addition, there is much responsibility that comes along with this job that takes such dedication. Most importantly, it has taught me to not take family for granted because you never know when or if they will be home.