

What Makes a Hero?

By: Addie Hofer

My grandpa, is a hero. Richard (Dick) Short has been trucking livestock all over the country for almost 60 years. He also owns and operates his family trucking business; Short and Son with his two brothers. So what makes him a hero? He has been committed to his business for 60 years, he handles the livestock with respect, and he gives back to his community.

My grandpa is a hero because he handles the livestock that he is transporting with respect. He doesn't hurt the animals by using electric prods, he doesn't yell or scream at them, and he makes sure that the livestock arrive on time safely. He has earned himself a reputation for transporting the animals safely and kindly. This illustrates how my grandpa makes it a priority to transport the animals safely.

Giving back to his community has always been important to my grandpa. He sponsors local schools and organizations and volunteers at his church. He is a member of Eastern Star, a club that does community service. He is currently a member of the Northwest Technical College Board and was a member of the School Board for his town, Goodland, Kansas. It is very clear that my grandpa is a big supporter of his community, whether it is donating money to a museum exhibit or volunteering at the annual fair.

My grandpa is committed to his business for many different reasons. He started trucking when he was only twelve years old. He trucked to Denver and has been at it ever since. His grandfather started Short and Son in 1934, and when his grandfather and dad passed away, my grandpa took over. It's hard for a small business to stay afloat if you don't have good work ethic, loyal customers, and a good safety record. Short and Son has been in business for 84 years. Sometimes my grandpa's job can be tough. He gets up very early in the morning and spends long days delivering the livestock safely. This shows how committed my grandpa is to his business.

My grandpa has been working hard on his business for almost 60 years. He trucks anywhere from Kansas to Wyoming, and each time, he makes sure that the livestock is delivered safely. He gives back to his community in many different ways. And he has been committed to retaining a healthy business with a good reputation for over 60 years. If you ask me, that is what makes my grandpa a hero.