

A Trucking Hero

By John Hofer

The proud trucker that I know is my grandpa, Richard Eugene Short, who has hauled livestock and helped manage Short and Son Trucking, his family business, for 60 years. Throughout much of his life, my grandpa has been able to be heavily involved in the community, his family, helping others, the Church, in addition to his trucking responsibilities. All of this is due to his enormous kindness, generosity, and work ethic.

To elaborate on why my grandpa is a trucking hero is just how committed and enthusiastic he is to his business. For example, after his father died, he was able to keep the family business running smoothly. He has also been able to handle the logistics of the business while trucking and participating in his other projects. It is also worth noting that my grandpa takes great care in ensuring that the livestock he hauls are treated humanely. Finally, though my grandpa can retire, he has not as he wants to keep the trucking business in order and because he simply loves it.

The second reason that my grandpa is a trucking hero is because my grandpa has used his job and kindness to help out others working for him and people in the community. For example, his cattle hauling business is known for their reliability and good service. Another example, of how my grandpa has influenced the community is through helping youth through sponsoring sports teams and putting sponsorship ads for students in the newspaper.

A third reason that my grandpa is a trucking hero is because despite his dedication to trucking and numerous activities such as Eastern Star, he has always found time for his family at the expense of time for relaxation. For example, he has hardly missed any sporting activities of his kids when they were young and he has continued to visit his kids and grandkids very often.

A fourth reason that my grandpa is a hero is because he, with his work ethic and groups and projects, could be considered a hero without what he does with trucking! For example, my grandpa was on the school board for over 20 years as well as a great teacher and coach! Another example, is that my grandpa has been a Shriner, Mason and a member of Eastern Star for 40 years as well as the Worthy Grand Patron of Eastern Star in 2014 through 2015 and part of 2017!

In summary, my grandpa is a trucking hero due to his outstanding work ethic and his enormous kindness and generosity. His trucking company is one of his highest priorities. He has used his business to be a heavily involved member of the community and to make a positive impact on the community. Yet, even during retirement age he has continued doing what is best for the community and the business, and that is trucking!