

What I'm Thankful For

by Madelyn Craig

I'm thankful for many things like food, water, peace, my family and friends, and lots of other stuff, but anyone can be thankful for that. The things that I'm really thankful for (this year) are my grandfather, and grandmother.

I'm thankful for my grandfather (Papa) because last year in October he didn't feel well so he went to the doctor with my grandmother (Noni), the doctor told them that my Papa's heart is a terrible, and they've known that for years, but this time his doctor said that he needed a whole new heart. He waited for months for the right heart. (You need your heart to match your blood type because if your heart doesn't match, your body will attack it thinking that it's some kind of virus). In late October they found him a heart. The heart was from a 17 year old girl who died in a car crash. The doctors did the surgery in early November. He had a stroke during the surgery, when the doctors finished the operation he went straight into a coma. He was in the same coma all through the day I got my braces off, thanksgiving, hanukkah, and Christmas. Over the December break my cousins came to visit Noni and Papa, and my mom, dad, brother, and me. They left on New Year's day, that's the day Papa woke up. A couple months later he left the hospital and went to rehab. Around May 20th, he came home. After that he went to the hospital a couple times but he came home fine. Now he's still recovering but he's better than before. Now he's got a long life ahead of him!

I'm happy he's alive because #1, he's my grandfather and #2 he may be one of my favorite people on earth. He's kind, helpful, and he's really fun to be around, he's determined, and he's hardworking. When I was about 8 and my brother was 4, we asked him to build us something, my brother asked for a nice box to put his little toy cars in (This was what my 4 year old boy dreams about), I asked for a bed for one of my *American Girl Dolls*. When we left he started working on it right away. When we were there the next time he had them ready for us to take home. They were amazing! He made my brother a fancy box and he made me a bunk bed that was almost as tall as me (when I was 8).

My Grandfather is my hero, I love him, and I'm very happy he's alive, he's one of the best things I have and that's a fact!! That's why this year I'm Thankful for my grandfather!

My Noni is a super hero. She takes care of my mom, dad, brother and me (when we're visiting them) plus my papa, and she still makes time for us. She make breakfast (homemade pancakes), lunch (Peanut butter and jelly), Dinner (homemade meatballs or cheesy chicken) manages the pool, does all the garden work (they have a really big yard), she cleans (they have a really big house) and when my papa was in the hospital she had to go back and forth, and do all of her daily deeds at night . When we're over there she makes extra time to spend with us, that mean doing extra work before hand. She'll either watch a movie with us or make something with us. My Noni is the Awesomest person on Earth and nothing will change that.