

I'M THANKFUL FOR...

William Rich

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I'm thankful for many things, such as soccer, my family and my friends and many more things. It's very important to be thankful for things, especially around Thanksgiving. These are the three things I'm most thankful for.

One thing I'm thankful for is soccer. I've been playing soccer for seven years now. The first team I ever played for was in U4 rec soccer, the Earthquakes. I scored my first ever goal that wasn't in practice with the Earthquakes. My team lost every game that season, but I'm thankful for that because it made me have a better competitive attitude. Which in turn made me want to get better. I played rec soccer for about four more years until my coach suggested travel soccer to my mom. During my first season of travel soccer I learned a lot more than I did in rec. I learned my first skill moves, how to defend, gained endurance and speed. I never really was passed the ball because most of the other kids were a lot better than me. I'm thankful for this because it made me want to get even better. First I mastered skill moves. Then I worked on shooting the ball. I used to kick the ball incorrectly before I tried to learn how to kick. It took me one year to completely improve my kicking. Now I can do curve balls, dead balls, top spin, bottom spin, rabonas and knuckleballs. I'm thankful for everything I've learned about soccer and how good I am now.

I'm also thankful for my family. There is seven people in my family including me and my dog. My mom is 43 years old. I'm thankful she always comes to me and my brother's soccer games. I'm thankful that my mom is able to provide food and clothing for me and my family. My dad is 42. He tries to come to me and my brother's soccer games when he can. I'm thankful that my dad works sometimes from 4:00 AM to 10-12:00 PM some days to keep our family's money stable. I'm thankful that my dad is working from home more often now to care for our new dog. My little brother Owen turned ten two days ago on 11/15/15. He plays soccer and loves LEGOS. I'm thankful for his cheerful attitude, and great personality. My little brother Gavin is 8 years old and very competitive. He is extremely good at soccer for his age. He plays one year above his age level because of how good he is. I'm thankful for having a brother that loves to play soccer and will play with me every time he gets the chance. My (really) little sister is 7. She loves to do gymnastics and basketball. I enjoy playing board games, basketball, catch, and any other games she wants to play with me (except for dolls, anything but dolls). I'm thankful for a playful little sister. My dog, Seamus, is about two months old. I love playing with him. Seamus's favorite toy is a small hard plastic soccer ball with a little bit of rope on the sides for

tug-of-war. I'm thankful for Seamus because I feel he has helped me learn more about responsibility.

Another thing I'm thankful for are my friends. Some of my closest friends are Michael Kovalcik, Evan Ciolkosz and Vinnie Sabatino. Michael Kovalcik like me, loves soccer. I met him when I played in U9 rec soccer he was on my team. Back then we weren't friends yet. When I was in fifth grade I began to get to know him. I learn that most of his family is from Slovakia. That he had two older sibling and that he was very good at soccer. He has a good attitude and also has a lot of characteristic that are like me. I'm thankful that I have a friend that is a lot like me. Evan Ciolkosz (don't even try to pronounce his last name correctly) is a great friend. He has a great sense of humor and loves to joke around. I met Evan in fourth grade. He had just moved from New Jersey a year ago. In fifth grade he played the french horn in band. I also played in band, but I played trombone. Vinnie Sabatino is in my sixth grade homeroom. He plays on the Washingtonville Warriors team two with me. I met him last year near the end of the school year. I'm thankful for all my friends.

I'm thankful for many things that soccer, my friends and my family have done for me. I hope that I can be thankful for these things next Thanksgiving too.