

ESSAY PAGE

My Dad...My Hero

My dad has been my mentor and role model throughout my life. His achievements are endless and I strive to emulate his values, character and integrity. Immediately following graduation from high school, he enlisted into the United States Army and served our great nation for over twenty years. His various assignments caused him to work in several isolated and remote locations, from the little town of Sierra Vista, Arizona to the blazing deserts in the Middle East. Through all the deployments and different duty locations, he always fulfilled his professional responsibilities with courage, honor and integrity.

After long days of leading and training soldiers, my dad somehow found the time to attend college classes. He studied for endless hours at night leaving little time for sleep. His hard work and relentless dedication earned him a Bachelors of Science degree in Management Studies and a Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA). He graduated Summa Cum Laude.

In addition to his time spent as a student and a soldier, he had responsibilities as a husband and a father of five children as well. Despite the long hours at work, my dad always made time for my mother and the kids at home. As a result of my father's positive influence, guidance and unconditional love, we've all become successful as we've grown older.

Applicant' s Name: Andrew J. Kaaihue
Applicant's SSN (Last 4 digits):

My eldest sister, Rachel, joined the Air Force, is happily married, and is pursuing a nursing degree. My second eldest sister, Ashley, graduated from high school last year and is studying to be a pharmacist at the University of Texas at El Paso. My two younger siblings are performing well in school and have bright futures ahead of them.

I owe my success to my dad as well. He always pushed me to be the best in academics, sports and work. He challenged me to volunteer in the community and actively participate at our local church and in other extra-curricular activities. Through it all, he also demanded excellent grades in school. Achieving the honor roll every semester was his expectation and I didn't disappoint. I will graduate from high school in June 2007 with several achievements: Student Council President; National Honor Society Member; University of Maryland Dean's List; Academic All-Conference in Football, Basketball and Soccer; National Beta Club Member; Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Recipient; Football All-District, All-Conference and All-Europe Defensive Team; and 2007 Division III Basketball Conference Champions. I'm scheduled to attend Louisiana State University in the fall and major in Business Management.

My dad has accomplished many things throughout his life, but I think his greatest gift to me was teaching me to develop high expectations for myself. His influence on me has been vital to my growth and maturity. He is the type of man I will strive to be. He is my dad...my hero.