

# Dad and I

INSPIRING STORIES FOR TEENS

SAMPLE

By Rahul Kapoor

WHAT DAD TAUGHT ME

What Dad Taught Me  
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*In Loving Memory  
of my Dad*



Late. Kantilal Kapoorchand Jain

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***It is amazing what can be accomplished when nobody cares about who gets the credit – Robert Yates***

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SAMPLE

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# Part 1

BUILD RELATIONSHIPS THAT LAST

Average of 5

Never ignore anyone

Standing by someone

Lies are lies

I Cheated

Watch your words

Time Matters

Empathy for everybody

Protect Family Reputation

Acceptance and Gratitude

## *Average of 5*

I entered college as a rank student from high school and there were many expectations from me, both from my parents as well as my teachers.

However, I got into bad company and lost track of my education completely. My new habits included smoking cigarettes, consuming alcohol, bunking classes and partying non-stop.

My life which was once upon a time on track and full of determination, built carefully over 10 years changed into a care-free life with no goals. It was an easy life, full of fun and false glory.

It was no surprise that I failed in my crucial 12th standard exams and missed a chance to go abroad for my further education. My dad was devastated when he learnt about my failure. He cried for me, he was angry but remained silent and asked my mother to inform me that he would not talk to me until I pass my exams again.

I realized my mistake but it was too late. However, I recovered and gave up all the bad habits and bad company. With help from an old teacher I passed my

supplementary exams with first class.

While I was ready for a fresh new beginning, dad gifted me a wristwatch and finally broke his silence. He said, 'we become an average of five people we spend our time with' so choose these people with a lot of care. Stay in company of good people, those who have a vision in life, who are driven by strong value system and have a desire to excel in life.

I took this as 'the advice of my life' and strongly followed it. At the cost of killing my modesty I must share that I ended up being the topper of my college and was given Best Management Student of the Year Award and many years later in 2010, I was conferred with Outstanding Young Persons of India Award by Junior Chamber International.

One small advice made all the difference!



## *Never ignore anyone*

One of the biggest high in school for me was when I stood for Student President's election. I was one of the favourites to get elected for the post because of my public speaking and leadership skills. Many friends volunteered to campaign for me and I was way ahead in the popularity charts. My teachers were also confident that I would win.

During the last week of the election, I had to visit all the class rooms and present my thoughts to the students on why I was the best contender for the post and how I would contribute if I won the election.

Our school had a provision for students who would like to study in the state's regional language. However, there was only one section per standard for it which meant there were about 180 students in all from 8th, 9th and 10th Standard. I was not fluent in that language and I told myself that if I concentrated on the other 820 students in the school then I can still win. So, I did not go to campaign in those classes.

I was on a high knowing that I have done my best and I will win. However, I lost the election by just 21 votes. I was told that no one from those classes