

For Mother's Day, our illustrious senior warden gave us the history of the celebration and his reflections of his own mother. He decided to share the wealth and conned, I mean, *invited* me to do the same for Father's Day.

History of Father's Day The inspiration for an official Father's Day celebration came to a married daughter and mother while she was listening to a Mother's Day sermon.

The daughter was Mrs. Sonora Smart Dodd. During the sermon, which praised the sacrifices mothers made for their children, Mrs. Dodd realized that in her own family it had been her father, William Jackson Smart, a Civil War veteran, who had sacrificed to raise her and her five brothers alone, following the early death of her mother in childbirth. For Mrs. Dodd, the hardships her father had endured on their eastern Washington farm called to mind the unsung feats of fathers everywhere.

Her proposed local Father's Day celebration received strong support from the town's ministers and members of the Spokane, WA YMCA. Mrs. Smart originally wanted the celebration to take place on June 5 which was her father's birthday. Preparations and arrangements could not be made in time, so June 19, 1910 became first celebration of Father's Day.

Newspapers across the country, already endorsing the need for a national Mother's Day, carried stories about the unique Spokane observance. Interest in Father's Day increased. Among the first notables to support Mrs. Dodd's idea nationally was the orator and political leader William Jennings Bryan. Mr. Bryan already an advocate for Mother's Day, believing that fathers shouldn't be slighted either, wrote to Mrs. Dodd, "too much emphasis cannot be placed upon the relation between parent and child."

Father's Day, however, was not so quickly accepted as Mother's Day. Members of the all-male Congress felt that a move to proclaim the day official might be interpreted as a self-congratulatory pat on the back.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson and his family personally observed the day. And in 1924, President Calvin Coolidge recommended that states, if they wished, should hold their own Father's Day observances. He wrote to the nation's governors that "the widespread observance of this occasion is calculated to establish more intimate relations between fathers and their children, and also to impress upon fathers the full measure of their obligations."

Many people attempted to secure official recognition for Father's Day. One of the most notable efforts was made in 1957, by Senator Margaret Chase

Smith, who wrote to other members of Congress that "Either we honor both our parents, mother and father, or let us desist from honoring either one. But to single out just one of our two parents and omit the other is the most grievous insult imaginable."

The first presidential proclamation honoring fathers was not issued until 1966 when President Lyndon Johnson designated the third Sunday in June as Father's Day. Father's Day has been celebrated annually since 1972 when President Richard Nixon signed the public law that made it permanent.

First, you should know that I don't have a Father... / have a Daddy. Yes, this 53 year old woman with her own adult daughter still calls her father Daddy. This might help it explain it...(put on tiara)

Yes, I am a Princess. When you grow up as the only girl with three brothers, it's a natural entitlement. I had my own room while the three of them shared one room and two of them even shared a bed. My clothes weren't hand me downs (except for a brief period before my middle brother was born and my parents dressed me in my older brother's out grown pants. Yes, unfortunately there is photographic evidence of this event, which I cannot destroy because it was Christmas time.

The Daddy I grew up was not really demonstrative and in fact seemed to be angry and stressed most of the time. It was as an adult that I eventually learned that we suffered an unexpected financial reversal and my daddy had to work hard throughout my childhood to make ends meet. We didn't always get what we wanted but we always had food, clothes and what we truly needed.

My dad retired when he was 55 but that mostly happened because he worked in the steel industry which was on the decline. People with less seniority were laid off and he had to move from the office to work in the yard. Daily physical labor is hard work for a man that had sat behind a desk for almost 30 years so as soon as he could he took early retirement. Finally being released from the work and the stress has allowed him to become a kinder gentler man who has willingly learned to be hugger from his crazy son-in-law.

When I look back at my childhood, I realize that love isn't always as visible as we want it to be, mostly because we aren't always looking at it thru the right lenses.

My angry Daddy was still the man that let me volunteer him to drive a bunch of girl scouts on outing or would take off work to drive my mom to school

with cupcakes to celebrate my birthday or take me to the doctor when I was sick. The memory that stands out most for me is when I got my first job. When I was 16, I got a job at donut shop. I didn't drive yet so I just figured I had to walk to work. I got up that first Saturday to walk to work in the dark since I had to be there at 5:30 AM. My dad got up and drove me. I didn't ask him, he just did it. As a side note, when my brother got a job at the same donut shop, he had to ride his bike to work. Yes, I'm a Princess!

I call my father Daddy because I feel he deserves that title.

Daddy is what a girl calls the man that she knows will always be there watching out for her.

Happy Father's Day Daddy