Natalia Vasquez

AVID

Per. 3

September 7th, 2016

People are gone in an instant. Life seems as though it can go on forever, but in reality, it's one of the shortest things on earth. Though the age of seventeen doesn't seem to be near ending, it can feel like it is when losing the most important person in one's life. At the age of 12, my family suffered a great loss of a grandfather, husband, father-in-law and dad. It somewhat affected the family but all failed to notice the affects it had on my life, emotionally, academically, and personally so it was nearly impossible for anyone to understand the reasons why I grew up to be the person I am.

At the time it was fairly easy to hide the emotions felt and it grew to become a part of my personality. It felt as though part of me died along with my grandfather thus resulting in a loss of motivation, considering he was the only person in the entire family pushing me to reach my fullest potential. There was a time where my entire was ran by a sense of depression but no one around seemed to notice it because it was a skill that came with it.

This dark time is what helped form the person I grew up to be. One of the hardest moments in life had to happen for me to grow up and realize not everything is easy and the world goes on. The anniversary of his death brought forth the memory of all of the potential he saw in me and the desire to better myself set in and it has not gone away. Though he is no longer around to push me, the words he spoke stuck.

It took time but my grades shot back up and I’ve learned to expect that for myself. It came time to be my own motivation and do things for myself because no one else matters when it comes to me achieving my goals. Goal setting is what keeps me going and since the day I was able to overcome the struggles of living without my only motivator, I was able to do so much for myself though I was constantly criticised and put down by my family.

There comes a time in everyone’s life that it is time to move on and that time truly was a blessing; I never would have been able to accomplish what I have like being in my class’ top 5 and being ASB president. Though it came at an early age, growing up and facing the world alone couldn't have come at a better time for it drove me to strive for the best grades in high school and prepared me for the negative comments I would be receiving from others around me by not letting people’s insults phase me. It's a shame to say but the death of a dear family member is the only reason a sense of adulthood came so early which was the best thing to happen for me. I would have never been able to handle life on my own if I wasn't rendered vulnerable and alone because that only made me stronger.