



Jerry Williams

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SPONSORED BY: Stacey & Jerry Ausherman



"HARD WORK WILL GET YOU WHERE YOU WANT TO BE." LEAVING HOME AT 12 TO WORK AT A NEIGHBORING FARM, MY DAD RECOGNIZED EARLY THAT HARD WORK = PROVISION.

QUOTE



DAD PLANTED SEEDS OF CURIOSITY IN THE LIVES OF THOSE AROUND HIM. HE WOULD REGULARLY EDUCATE US ABOUT THE NATURAL WORLD AS WE TRAVELLED FROM PLACE TO PLACE . . . A TRAIT I INHERITED ALONG THE WAY.

SEEDS



PICTURES FROM THE FAMILY PHOTO ALBUM REVEAL A MAN WHO ENJOYED GROWING THINGS. FROM CARROTS TO TOMATOES TO FLOWERS, HE HAD A TRUE LOVE FOR GARDENING.

NURTURED

Jerry's LEGACY

As a child, I (Stacey) felt like my dad could fix anything and answer all my questions. To be honest, I felt that way even as an adult. There wasn't anything my dad couldn't do!

Growing up during the Great Depression, he experienced the pressure of providing for himself/family through farming. And the value of hard work was a major driving force in his life (though he didn't mind stopping for ice cream, either).

He instilled those same qualities in us kids growing up. We had a family garden (though it was more of a hobby than a way to provide). I'm sure that my love for gardening, plants, and all things nature-related comes from him.

We would hunt for morel mushrooms together in Ohio and pick wild berries by the highway anytime we went on a road trip. I especially remember, as a child, picking elderberries and wild tangerines in the woods on our property in Florida.

My dad was both an adventurer and a risk taker - two traits that fueled his entrepreneurial spirit. He would often say, "You'll never know if you don't try." That might be why I remember him having a worm farm, growing ginseng in the woods, making kites to sell at the beach, owning an ice-cream parlor, and eventually settling into a carpet installation business that provided for our family's needs. He tried everything!

All in all, he lived life to the fullest. And he taught us to do the same!