What a Grandparent Means to Me

“Don’t sit under the apple tree with anybody else but me, anybody else but me…” This is the song that my grandfather used to sing to me as a young child. This memory will stick to me like glue for the rest of my life. Grandparents are those special people who place those lasting memories in our hearts and minds forever.

This lasting memory is the one of many that I have had with the special people in my life that I call grandparents. Growing up I was blessed by having two grandmothers and one grandfather that lived within a driving distance. We would often visit our grandparents on special holidays and other events. Within these hours, many memories were made. I learned to make and decorate sugar cookies with my Grandma Peiffer. It was so funny that during the entire time Grandpa Peiffer would say, “All I hear girls is the licking of fingers taking frosting off of them! Will there be anything for me to eat?” As my twin sister and I giggled, we continued to decorate the entire batch of cookies. We learned so many things in that warm and loving home. This is one reason why my grandparents are special to me.

Grandparents are also the ones who take care of the ones they love. My grandma Gruenhagen would always watch out for our safety. At the time, my sisters and I thought that she was a little over-protective, but now I see her point. We would walk on a two-foot brick wall and she would yell for us to get off. Once we got down she would reward us with two pringles. Yes, only two pringles, but that was what she could afford. Grandma Gruenhagen loved us and would do what she thought was best to keep us safe and loved. Grandparents love us to the best that they can, no matter what.

As I grew older, I also realized that grandparents can just be that older person that helps care for, love, and just be there for the child. My boys have that special person in their life here in Indiana since their real grandparents live so far away. Leona is one who will care for, love and be there for my boys no matter what.

Whether the grandparent is blood relative or someone that is just close, they mean to world to those that they call grandchildren. It is for the lasting loving memories that will always stay close to our hearts that we can say that grandparents mean to world to others.