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WINNER

## How The Water Industry has Affected my Life

My father is a water well driller, as was my grandfather. It is a family business that has been passed down through the generations. I am the oldest of three children, and in living with a father who was always busy drilling wells I have learned a lot about the meaning of hard work and dedication to the job. Neither sickness nor broken bones could stop him. There was always work to be done and he wanted to get it done as soon as he could. I have learned from my dad that his job is far from easy; it requires long hours and a lot of strength.

My dad was always up very early in the morning to make sure my brother, sister and I were all awake and ready for school, and when we were younger, he would walk us to the bus stop. From there my dad worked until about six or seven every night. As we got older he worked more and more, and his days spread from weekdays, to weekends and holidays. Occasionally if we had the day off my dad would invite one of us to come to work with him. We got to ride in the trucks and play in the mud. It wasn't until we were all too busy that I realized how important my dad's job was. I had always seen his job as something that took our family time away, but as I grew up I realized that without my dad, families didn't have running water or any water at all.

So when asked how the water industry has affected my life, I would say that it has allowed me to realize just how important it is to be dedicated to your job. For my dad, it didn't matter the time the day, or the day of the week, he knew that it was his job to get water to these people and he needed to do it as soon as he could. I have also grown to appreciate the hard work and long hours my dad put in. They were hard when I was younger but I realize that he did that to give my siblings and I everything we needed.