Inspiration

I selected my father-in-law, Steve Harrington to showcase on the bio site. Steve is an interesting character and was the perfect personality to highlight and share his hobbies and accomplishments. Steve is a great father and I am truly fortunate to have someone like him as a father in-law and friend. However, Steve is notorious for calling plan wrecking audibles when we gather as a family for major holidays and always ensures that we go a little overboard on every family activity no matter what it is. And his kids will always passively aggressively give in to his shenanigans. It is so great being sort of a spectator in my wife’s family drama (all innocent-standard family drama). He has been visiting us for the last few weeks and there was no better opportunity for this project than Steve. I have known him for 20 years now. Gathering information on him is not too difficult, but once I told him what I was doing, he was all in and began sharing all his ideas on what he wants me to post about him. However, this was a perfect opportunity to specifically dig into other aspects of his life that I have never really heard.

For the interview, I wrote down topics that I wanted to ask him about for the site and spend the fourth of July weekend slowing picking his brain about his hobbies and career. I then went back and filled out my interview. Gathering this information was a little more difficult than I expected because he knew why I was asking him for information. So, instead of being modest or just answering my questions, he was giving information in ways that he thought would make the site more interesting. He would get off topic a lot and tell me stories. It was great.

Steve lives in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, where I grew up, and loves the outdoors and hiking. Where we are from is very remote once outside of town with thousands of square miles of wilderness and amazing places to hike and visit. Steve loves to camp and hike. Just in the last month during his visits with us, he visited five national parks in Colorado over four days.

His love for the outdoors many years ago motivated him to start a career working for the Michigan State Department of Natural Resources as an environmental scientist. He currently is the Senior Environmental Quality Analyst for the Upper Peninsula of Michigan who leads large statewide pollution clean up projects. He loves his work and gets a massive sense of accomplishment by completing clean ups and positively impacting the affected communities. I am really excited to present Steve on a website.