

One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!

76 “*I’m not your man, Grandpa!*”

Many of us have dreams of our children and/or grandchildren following in our footsteps. One of my grandsons taught me it doesn’t always work out. He was probably around nine or ten years old and I decided it was time to introduce him to my world.

He followed me through our Law Offices, and I briefly explained the functions of various staff members. He seemed quite absorbed in our conversation, and I was thinking to myself, “He is really getting something out of this.” I was feeling even better as he followed me out of one of the offices and called to me, “Grandpa”. But he burst my grandfatherly bubble when he added, “Your belt isn’t in one of the loops on your pants!”

It wasn’t much of a start, but I thought it might go better if we actually had him play the part of the lawyer and I would be a pretend client. I told him, “You sit there behind my desk and I will sit here in front.” I explained to him why I had come to him: “I have a car I would like to sell and I want you to draw up a contract of sale.” I added, “How much will you charge me?”

“How much is the car going to sell for?” he inquired. I was impressed and quoted him an amount—about \$500, as I remember. He quickly responded with his proposed fee, “\$500!”

I decided it was time to ask him if he wanted to be a lawyer. I never forgot his answer: “***I’m not your man, Grandpa!***”

I learned I can’t make my children or grandchildren into me. But I can help them find who *they* are and blow wind into *their* sails!

From Grandpa With Love

A Note From the Writer

Moving into my nineties caused me to reminisce. It was eye-opening to realize how much I had been changed by one-liners. I decided some of these might give others a new insight or a chuckle, so—enjoy! You can reproduce this material, provided the copies are complete, including this copyright note, and circulated free of charge. © 2018 Marvin J. Martin