

A New Found Perspective

A very defining moment in my life would be the day that my brother moved away from home. My brother and I have been really tight even though there is a generational gap because he is 9 years older than I am. I have always looked to him as a role model and inspiration in life because he always seemed so confident and composed. Also, with him being 9 years older than me he would take care of me even when I was very young, such as picking me up from school, feeding me, helping me with homework, and just life advice. Flash forward many years later to the beginning of my sophomore year, my brother accepted a job offer for a startup company out in California. I was so proud of him because he always has such big aspirations and he works hard to achieve them. The day came when it was time for him to go, we drove him to the airport for the last time, got him checked in and watched as he waved to us past security. It was one of the hardest days of my life because I was very nervous that he was going to be alone in a big city, and I was also very sad that my brother, who was like a third parent to me, was leaving my side. This was a defining moment in my life because he had taught me so much when I was growing up that now, since his departure, it was my job to use what he had taught me to make my own decisions for the present and future.



The person that I talked to about a defining moment in their life was my mom. She shared with me that one of the most defining moment for her was when she joined the United States Air Force at nineteen years old and had to move away from her family. This moment totally changed her life!

What I learned from her defining moment is that it was very similar to my own defining moment. At these moments, we both realized that family is very important and you cannot take them for granted. When my brother left, I immediately had flashbacks of all the times we spent together and my mom said she had the same experience. It was in these moments when she truly realized the value of having her siblings to love her unconditionally and being the third child out of four kids, having the guiding hand of her older siblings and having one younger brother that looked up to her just like I did to my older brother.

In times, that she would feel homesick, she too relied on the wonderful memories that she had with them and the embedded guidance that she had received from them throughout the years to keep her going. Also just like me, she made sure she visited her family often and spent quality time making more memories.

I feel lucky that I communicate with my brother almost daily since there are so many ways that we can connect. Also, before the pandemic, I would see my brother pretty often through shared vacations or by visiting each other. Just like my mom, we continue to make memorable moments that will last a lifetime. He will always be my guiding light like my mom's siblings are to her.

