

P.I Graige

Granddaddy and the barn

My Granddaddy and I hang out together alot. I love spending time with him. He teaches me about life, tells me stories about when my daddy was little and he always shares his popsicles with me. He loves playing his harmonica and in many ways opens my heart to Jesus. So, when I ever heard him talking with some men about following God's plan, I knew I had to find out more.

I asked my granddaddy "what's your plan?" He said, to build a barn, a place where boys and men could meet, learn and talk about God. I didn't really understand why he needed a barn when they could meet, learn and talk about God at church. He explained to me that he and some men were sitting around a table and asking each other "what is missing in a man's life?" They all decided men needed to be able to make gross noises, get dirty,

eat with their fingers if they wanted to. A place where they didn't need to wear a shirt and tie to learn of God's great grace, love, and sacrifice. That day a leadership team was built and the first event was planned.

Granddaddy had skeet shooting, monster truck run, antique cars, even a life flight came out - that was really cool!

On June 10, 2007 about 100 men worked for 24 hours straight and had what my granddaddy likes to call a barn raising. The huge poles were set, the roof was put on piece by piece and the floor was made up of old wood chips. Fifteen picnic tables were built for seating and the barn was done.

My Granddaddy limped for three days after that, I guess he just wore himself slam out. He was tired but proud, and I was proud for him. Granddaddy's first event under the barn was a huge success. Celebration Baptist's praise and worship team came out to sing. Everyone knew this was a beginning to something big.

I'm glad that my Granddaddy chose to follow God's plan, use the land that God created and build a ministry for men. ~~I am not sure how many hearts will be changed, or how many families are brought together, only~~ ~~God knows that.~~ My heart is filled with joy and it brings a smile to my face when I think of how great and

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wonderful the world would be if
we all turned to Jesus. Thank you
granddaddy for awlays showing me
to trust God no matter what...
but there's only one thing-
I think we're gonna need more
popsicles!