

Thoughts and Smiles – July 8, 2024

A beautiful story that needs to be told



My five-year-old son had someone else fishing with him this weekend. I didn't notice the light formation or that it was in the shape of someone fishing until my cousin pointed it out. I was simply just admiring his dedication so I snapped a couple of pictures. My son just lost one of his best little buddies a few weeks ago named Jackson, he was only 8 years old and when I showed him the picture, he said "Oh, that is just Jackson fishing with me!! Very cool picture, nonetheless.

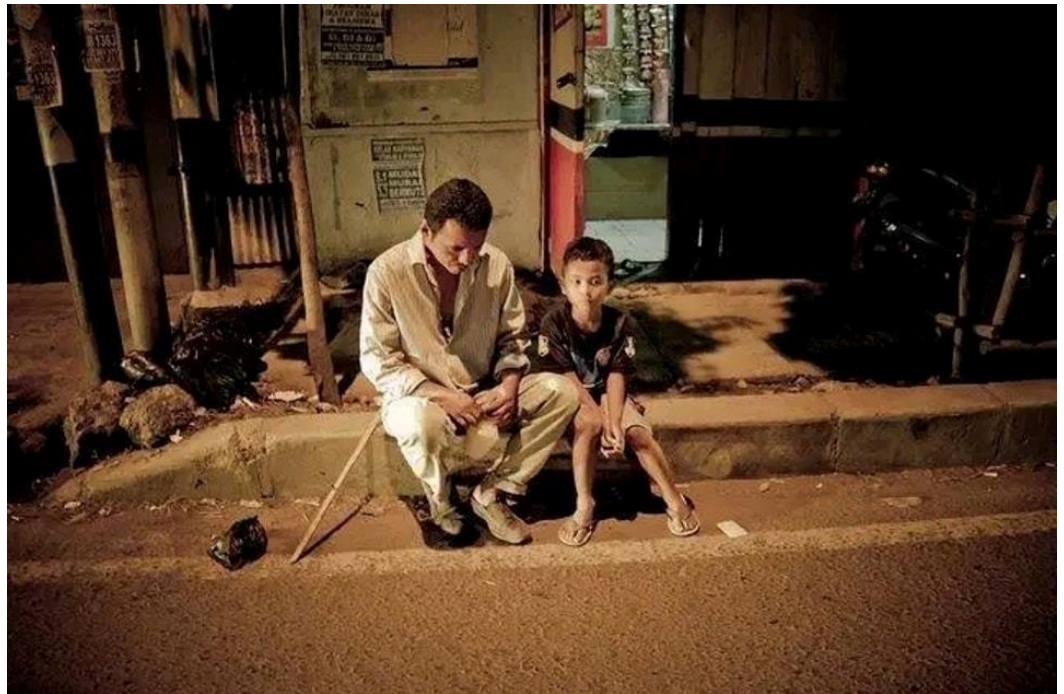
This happened in Michigan, but I figure you Bandits could appreciate it.

Sincerely, Jimmy Bryan.

There was a young boy who used to come for regular practice but always played in the reserves and never made it to the soccer eleven. While he was practicing, his father used to sit at the far end, waiting for him.

The matches had started, and he didn't show up for practice or the quarter or semifinals for four days. All of a sudden, he showed up for the finals, went to the coach and said, "Coach, you have always kept me in the reserves and never let me play in the finals. But today, please let me play." The coach said, "Son, I'm sorry, I can't let you. There are better players than you, and besides, it is the finals; the reputation of the school is at stake, and I cannot take a chance." The boy pleaded, "Coach, I promise I will not let you down. I beg of you, please let me play." The coach had never seen the boy plead like this before. He said, "OK, son, go, play. But remember, I am going against my better judgment and the reputation of the school is at stake. Don't let me down."

The game started and the boy played like a house on fire. Every time he got the ball, he shot a goal. Needless to say, he was the best player and the star of the game. His team had a spectacular win. When the game finished, the coach went up to him and said, "Son, how could I have been so wrong in my life. I have never seen you play



like this before. What happened? How did you play so well?" The boy replied, "Coach, my father is watching me today." The coach turned around and looked at the place where the boy's father used to sit. There was no one there. He said, "Son, your father used to sit there when you came for practice, but I don't see anyone there today."

The boy replied, "Coach, there is something I never told you. My father was blind. Just four days ago, he died. Today is the first day, he is watching me from above."

