

# Bestland News

Volume 10, Number 10, June 2011



## History of Father's Day

Regardless of when the first true Father's Day occurred, the strongest promoter of the holiday was Mrs. Bruce John Dodd of Spokane, Washington. Mrs. Dodd felt that she had an outstanding father. He was a veteran of the Civil War. His wife had died young, and he had raised six children without their mother.

In 1909, Mrs. Dodd approached her own minister and others in Spokane about having a church service dedicated to fathers on June 5, her father's birthday. That date was too soon for her minister to prepare the service, so he spoke a few weeks later on June 19th. From then on, the state of Washington celebrated the third Sunday in June as Father's Day. Children made special desserts, or visited their fathers if they lived apart.

States and organizations began lobbying Congress to declare an annual Father's Day. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson approved of this idea, but it was not until 1924 when President Calvin Coolidge made it a national event to "establish more intimate relations between fathers and their children and to impress upon fathers the full measure of their obligations." Since then, fathers had been honored and recognized by their families throughout the country on the

Join us for our June Events:

**Bestland Dance**

**6/16/11 at 6:00 pm**

**Downsizing Seminar**

**6/27/11 at 1:00 pm**

**These are just a couple of our events, if you would like a full calendar, contact us, we would be happy to mail you one!**

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Bestland Senior Living

606 East Best Avenue

Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

(208) 665-1600

**TO:**

Bestland

Senior Living Community

208.665.1600

www.bestlandca.com

third Sunday in June.

When children can't visit their fathers or take them out to dinner, they send a greeting card. Traditionally, fathers prefer greeting cards that are not too sentimental. Most greeting cards are whimsical so fathers laugh when they open them. Some give heartfelt thanks for being there whenever the child needed Dad.

By Beverly Hernandez

*Dear Friends,  
Thank you to all of our Bestland residents who have contributed your stories to the newsletter. It is truly a privilege to learn about your lives! I love to hear that you are reading my newsletter, your feedback is very meaningful. Please share your stories or feedback by contacting me, Dana Klaas, (208) 665-1600. This edition's featured story is about our resident; James Kahn.*



Resident James Kahn was born in Richmond, Virginia. He is the oldest of six children. He moved to Beulah, VA when he was five years old to help take care of his grandmother. He stayed until he was fifteen years old and remembers running three miles each way to and from school. James joined the Navy in 1937 and became an Aviation Machinist. He spent twenty years active duty and ten years inactive duty. He met his wife, Eunice, when she reported to him for duty as a "Wave" (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) officer in December 1943. Soon after, they started dating, he drove her home to see her mother. After a night hanging out at the pub with her mother and drinking a lot of vodka, they stayed up late and at the end of the night she insisted he marry her daughter. James and Eunice were married in June 1944 and were married for 62 years! After 20 years of active duty, James tried his hand at quite a

few ventures. He worked at the Federal Reserve Bank, attended college studying farming for two years, and he and Eunice tried their hand at pig farming. A friend of theirs moved to St. Maries, Idaho and not too long after, they followed, they lived in St. Maries for twenty years. Eunice passed away in 2006 and James is thankful for the Hospice of North Idaho, who became like family to him throughout Eunice's illness.

He is most thankful that he has all of his bills paid! The most memorable thing that ever happened to him was joining the Navy, he was very proud to do so! The best thing that ever happened in life was marrying Eunice and having seven children with her.

The best thing about living here at Bestland are the people. James thinks most of them are friendly, he said, "there ain't no way anyone could ever get me out of here!" James loves his family including; 5 children, 15 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren, and 2 great great grandchildren! James is very special to all of us here at Bestland Senior Living, he always puts a smile on our faces!

*I am thankful for my father's wisdom and strength. The most important lesson I learned in life about work ethic was from my dad. My dad worked as a test engineer at China Lake Naval Weapons Center in California. The base is located in the Mojave Dessert. He worked outdoors almost every day of his working career. The summers were long and it's not unheard of to reach 120 degrees and above in the summertime. He never complained and often worked overtime to get the job done and provide for his family. I am so proud of him and all that it taught me about life and doing my best always! My dad and step mom moved to Idaho to live closer to me and my family, I feel so blessed to have him in my children's lives, and lucky to get to see them so often. I don't know what we would do without them here. They often pitch in and take my kids to sporting practices, pick them up when they are sick, and are always there when we need them. I love my dad and I wish to say Happy Father's Day to all of you dad's out there, you deserve a day of relaxation and time to spend with your family!*