Kaylee H.

8th Grade

The definition of patriotism is “the quality of being patriotic; devotion to and vigorous support for one’s country”. Patriotism means to me that you are out there fighting for our country and wholeheartedly devoted to serving in any capacity. In my family, there are lots of people who have fought for our country and shown patriotism. My dad, papa, and my uncle are three of those people who demonstrate patriotism.

My dad has been in the military for over twenty-four years. He shows patriotism on a daily basis. We proudly fly the American flag on our house. My dad drops everything to be activated with the National Guard for natural disasters, conflicts overseas, and training of troops. In my lifetime, my dad has been deployed overseas twice. He has fought fires in Washington and helped with the mudslides in Oso. As much as he misses our family when he is away, he knows that it is his duty to serve our country. My dad is the vision I have when I think about patriotism.

My papa Mark served in Vietnam. He left high school early to fight for our country. Whenever he talks about his time in the Army, he always seems proud but humble. When he talks about his sons and their military careers, he beams with pride and joy. He shows true patriotism to our country.

My uncle Aaron has been in the Army on active duty for over eighteen years. He has been deployed many times. He is currently a drill sergeant. He is also very proud of his brother, dad, and grandpa. He shows patriotism to everyone he meets.

In closing, patriotism to me is an attitude, presence, and commitment that people make to our country.