

I am writing this letter to explain why I want to live with my Grandfather and Uncle, and attend Elmira High School.

In talking with my dad, I understand that my Grandfather has brain cancer and there is a strong possibility that he will only live for another year. I have not had the chance to spend a lot of time with my grandfather growing up because I live across the country. By going to school at Elmira, I would be able to spend a lot of time with him which I haven't had the chance to do. I did not know my other Grandfather because he passed away before I was born. Shortly after my mother died, my brother and sister were taken away by their father since my dad was only their stepdad. Even though their dad hadn't really been around in 7 years, he still came and got them two weeks after our mother died. I know how special family relationships are, and I am thankful that I have this opportunity to build a relationship with my grandfather.

In addition, I have not spent much time with my Grandmother as well and this will give me a chance to spend time with both of them. I was however able to spend a few months with my Grandmother after my mom died when I was 7. Actually, I have not been able to spend much time with any of my dad's side of the family because all of them live in Oregon. My mother was from Georgia, and my dad was a military officer and gone a lot so we didn't get the chance to go to Oregon very often.

I want to do this because I know I can help out my uncle and grandparents. I have remodeled houses with my dad, built fences, and landscaping. I know that I could help get a lot of things done around the house to help out my family in addition to spending time with my Grandmother and Grandfather. I figure between my cousin Devin and I, we should be able to get a lot of things done while I am there.

My dad has also told me that we will have to get permission from the schools in the league for me to participate in sports. I really hope this is possible because I enjoy playing sports and making new friends. I really do not understand why there has to be a hardship for me to play sports in Oregon even though I am going to live with my Grandfather who is very sick. My dad told me that the rules are in place to ensure everyone is being honest about why they want to change schools. He said a lot of people will move their kids into school systems with good sports programs so they can get noticed. My old football team went to the state play offs both my freshman and sophomore years. We lost in the first round, but we went. I believe Elmira only won one game last year. I am pretty sure that my old school had a better football and wrestling program than Elmira. I can honestly tell you that my reason for going to Oregon is to spend time with my family and help them where I can. I liked my old school, but I love my family more.

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