Nominated by Gabriella Welch

My original thoughts on what a father was, were very unpleasant. To me a father was cruel, abusive, and narcissistic. That was until I met Chris. Chris, who is technically referred to as my step-dad, changed my views on what a dad was completely. Since the age of two, I dealt with an abusive father who wanted nothing but to make my life miserable. However, through the many years of abuse, Chris was there for me. He showed me that a dad isn't someone who takes his daughter to court constantly, but instead takes his daughter to many lacrosse games and practices and cheers her on louder than anyone in the stands. He showed me that a dad doesn't abuse their daughter with hurtful words, but instead leads his daughter on the right path in life and encourages her every step of the way. Chris took my brother and I in with open arms when we met him, and I could not have asked for a more special, caring, and loving man for my mom to have met and married and who I can call my real dad. I have never felt the love from a father until I met him and I could never repay him for what he has done for my family. All the years before Chris came along I believed my family would be alone and fatherless, but everything changed and we truly did have hope that our lives would be better, all because of him.