

Note to Nerds
National "Dadgum that's Good" Day
March 1st 2019

A Looooonnggg Week for Me

My grandfather was a Master Carpenter. I think that much of my appreciation of geometry grows from my experiences of watching him work, and hours and hours of being in his workshop, lovingly known as "the barn."



On one occasion, I watched as he brought life to rectangular planks of wood that eventually served as a cozy round table in a busy little kitchen. Standing faithfully, a coffee companion ahead of busy mornings, a repository for mail and car keys, and an evening supper refuge for a family after a busy day.

I marveled at the creation and told him how amazing the table looked. He replied with a smile deferring, "I'm a jack of all trades and a master of none."

It's been a rough week for me. Anyone looking from the outside would say that things are rocking along. And by measurable accounts with most credit to those around me, it's been a very, very productive week. I have even received compliments of which I am very grateful. My inward-facing eye knows that I am capable of more. I also see the genius and energy of those in my profession who are truly talented. I appreciate them.

My grandfather saw his work in the same light. Being humble he recognized the genius and art in others' work, yet he overlooked it in his own.

We can often discount the work we do, not appreciating it in our own eyes. We see the imperfections or the "could have been" in our creations.

As I sit here, I wonder if it's even for us to appreciate? The deep work, the truly good work that we do may ultimately be meant for others to appreciate.

I ponder this as I sit finishing my morning coffee at a little round table in our kitchen...

Have a good weekend!

Peter