

What has been the most meaningful cultural experience you've ever had while living in Japan?

6月の第3日曜日は父の日ですね。あなたのお父さんについて、何か素敵な思い出やエピソードなどがあれば教えてください

父の日には、遠方からも近隣からもプレゼントはもらった経験はない。しかし、娘の結婚式の「両親への感謝の言葉」では大変ビッグな言葉が出た。それでいい。M.M.

I didn't receive anything from my daughters on that day. But at their wedding days, each of them unexpectedly expressed big words of appreciation. That's the most fantastic applause from them I reckon.

自分が子供の頃は母の日はあったようなかんじですが、父の日の記憶はありません。自分の子供たちから「父の日おめでとう」と言われサプライズだったことを覚えています。自分が「父の日おめでとう」と言えなかった思い出になっています。A.Y

I guess I knew about Mother's Day when I was little, however I am not sure I knew about Father's Day. I remember that it was a surprise for me to hear 'Happy Father's Day' from my children. My memory is that I could not say, 'Happy Father's Day' to my father.

私の16歳の誕生日に父が贈ってくれた言葉。「迷いやためらいを断ち切りながら、前に進むことが大事だよ。くよくよ悩まないで、微笑みで生きていこうね。」気に入っている言葉なので、今も壁に貼っています。M.T.

On my 16th birthday, my father gave me this advice: 'What's important in your life is to drive yourself forward, while casting aside your doubts and ambivalence. Don't worry much, but live with a smile.' These are my favorite words and I still have them posted on my wall.

私の父は、私が21才の時に他界しました。今、私は64才です。父よりも8年長生きしています。私が小学生の時、父が自宅の庭の熟柿を取って、冷やしているのを、学校から帰ると食べさせてもらった思い出があります。非常においしかった。M.K.

My father passed away when I was 21 years old. I am 64 years old this year and have lived eight years longer than my father. I have a good memory of him when I was an elementary school student. He gave me ripe persimmon, which was picked from our garden and chilled until I came home. It was so delicious.

父は、同世代の男性の大半がそうであったように子育てには参加していませんでした。そんな父の唯一の自慢は、不安定な姿勢で私を抱っこしていた時地震でグラツときたけど、とり落とさなかったということです。S.S

My father did not contribute a lot to child-rearing, just like most men of his generation. However, he has one episode to be proud of himself as a young father. During an earthquake, he didn't drop me even though he was standing in an unstable spot.

父の日、おめでとう! 昔々、私が子どもだった頃、父が川へ釣りに連れて行ってくれました。田舎の細道を自転車に乗って出かけ、釣りとお美しい自然を楽しんだものです。S.T.

Happy Father's Day! Years ago, my father took me fishing at a river. We rode our bikes along the narrow country roads and enjoyed fishing and the natural beauty.

私の父は英語を話したがっていますが、あまり上手ではなく、いつも This is a pen. のフレーズしか思いつかないようです。K.K.

My father has always wished he could speak English well. However, the only sentence he ever comes up with is "This is a pen."

