



Gifts That Keep On Giving

Have I got a gift for you! The seven gifts I am about to send your way are not only suitable for children of any age, but also, I guarantee they will beat the best holiday deals you can find. The gifts are free.

- 1. Find Beauty.** Gather up your children and drive to a beautiful spot. It can be a state park, the ocean or someplace with natural beauty. They can bring anything they want *except no cell phones*. When you have reached your destination, tell your children in your own words that the most beautiful things in life are free and to never take them for granted.
- 2. Bless Others.** In many places in our country, wintertime brings cold, often bitter cold weather. Most of us are blessed with abundance. You know that winter jacket, sweater, gloves or scarf that is taking up space? Find a homeless person on the street or go to a shelter and give them the gift. To make it special, have your child go with you to the cleaners, or wash and iron it with love. When you give them the coat, say: *“Bless you. I hope next year will be better for you.”* In turn, you will be blessed.
- 3. Visit Shut-ins.** Want to make a difference in this world? Visit a nursing home with a child, maybe with a present or two, and stop by and say hello

to people. Unfortunately, many of our elderly are “abandoned” in nursing homes. The sight of a child fills many people with joy and happiness. The rewards of such visits will fill lonely hearts and fulfill souls who have forgotten that we are all in this cycle of life together.

4. **Be Compassionate.** Random acts of kindness are very empowering. They can include shoveling the sidewalk for an elderly person, leaving an anonymous present on the stoop of someone who is having “a rough time,” saying hello to people you don’t know or purchasing a coffee for someone waiting in the line behind you. The critical part is to do these things without any expectation of reciprocation.
5. **Give Back.** It costs nothing to volunteer with your children. Most facilities such as kitchens for the homeless sincerely appreciate it when people volunteer. It is an extremely teachable moment. Look deeply into the eyes of your children and, with *humanity*, tell them about how fine the line is between good fortune and despair. Between having a large family and abundance to hard times. Volunteering is another gift that always gives back more than is given.
6. **Express Appreciation.** Demonstrate your love to your children in distinctive ways. For example, say, “*I appreciate how you dress; I admire your style,*” “*I appreciate how you never give up but keep fighting; we love you for that,*” “*Your English teacher loves the way you write; we appreciate your talent.*” Showing you care not only elevates your child but you as well.
7. **Give Thanks.** Another gift where *the cell phone is not welcome*. When the table is set, and people are about to plunge into their ham, turkey or both, ask each person to give thanks for the gifts they have been given. After each person gives thanks, be sure to let everyone around the table know that their presence in your life makes your life better.”

Many years from now, long after the gifts have been opened – and most recycled – it will be these gifts, gifts that cannot be bought, sold, weighed or measured, that will have a lasting impact on the lives of your children. Presents like these create a tradition and are *the gifts that keep on giving*.

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EVENT SPOTLIGHT



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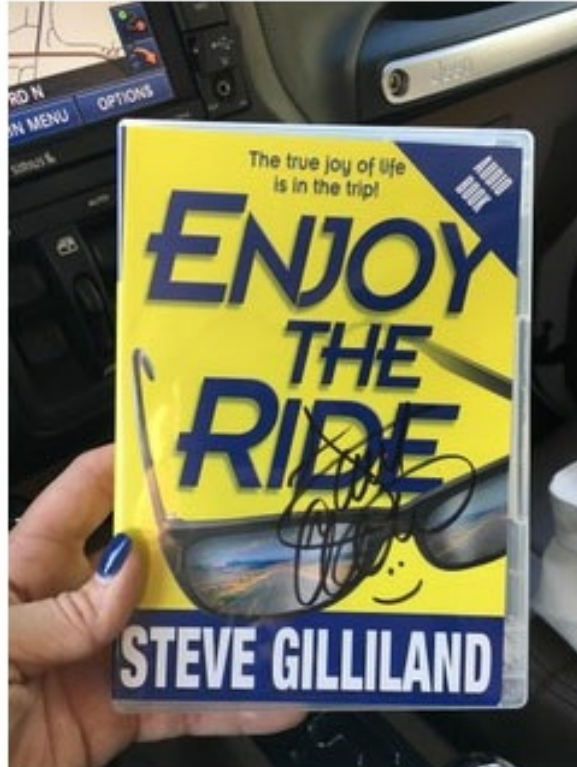


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Helena Farabella, PAHCOM National Chairperson

“I can tell you that you hit a super grand slam home run for Wilson Hall today.”

Fred Moulton, Wilson Hall

LOOKING AHEAD...

Steve's December 2018 Schedule

- 1 - Winston-Salem, NC
- 4 - Clemson, SC
- 7 - Columbia, SC
- 12 - New York, NY
- 13 - New York, NY
- 19 - Pittsburgh, PA
- 20 - Pittsburgh, PA

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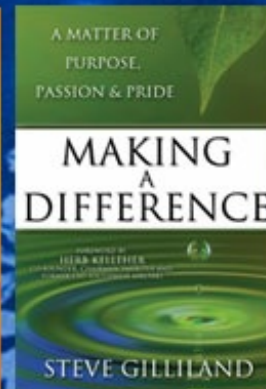
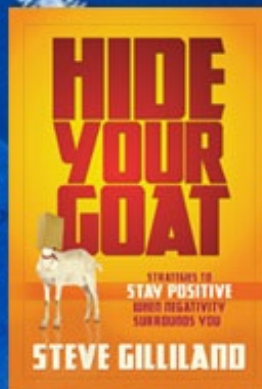
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