

A simple nod goes along way

Whenever I was growing up and riding as the passenger in my dad's pickup truck, I learned by watching him that a simple gesture of lifting one pointer finger off the steering wheel was a positive gesture of 'howdy' and that went along way with both friends and strangers.

It did not take several fingers, but just that one little finger to broadcast a 'howdy' to all that he passed. He could easily show his acknowledgement by using his traditional lifting of the pointer finger because he was not holding or maneuvering his cell phone. He was going slow enough that the recipient could see the friendly gesture as dad did not drive super duper fancy pick up trucks.

We used to tease my dad about fixing his radio antennae with baling wire. I joked that had I needed braces, daddy would have probably fixed them with his baling wire. He always had extra wire in his truck because you never knew when you might find a fence in need of mending. My Cresson friends would recognize it was daddy driving in the bar ditch on highway 377 looking at his fences.

One time while I was supposed to be returning from an evening band practice in Granbury, and my parents knew exactly how long that should take but did not know when the practice would end for sure. So, whenever I did not arrive at our home in Cresson at their best estimated timeframe, dad set out in his truck to come look for me on Highway 377. He was obviously worried and happened to drive a bit faster than usual. (Remember he was known for his bar ditch driving) There was a Highway Patrol officer involved and he got pulled over. I have no idea what my dad told the officer, but he did not get a ticket. However, when I strolled into the house ahead of daddy, it was not a pretty scene. Of course, it got worse whenever daddy pulled in behind me and I got to explain why I chose to be later than normal. I'm sure it had to do with friends and talking and chatting after band practice.

From thence forward, I had to call our home phone and attempt a collect call. This was the free signal that I was about to head out on my return trip! It was a time-consuming process, but it did keep me out of trouble and daddy off Highway 377!

Speaking of our little Cresson, please join us for the 2nd Annual Christmas Tree lighting on Sunday, Dec. 11th at 5:30 p.m. Santa will be there for the countdown of the lighting, singing of carols, and cookies will be provided as well! The location is at the Diana Jones Memorial Training Center which is across from our Sonic on Hwy. 377.

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