

DETROIT NATIVE SUN

FREE

JUNE 10 - JULY 7, 2022

UNITING & ENLIGHTENING THE COMMUNITY

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Dedicated Father



By Kim J. Clark Aka Expanding Love
SUN COLUMNIST



This Father's Day, it is an honor to recognize Michael J. Parker, Sr., an exemplary example of a dedicated father. Michael is a Veteran of the United States Marine Corps who obtained the rank of E3.

After the military, Michael married, and he and his wife, Mary Louise Parker, excitedly anticipated the birth of their first child. His son, Michael J Parker, II, was born with cerebral palsy, as fate would have it. The couple went for a routine office visit one day, and the doctor sent them straight to the hospital. It was a life-threatening situation for both Mary and their unborn child.

Both he and his wife dearly loved their son. However, over time they decided to divorce. Even though he was no longer living in the home, Michael and Mary worked together on their son's behalf. They continued to remain friends and co-parent their son, who needed a particular level of care. They stayed strong and worked in a concerted effort to raise their child. In Michael's words, "Mary was an awesome mom."

Michael attended all of his son's school progress checks, parent-teacher conferences, and doctor's appointments. The proud father was in attendance at his son's graduation. To this day, he attends all of his son's doctor's appointments and has never missed an important event in his son's life.

Michael Sr. taught his son to always watch for his mom. When they went shopping, he and his son would wait in the car until mom returned. Michael would watch the door that his mother

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