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## When did you last say “Thanks Dad”?

*Chicken Soup for the Soul and Scott Hamilton share stories of gratitude about dads*

**COS COB, Conn.** – Our first heroes are usually our dads. And over time they are also our advisers, our protectors, and even our friends. There is no end to the many ways they support us and the sacrifices they make for us. Unfortunately, the way we express our gratitude to our dads often starts and ends with golf balls or a tie. We need to express our thanks like we mean it! After all, our fathers spend every day of our lives earning our praise.

After numerous *New York Times* bestselling books for fathers, Chicken Soup for the Soul took a different approach with *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Thanks Dad* (Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC, April 2010, 978-1-935096-46-7, \$14.95). Instead of collecting stories *from* dads, the company collected 101 Stories of Gratitude, Love, and Good Times *about* dads written by children of all ages. Ranging from authors Patti Callahan Henry and Joel Schwartzberg to “E! News” correspondent Ashlan Gorse and The Weather Channel’s Nick Walker, the stories discuss lessons learned, role models and the tremendous impact fathers have on their children.

Joining Chicken Soup for the Soul in thanking dads everywhere is U.S. Olympic Ice Skating Gold Medalist Scott Hamilton, who wrote the foreword to the book. Scott, adopted at six weeks, is father to two sons, and tells the tale of what it was like to finally stare into the eyes of his own flesh and blood, and his theory that the moment you see your child for the first time a chemical is released in your brain that makes you mildly psychotic.

“If you have a son,” Scott says in his foreword, “you have probably lost count of how many times you have saved his life in the first few years. If you have a daughter, your instincts create a radar that is always on to protect her from everything. You would do anything for your children and it is something that is unique and hard to articulate.”

The life saving, the protecting and the providing all make for a lifetime of gratitude for dear dad and all that he did, and still does. Bryan Gill opens the book with “From the Only,” a tale about his high school football team, and losing the state championship his senior year. Upset, thinking that he let his dad down, Bryan thought he was about to hear about how he had disappointed his father, instead he got a thumbs-up and an “I love you.”

“I didn’t have a father whose love was contingent on my success or failures. I had a father who loved me because I am his child and he is my dad. My dad approved of me because I am his son, not because I do or do not adorn a State Championship ring. So, thank you Dad,” Bryan says.

Popular author Wendy Walker, who co-authored *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Power Moms* and *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Thanks Mom*, is the co-author of *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Thanks Dad* with Jack Canfield and Mark Victor Hansen.

*Chicken Soup for the Soul: Thanks Dad* (Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen and Wendy Walker) releases in April 2010. Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC, publishes all the latest titles in the famous Chicken Soup for the Soul book series which are distributed through Simon and Schuster, Inc. Since 1993, books in the Chicken Soup for the Soul series have sold more than 112 million copies, with titles translated into more than 40 languages. Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing also licenses the right to use its famous trademark to high quality licensees through IMG, the world’s premier licensing agent. The company is currently implementing a plan to expand into all media, is working with TV networks on several TV shows and is developing a major Internet presence dedicated to life improvement, emotional support and inspiration. In 2007, *USA Today* named *Chicken Soup for the Soul* one of the five most memorable and impactful books in the last quarter century. For more information visit: [www.chickensoup.com](http://www.chickensoup.com).

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To receive a review copy of *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Thanks Dad*, or to schedule an interview, please contact Rusty Shelton at (512) 785-4469 or [rusty@sheltoninteractive.com](mailto:rusty@sheltoninteractive.com).