

## Wanky's Three Sons

So here we are, Wank's three sons, such as we are, aged 62, 60 and 57 years old

It was not easy to grow up in a family of THREE kids, when your dad grew up in a family of SEVEN kids

It was not easy to be called your full name, Herndon Inge III, when your dad got by with just WANK

It was not easy to grow up when your father is Mobile County's only juvenile judge, when most of your friends are juvenile delinquents

It was not easy to grow up when your dad is not athletic, and you live across the street from a City Recreation Department Park, and you want to be a football star

It was not easy to grow up when your dad is on the Draft Board, during the Vietnam War, and your friends are shooting a toe off, running to Canada, and joining the National Guard, to avoid the draft

It was not easy to grow up when your dad had ALL HE WANTED of guns and bloodshed, but your friends wanted you to go pig hunting

It was not easy to grow up talking about what happened today in school, when all your dad wanted to talk about was what happened in 1945, with Patton's Third Army

It was not easy to get sympathy when you stumped your toe, when your dad had been a prisoner of war, in Nazi Germany

It was not easy to TRY to convince your dad that it was a son's RIGHT to have a new shotgun when your dad grew up in The Depression and didn't have FOOD to eat, because my father's father lost his job, and had 7 young children at home, to feed

It was not easy to grow up when your dad didn't even own a fishing pole, and your friends asked you to go speckled trout fishing for the weekend

It was not easy to go to college, out of state, when your dad, AND YOUR MOM, went to Alabama

It was not easy to join the Phi Delta Thetas, when your dad, and all his 4 brothers, were DEKES

It was not easy to always expect you'd have a FULL HEAD OF HAIR, like your father's father, but your dad ends up bald

It was not easy to plan on GETTING OLD and retiring, when your dad practices law until he is 89

NEVERTHELESS, here we are, such as we are, Wank's  
THREE sons, all now OLD men ourselves

YOU KNOW, it makes me think, what mistakes have I  
made, as a father?