

Title **My Swift Grandfather**

by **Maria Comito**

An Introduction Grandfather Ermete has a special name because he is a special person. **Grabs the Reader's Interest** *Ermete* is the Italian name for *Hermes*. In Greek myths, Hermes was a swift messenger with wings on his feet. The name fits my grandfather perfectly.

What the Person Looks Like My grandfather has snow-white hair and a beard. He also has the biggest smile I've ever seen. My mom says his smile is painted on. That's because it's always there. He's not tall, but he seems like a giant to me.

What the Person Does Even though my grandfather is old, he is a fast runner. Years ago, he used to win many races. He even went to the Olympics when he lived in Italy. Now he gives me running lessons. He teaches me how to breathe right. He also helps me pace my running.

What the Person Says My grandfather says that I'm a good runner. "Someday, maybe you'll win a gold medal at the Olympics," he always says. "Wouldn't that be nice. My granddaughter is already a champion, no matter what!" I love my grandfather. He's swift in every way!

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