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The Mystery of the Missing SPAT – a “Who Done it” Story

Tuesday, March 03, 2015

More precisely it's a "What Done it" because after more than 2 days of searching I can blame the disappearance on "Dustin" our "Roomba." That's the robot vacuum cleaner that my son gave us a few years ago.

Our grandchildren named it after following it around fascinated at how it found dust and dirt even when we didn't see any and was smart enough to back away when it sensed an open staircase. It even automatically goes back to its recharging station when its battery is low. This was a perfect gift for me who hates housework, loves technology but often forgets to charge her phone.

One of its strengths is the ability to get under furniture, (couches, armchairs, dressers) that I would have to move if I were using a regular vacuum.

Well that strength was the source of my problem along with a bad habit of my own. I regularly take off my shoes and walk around barefoot and have to search for my shoes later on.

This time I intended to change my shoes. I took off the SPAT & put it beside the shoes meaning to return with the other pair. I got busy doing something else and just walked around barefoot for a long time. By the time I put on my other shoes I forgot about the SPAT.

It was the next morning before I missed it. It's become part of my ritual – weigh in, get coffee, log in to Spark and let the SPAT update my steps. But the SPAT was missing.

By chance I noticed Dustin dutifully doing its job and pushing the TV remote ahead of it. I had left it on the floor by the couch. As it was about to disappear UNDER the couch, I realized what had happened. Sure enough, halfway underneath the couch was my little SPAT.

So the answer to my mystery – The ROBOT did it.

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MILLEGE2
Really cute!
2286 days ago





WALLAHALLA

I would love to have a roomba. Every time I'm about to get one, they come out with a newer model, so I put it off.
2290 days ago



CD13758606

Very good! Glad you solved the mystery. Mine went missing when the tree went up, and I did not find it until I took the tree down. Actually, my son said, "mom, what's this I found?" I now have 2 SPATS!!
2290 days ago



SPINNINGJW

One thing I do like about my fitbit is that I don't take it off except to shower and to charge it. I

am afraid Dustin would be able to pick up the fitbit.
2290 days ago



MISCHAKEO

I periodically misplace my spat also. Mainly in transitions. I am glad the robot did it and that you found yours.

2291 days ago



ONEKIDSMOM

LOVE it! Great story to pass down the family years.
2291 days ago



DOVESEYES



2291 days ago



PHEBESS

I think Dustin has fallen in love with SPAT.



2291 days ago



STRIVERONE

That's a sit-com episode. You should send it in.
2291 days ago



LIVEDAILY

Hoot! So smart of you to have figured it out!! I'm glad you found it!
2291 days ago



WATERMELLEN

You re SOOOOO clever, to have figured it out!! A process of elimination, my dear Watson!!
2291 days ago



POLSKARENIA

Great when you can blame the technology!
Thanks for sharing - made me smile.
2291 days ago



WUMPASTAR

Hahahaha awesome that you finally found it! I lost mine in Quebec and I'm pretty sure I'll never see it again since I now live in Saskatchewan and it's NOT in my car. Ah well!
2291 days ago



MARYJEANSL

Thanks for the chuckle. I would be afraid it would get picked up. My old vacuum was really strong, and would pick up little things like that.
2291 days ago





LINDAKAY228

Great way of telling the story! Glad you finally found it.
2291 days ago



BBEGAN

Hilarious!
2291 days ago



CD15068443

That's funny -- kinda like a human -- hmmm, can't pick it up, hide it under the sofa. What a plan!!!!
2291 days ago



CD2475290

Funny, interesting story. So the Robot doesn't actually have enough strength to "pick up" the SPAT -- it just pushed it under the sofa? Good to know. I have thought about buying one, wondered how it handles throw rugs. The house I live in during the winter months is all hardwood floors, but most of the rooms have a least one throw rug, some large, some small. Does it stop when it comes to them, or what?
2291 days ago



KRISZTA11

I'm glad you found it!



Our roomba does funny things too.
2291 days ago



CD4114015

I love this! I also take my shoes off ALL the time (I HATE shoes) and then lose them! And my son has a Roomba or whatever it is called too! So I was picturing your whole story in my head as it went!

SO glad you found it! I was afraid at first that it had "swallowed it up"!



2291 days ago



JANETRW50

Dustin is such a great name. Kids are so good at naming things. When my niece was only 4 or 5 she named her dog DEOGE pronounced D O G

Glad you finally mentioned what a SPAT was. I didn't know what the heck you were looking for. And glad you found it.

2291 days ago

Comment edited on: 3/4/2015 8:56:50 AM



HOPEFULHIPPO

Our roomba was Berta off of 2/5 Men...did just enough of a job to stay hired. LOL



2291 days ago



DR1939

I do love our Robbie. I can't push a vacuum and thus my floors often go without vacuuming between biweekly visits from Merry Maids. Robbie takes care of this. To those wondering about buying one, I add my endorsement to Brooklyn's.

Glad you found your SPAT. I lost one from my shoe while grocery shopping. Luckily my husband's was going unused. I am eagerly awaiting the new version that can be read by Bluetooth.

2291 days ago



GINIEMIE

Okay, you are too funny my friend, blaming Dustin. I had a Roomba named after the housekeeper on the Jetsons, Rosie. She's gone, she did not handle pins, thread, yarn bits etc. I couldn't see the point of having to sweep every thing then let Rosie do the easy stuff. Now I swiffer and pick up myself, part of my exercise plan. Actually it's better that Dustin got it than a pet or a big vacuum sweeper.

BTW you are not the only one who misplaces things. I keep having to look for my cell phone, my hearing aids-they irritate me after a few hours, and a host of other things. One day I'll be methodical, but not today. Off to do some of my chores. Stripping my office I hope so it can be painted before the 25th. I have a few other things I MUST do plus go to Knitting club-haven't been in a few weeks, about time I put in an appearance.



Thank God you found your SPAT, St Anthony too, I did ask him to help you. I don't what I'd do without him since I am a scatter brain.



2291 days ago



FORZACHANDMATT
Yeah - glad you found it
2291 days ago



PHOENIX1949



I've eyed the Roomba ads for some time. Good to know it can even pick up a SPAT. I've wondered if it would terrorize our elderly, fussy furchild. Also concerned about potential damage to a couple of 1800's furniture. The grandchildren did well with the naming.
2291 days ago



TERI-RIFIC

That's a twenty first century mystery for sure! With two dogs and a cat maybe I should get a roomba. I hate housework, too. I would rather mow the lawn that stays mowed for at least a week.
2291 days ago



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