

BOOK THREE

POEMS

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POEMS REFLECTING NATURE, LOVE, LIFE

Life excels beauty
Life inspires hope
Life promotes happiness
Life can be very rewarding

Changes in our life
Are challenges of progression
Each experience leaves us
With many personal thoughts
To ponder and reminisce while
Visiting family and friends

We learn to adapt readily
At infancy, recognizing
Schedules are an important
Part of our daily itinerary
Activities may not be totally
Of our choosing and need

We do not know our future
How our cards may play
We must prepare ourselves
For the unexpected, unknown
Visions embraced within portray
Our feelings, happy or sad

The following poems are based on my thoughts, feelings, observations, memories, and vision. They reflect Life's Seasons including the beauty in nature, highlighting various love situations, family, plus various paths I have taken in my journey to date.

EXPLOSIONS OF BEAUTY

While walking through the woods
On a warm, bright autumn day
One absorbs a distinct essence
Of the nature
Reminding us
Winter will soon be on its
way
To nurture the plants, protect the trees
Covered with snow in a temperature freeze

Leaves display beauty and elegance
In their orange, crimson, yellow attire
Greenery gradually diminishes
An explanation of
Heavenly beauty
Sets the tone like balls of fire
Throughout the woods for many to see
A stunning picture, breathtaking and free

Squirrels are busy hunting for nuts
To store in a hidden winter retreat
They romp in fun and play
As they collect
Sufficient food
For their families to eat
When all is dormant in the wintertime
And an echo is heard from a distant chime

Feelings of sadness are expressed in
The loss of summer time to fall
Christmas feels so near
A white wonderland
Followed by spring
With all its freshness, buds so small
A growth explodes, rich in flowers galore
Another summer season to enjoy and explore

VISION

What does one see in the waters so blue
Looking out the window grasping the view
I see a calmness meeting my needs
Away from the unforgettable deeds
Of trying to achieve the utmost in life
Along with the responsibilities of a wife

What does one hear as the birds chirp along
Cheering us all with their spirit and song
I hear the passion and love nature brings
A feeling of freedom from the many things
That used to make me worry and sweat
Until many of my goals were finally met

How does one feel as one sits outside
Breathing the air near the water so wide
I feel peace within, a vision so strong
A world of happiness where I can belong
Continue to grow, nurture unused skills
As I enter each day full of many thrills

SEASIDE THOUGHTS

As the sun rises in the morning
I look outside towards the sea
Many people are on the beach
Engaged in relaxation or activity

Walking is a very popular sport
Both on the walkway and beach
Children happily play in the sand
Close to the rippling waters reach

Sandpipers enjoy togetherness
In a grouping at the waterside

Pelicans slowly circle in the air
Preparing to catch fish in low tide

Palm trees sway in the light breeze
Boats sail through the white foam
Geese fly in a victory sign formation
Returning to a warmer winter home

Dolphins may be seen northbound
Returning south much later in the day
Moving up and down in surface dives
Performing summersaults in their play

When the sun sets beyond the ocean
Stars clutter the far-reaching sky
A ray of moonlight shines on the water
Crickets chirp an evening lullaby

One sea is not the same as another
Each will have the ability to provide
An environment filled with peacefulness
A feeling of comfort and love inside

A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE

Many birds sing along
From morning till dawn
Talking to each other
Dolphins swim & play
In the water each day
Close to one another
What a beautiful picture
For you and for me
As we sit on the beach
Enjoying the sea
A picture of nature
In this great land
With blue/green water

And cool/brown sand
Oh yes, what a beautiful picture

Pelicans are flying
Low in the blue sky
Eyeing the water for fish
Fish take a quick dive
Hoping to remain alive
Some are granted that wish
What a beautiful picture
For you and for me
As we sit on the beach
Enjoying the sea
A number of egrets
Pecking in the sand
A feeding formula
They have planned
Oh yes, what a beautiful picture

HOW WILL I KNOW

How will I know
When I've fallen in love
Will I shout with joy
Will I fly like a dove
How will I know?

How will I know
If you care about me
Will you hold me close
Will you laugh with glee
How will I know?

How will I know
If you are the one
Will we laugh and talk
Have a lot of fun
How will I know?

How will I know
If you are mine
Will you be true to me
All of the time
How will I know?

How will I know
If I am right for you
Will I feel it in my heart
Will you feel the same too
How will I know?

We should know
When we are in love
We snuggle up close
Like a fitted glove
We laugh and play
Have fun together
Increase our time in
All kinds of weather
Enjoy each day
Whatever may be
A wonderful feeling
For you and for me
Yes, we should know
When we are in love
We should know
Oh, yes we will know!

BOOGIE TIME

Raise your right arm
Shake it a little
Bring it down
Across your middle
Repeat with the left
Laugh a little
Shake your bottom
Shake your top

Keep on shaking
Do not stop
Until you feel
You are going to drop

Chorus-
It's Boogie Time
On the beach tonight
Just swing and sway
In the bright moonlight
Enjoy the breeze
It keeps you cool
If you would like a swim
Jump in the pool
Oh, oh, it's Boogie Time
Yes, it is Boogie Time Tonight

Bring your right foot forward
Then take it back
Put your left foot behind you
Give it some slack
Put your hands together
For a very loud clap
This is the time
To take a chance
Just limber up
And now advance
To a faster beat
Enjoy your own dance

Chorus-
It's Boogie Time
On the beach tonight
Just swing and sway
In the bright moonlight
Enjoy the breeze
It keeps you cool
If you would like a swim
Jump in the pool
Oh, oh, it's Boogie Time

Yes, it's Boogie Time Tonight

SATURDAY NIGHT

I love Saturday night
In my little town
After working all week
I can let my hair down
I can dance all night
Have a lot of fun
Go home real late
See the rising sun
Saturday night
Is my night
My night to crow
Like the roosters do
My night to howl
Like the coyotes do
Oh what good times
They are to enjoy
For every girl
And every boy
I love Saturday night
I really do!

Saturday night comes alive
Like a fluttering beehive
In many small towns
There's rocking, there's rolling
Lovers are strolling
Like wandering clowns
You can take a peek
At what's in store for next week
And what goes on after five
As we boogie and jive
Oh yes, Saturday night comes alive
Like a fluttering beehive
Like a fluttering beehive!

HE/SHE WANTS

He wants to be free
For only awhile
He wants to see
Someone other than me
Make her laugh and smile
He wants to be free
He wants to be free!

He wants to know why
I do not go along
With feelings that fly
Like the wind in the sky
Like the words in a song
He wants to know why
He wants to know why!

He wants to know when
We will get together
Be there for each other
Support one another
Like sister and brother
He wants to know when
He wants to know when!

I told him never again
Will I share my life
Experience the pain
There is nothing to gain
When you're not a wife
I told him never again
Yes, I told him never again!

My love may be cast
To another heart
I am free at last
To forget the past
And try a new start
I told him to walk real fast

Oh, yes, I told him to walk really fast!

THE HEAT IS ON

The heat comes on
Whenever we touch
There is so much
To be thankful for
As we chat, explore
Issues on our mind
We are two of a kind
Wanting to share
And always be there
For each other
Oh yes, the heat is on!

The heat comes on
Whenever we play
On a sunshiny day
The big sky is blue
I am true to you
Expect you will be
The same as me
Wanting to share
And always be there
For each other
Oh, yes, the heat is on!

The heat comes on
Whenever we talk
Whenever we walk
Close to each other
There is no other
As good a lover
As you with me
Wanting to share
And always be there
For each other
Oh yes, the heat is on, the heat is on!

WITHOUT YOU

There is never a moment
Of crying for you
Of feeling blue
Lonely times are past
I am free at last
To make my dreams come true
Without you!

There is never a moment
Of feeling sad
Wishing I had
My life in the past
I am free at last
To make my dreams come true
Without you!

There is never a moment
Of feeling joy
From the carefree boy
That shares my past
I am free at last
To make my dreams come true
Without you!

There is never a moment
Of a need to pine
Wishing you were mine
Like you were in the past
I am free at last
To make my dreams come true
Without you!

MINE FOREVER

When I told you
You are the one for me

You make me laugh
You make me cry
I really don't know why
You make me feel so good
I wish you would
Feel the same as me
Wanting to be
Mine forever
Forever!

Did you hear me
When I told you
How much I care
Wanting to share
My life with you
I will always be true
You make me feel so good
I wish you would
Feel the same as me
Wanting to be
Mine forever
Forever!

I tried not to hear you
When you told me
We should cool it for a while
You gave me a big smile
Said you needed time
Before you were mine
You needed space
To make a place
In your heart for me
Wanting it to be
Forever!

I heard you clearly
When you called me
To say you wanted me
You would always be

Mine, true and fair
Ready to always share
Your love and your life
Would I be your wife?
Oh yes, I feel the same
I want to have your name
To be mine forever
Mine forever
Forever!

I CANNOT STOP LOVING YOU

I have tried and tried
So many, many times
To lose my vision of you
Keep you out of my mind
But when you contact me
Tell me your love remains true
I can feel myself falling apart
Because I cannot stop loving you
No, I cannot stop, cannot stop loving you!

Chorus-
I cannot stop
The rains from falling
The sun from shining
The winds from blowing
The bells from chiming
The rivers from flowing
The birds from chirping
But most of all, I cannot stop loving you
No, I cannot stop, cannot stop loving you!

You are the only one
I see in all my dreams
When we are close together
And alone, it always seems
My heart keeps beating fast

My body no longer feels blue
Do not think of the future or past
Because I cannot stop loving you
No, I cannot stop, cannot stop loving you!

Chorus-
I cannot stop
The rains from falling
The sun from shining
The winds from blowing
The bells from chiming
The rivers from flowing
The birds from chirping
But most of all, I cannot stop loving you
No, I cannot stop, cannot stop loving you!

LOVING AGAIN

She seemed so afraid
In letting me know
How she felt about me
I did not want to leave
If she truly loved me
We spoke very little
When we were alone
She watched television
Or talked on the phone
I felt love would not grow
No, would not grow!

She said she cried
When I went away
Could be very true
Did not hear her say
She truly loved me
I could never tell
If she was sincere
When I held her close
She did not seem near

She seemed so far away
Yes, so far, far away

As she left the room
The telephone rang
When I answered it
A male voice sang
I love you, I love you
I realized my despair
I was very much alone
Her love had been taken
By the man on the phone
She loved someone again
Yes she was loving again!

WISH I HAD

I have a little story I would like to tell
Have I been living in an empty shell?
It was suggested I have another look
My activities besides shop and cook
Spend more time enjoying each day
Not waiting until I am older and gray
Write a few new chapters in my book
Focus on how little time this took

Life passes by with so much undone
We keep on working, not having much fun
And miss out totally on an impressive thing
Like, watching the birds return each spring
Gazing at the moon as the clouds roll by
Picking wild flowers, reaching a high
While in the woods absorbing the scent
From nature's gardens, time well spent

Here is my theory, rather simple and sad
It does not absolve the excuses I had

We each plan our lives, both work and play
Including triumphs, trying our best each day
As my life comes closer to the end, I pray
I will not have to hear myself having to say
 I wish I had, I wish I had, yes,
 I wish I had, oh how I wish I had!

LOVE

LOVE promotes many warm feelings
 An atmosphere rich and divine
 Portrayed by a glow of happiness
 Radiance glimmering like sunshine
 Energy expanding endlessly
 A world of passion, yours and mine!

LOVE may transmit many inspirations
 Essential each challenging day
 In building our memorable dreams
 When opportunities come our way
 Positive outcomes are achieved
 Working together, come what may!

LOVE may be attractiveness, adoration
 Devotion, magnetism, inclination
 Fondness, irresistible, fascination
 Charming, tenderness, admiration
 Yearning, affection, infatuation
 A requirement for all in each nation!

READY FOR ME

When I first saw you

Standing close to me
I was in a daze
It was easy to see
From that moment
I wanted so much
To hold you close
To feel your touch
You did not respond
Or notice my smile
I kept my eyes on you
All the while
You were walking away
Yes, you were walking away from me

One day we met
In the little book store
After talking to you
I wanted much more
When we met again
I was feeling blue
You made me feel so good
I wanted only you
I knew it was wrong
You needed more time
To know how you felt
Were you ready to be mine?
That is why I walked away
Walked away, yes, I walked away from you

My precious little angel
I will wait for you
I want you to be mine
My love is true
You are most sensational
Like the heavens above
I want to be fair to you
Will keep holding my love
Until you are ready for me
Can't you see, it has to be, has to be

When you are ready for me, ready for me!

COME BACK TO ME

You are my only woman
I now can see the light
I want to keep on loving you
And holding you, oh, so tight
Each and every morning
Each and every night
Please come and be with me
I do not want to be free
I need you with me to love me, love me
I really want you to come back to me
Please come back, come back to me

I am your only man
I can feel it every day
I see your beautiful smile
Picturing the loving way
You keep looking at me
As though you would like to say
Something very special to me
I really do not want to be free
I need you with me to love me, love me
I really want you to come back to me
Please come back, come back to me

We are made for each other
I know you truly do care
When I wake up in the morning
I can feel you are there
Close to me, in my arms
It is really most unfair
To keep your love away from me
I really do not want to be free

I need you with me to love me, love me
I really want you to come back to me
Please come back, come back to me

OUR LOVE

We were two lonely people
Each of us trying to forget
Sad feelings deep in our hearts
How fortunate that we met

You were shy in the beginning
The shyness did not last long
We shared our life experiences
While enjoying our favorite song

Reaching out to each other
Helped adjust to the change
From years of family living
To the single scene, so strange

I love your cute, boyish smile
When you are caught off guard
I love the gleam in your eyes
When you play the winning card

Love was just around the corner
Waiting for the special time
Our hearts would blend together
Each knowing you were mine

You care, I care, and we care
Making us feel so good, so true
As we continue this bond together
Love will keep flowing through

Happiness builds rich feelings
A blessing we must not forget

This richness reflects OUR LOVE
I am so grateful that we met

NEVER TRULY MINE

The days are long
When I'm all alone
I yearn for you
To come back home
Give me true love
The kind I knew
Had a taste for
After meeting you

I was hurting
While with you
You said you loved me
It was not true
There were others
I could feel
You kept our love rolling
Like a spoke in a wheel

I want true love
To be with me
Now and always
It is easy to see
Your feelings
Are not the same
You still want to
Play your own game

This is good-bye
You are set free
To live your life
Without me
I need true love
That is full time

You do not fit in because
You're never, never, truly mine

MY CHILD

Please talk to me
Don't hold it inside
I want to know why
You cried and you cried
Then stayed away
Haven't slept in your bed
Is it something I've said?
Is it something I've done?
Whatever it was
You are my number one
You are my child
My beautiful child
My child

I miss you so
When I'm all alone
I listen closely
For the telephone
Hoping you will call
Before I go to bed
Is it something I've said?
Is it something I've done?
Whatever it was, forgive me
You are my number one
You are my child
My beautiful child
My child

Please tell me now
I want to know
I need your love
Don't let it go
I need you close
In your own bed

Is it something I've said?
Is it something I've done?
You are my number one
 You are my child
 My beautiful child
Oh yes, you are my beautiful child
 My child

MY LOVER

If you were my lover
 I would feel so divine
 I would love you forever
You would always be mine
 If you were my lover
 You would never feel blue
 I would treat you like gold
 And always be true
If you were my lover, my lover
 If you were

If you were my lover
We would laugh and play
 Wake up in the morning
 And have a fun day
 If you were my lover
 My heart would beat fast
 It would flutter a little
Cause you were mine at last
If you were my lover, my lover
 If you were

If you were my lover
 Is my big fantasy
 I know you are taken
And will never be free
 To be my lover
And always be there
 Hold me real close
 Show me you care

If you could be my lover, my lover
If you only could, I think you would
Yes, you would, I know you would
Be my lover

PLEASE FORGIVE ME

I saw you standing
Outside In the doorway
With tears in your eyes
Were you saying goodbye
Or patiently waiting for me
To come home and be
In your life each day

Will you hold me close
Make me your very own
I want to feel your touch
I know you love me much
I will cherish you forever
Even though we never
Bonded as we should

Could we begin again
Spend time together
By being friends
Each heart mends
As time goes by
We need to try
It is now or never

I will always be
There for you
Care for you
And love you
Dear Mother of mine
Please forgive me
Please, please forgive me!

BE MINE AGAIN

I know who keeps you happy
In Tennessee
I do not know why
You prefer her to me
I thought we worked together
As lovers in all types of weather
Is there something I fail to see?

I will care for you
Until the day I die
I will adore you
I will cherish you
I will always love you
Please do not say goodbye
Be mine again
Please be mine

I know who keeps you happy
When I'm away
I do not know where
You meet and stay
I thought I could trust you
You seemed sincere and true
My heart continues to say

I will care for you
Until the day I die
I will adore you
I will cherish you
I will always love you
Please do not say goodbye
Be mine again
Please be mine

A DIFFERENCE

You make a difference
In my life
That is why
I want to be your wife
I want to wake up
Feel you near
Hold you close
Let you hear
My heart beat fast
Because you are mine at last

You make a difference
In each day
Sometimes we work
Sometimes we play
I see you smile
In whatever we do
I feel so good
Watching you
Plan our time together
As though we will never
Yes, we will never be apart again

You make a difference
In each night
In the dark
Or in the light
You love me
And show you care
That is why
I want to share
My life with you
I hope you do, too
I really, really hope you do
I want to make a difference
In your life, too
I want to be the one
That caresses you

Makes you laugh
Wins your heart
Holds you close
Is never apart
For a long time
Because you are mine
Oh yes, you are mine, only mine!

YOUR SHARED LOVE

The time we met
Was dear to me
A new life
A new world
So much to see
With your love
Yes your love
A full time guarantee
The days passed by
With much in store
Your tenderness
With each kiss
I could not ask
For anything more
Than your love, yes your love
A wild passion to adore
There was a change
When our baby came
You pulled away
Spent little time with us
It was your game
Of giving me
Shared love, yes shared love
As the years pass by
We grow further apart
You spend many nights away
From your son and me
You are planning a new start

No longer wanting
To share your love
I can feel it in my heart
Oh yes, I can feel it, feel it in my heart
You are no longer sharing your love
You are planning a new start
Without your son and me!

MAN OF PHILOSOPHY

Your life has been a contest, Dad
With a possible win or lose to bear
From cordwood cutting to seamanship
Experiences you had were rare
The business world was challenged
With your keen, philosophical mind
Brought an added flair of dignity
To many surrounding mankind
Then on to a world of mining
You braved the underground
Battled many dangers courageously
Without an injury to be found
Farming then became a way of life
For many tough years to come
Accepted work with the government
Until you acquired a financial sum
Gave up the structured workforce
To live the life you loved so much
Embraced in nature's world out doors
Provided a magnificent touch
In building a park around your home
Grew fruit and vegetables to share
With family members when they came
Enjoying their visit in the clean, fresh air
Yes, your life has been a contest, Dad
And you are the winner all the way
You taught so many the love of life
With much richness in each day

WOMAN OF SUBSTANCE

As a child you came to a promised land
A land of toil and wooded terrain
With your head held high you persevered
And coped with the stress and strain
The stress of work and the light of hope
Was challenged by you day after day
Added responsibilities advanced your years
Leaving little time for relaxation and play

I love you Mom, for all you have done
In guiding me through the years
Years of sharing, loving and support
Prepared me for the unknown fears
The fears in life when you are all alone
Reduce, when you know someone will care
Your strength gave us a substance of achievement
And I thank you so much for my share

A SISTER'S LOVE

A sister's love is ongoing
With limited time to share
The joys, the sorrows, the highs
The lows, the feelings of despair
We know we are there for each other
Should we need a helping hand
Do not hesitate to call on me
Even though I'm in another land

A sister's love is endless
As long as we keep in touch
Accept each other as we are
Provide support with so much
Understanding of the issues
That surface from day to day

At times a challenge to conquer
A relief when out of the way

A sister's love can fragment
If we choose to let it go
Leaving very little to cling to
As we ponder, wanting to know
The reason for the changes
That makes us feel so sad
Creating a misunderstanding
In our friendship that we had

You are an integral part of my life
Which I truly love and do confess
Without this ongoing relationship
I would miss much happiness

IN MEMORY

We think of your mother often
As we talk and reminisce
Our childhood, life experiences
In our sibling family of six
Your mother was the shy one
She paved the road ahead
Displayed an air of elegance
As she carried the heavy lead
In changing the world of woman
Into an educational flare
This was not the way of life then
She had a great burden to bear

Olga's shoes were hard to fill
In her kind, serene, caring way
She loved her family and her friends
Used diplomacy in her words of say
Was always thoughtful to her elders

A perfect daughter and mother too
Proud of her children as they came
Wanting so very much for you
We tried to follow and match her
She had taken her firm stand
Was loved by all who knew her
Recognized as a "lady" in her land

As you progress in your private worlds
Thoughts of your mother will come and go
Sharing them may not always be easy
But your children all need to know
The history of each grandparent
Helping them more fully understand
Their heritage and culture that
Brought them to this great land
As you continue your goals and dreams
Share your world and keep in touch
With all siblings and your family
They are part of you, love them much!

WOMANHOOD

A girl becomes a woman
When she feels warm to touch
Sharing Joy and togetherness
With the one she loves so much
She radiates love around her
Expresses happiness in her eyes
Her life is filled with laughter
Even tho' she sometimes cries
A woman loves, a woman cares
A woman gives, a woman shares
A girl becomes a woman
When she approaches each day
With an air of self confidence
Making time for work and play
Creates many pieces of beauty
Is resourceful, true and fine

Her body portrays womanhood
A picture of love, so divine
A woman loves, a woman cares
A woman gives, a woman shares

MY BROTHERS

A brother's life can be frustrating
In a family of more girls than boys
Sisters can take an upper hand
And still maintain their poise
This happened in our large family
Creating friction among us all
When we were left home alone
Teams were chosen, both stood tall

Conflicts became more frequent
As we progressed through the years
Each experience more challenging
Filled with bursts of laughter, tears
When we began to leave our nest
Pursuing our goals and dreams
I missed the togetherness we had
Even though there were rough scenes

This activity had lessened some
When the two youngest became of age
They presented themselves more timidly
A reflection of calmness set the stage
I often thought of my childhood
As my children fought their way
Through a family life with obstacles
Giving them more courage each day

As our lives flow with our families
Limiting time to spend with others
My love for you both continues on
And will always be there, MY BROTHERS

FAMILY ADJUSTMENT

As a child you came to us
At an approximate age of two or three
You brought our family happiness
With your warmth and gaiety
I loved you as a sister would
And when you moved away
It was extremely difficult to accept
You were going to definitely stay
With your Dad, and not come home
To our large, caring family anymore
We watched, as you grew attached
You, your Dad and the country store

As the years took you into manhood
You chose a progressive way of life
We are proud of your achievements
Including your charming, devoted wife
Your children brought much love and joy
It was a pleasure hearing you express
The progress in their developments
And your bright world of happiness
I think of you as my young brother
Sharing in the fun families can bring
When we get together and celebrate
Around a table of food fit for a king

MANHOOD

A boy becomes a man when
He feels the need to share
His time, plans and lifestyle
With someone who will care

He initiates a warm climate
Expresses feelings of the heart

Longs for more time together
Not happy when being apart

Aware he may be gambling
Tries preparing himself within
Moves cautiously in his progress
Not certain of a loss or win

The relationship begins slowly
Gradually opening a new door
A true love growing endlessly
With so much more in store

A boy becomes a man when
He adapts to the unplanned
Respects the needs of others
Manages life in high demand

Realizing a close relationship
May have pluses and minuses too
Problems are resolvable when
There is faith in "I love you"

TOGETHERNESS

Together we entered our unknown world
Creating fantasies and visions galore
Unlimited love
Happiness
Adventure
Excitement
A bank account, children to adore

During the initial years, a structure developed
With our plans commencing to unveil
Employment
A house
Furnishings
Travel

We progressed like the winds on a sail

As our family developed, up went their needs

Requiring free time to be shared among all

Hockey

Skating

Swimming

Baton

Weekends at the cottage were a ball

We all experienced frustrations at times

As each member reached out for a need

Companionship

Identity

Love

Challenges

Beyond family fulfillment indeed

We worked through the smooth and rough times

Each moving to an independent style

Family relations

Personal needs

Professional growth

Privacy

Individualization a priority for awhile

My life with you captured stability and flux

While advancing in family and career

Your support

Assistance

Shopping

Cooking

Contributed to my expanded growth each year

Our plans for the future kept progressing

With a home down south and up north

Beach walking

Bicycling

Golfing

The theatre

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Excitement of traveling back and forth

As we continued within our planned structure
I envisioned a future of friendship and respect

Caring

Sharing

Giving

Loving

A world of togetherness, a family would expect

PARENTING

Parenting can be expressed as an honor
Achieved in the prime of one's career
Sharing personal times with loved ones
A bonding is reached, reducing the fear
Of possible loneliness and apprehension
An experience so vast, yet so unclear

A parent's responsibilities are demanding
A far cry from deciding where to dine
Or planning the next winter vacation
Including the beach and bright sunshine
Or shopping for new clothes endlessly
Reflecting new trends in fashion, design

A child's responsibility can be frustrating
Expressed by feelings of not having rights
In day-to-day programs and activities
Resolvable by each setting their sights
To compromise, understand each other
More communication, less sleepless nights

If one could turn the time away back
Live life as a young parent once again
Possibly could be more knowledgeable
Protecting families from trauma and pain

With new, varied situations and lifestyles
Would we achieve a significant gain?

OUR ENDLESS FRIENDSHIP

I will always remember the excitement
As each of you were preparing to be born
Didn't matter whether you were boy or girl
Our hope was for a healthy child, the norm

You each brought individuality and love
As you developed proudly in the family tree
Sharing, giving, laughing, playing, learning
Each one so lovable, caring, special to me

My love followed you through the years
Of growth, happiness, at times discontent
I would like to express appreciation to all
For a family experience, years well spent

Thank you for giving me
A life to love
A love to live
Along with thoughts of you each day

I can feel you in my heart
When you're near
Or far apart
Feelings of strength come my way

Memories are so beautiful
When you laugh
When you love
Sharing your time in fun and play

Togetherness will be forever
You and I
Me and you

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Our endless friendship, here to stay

MY FIRST BORN

I remember when you were on your way
To become part of my carefree life
I wondered how I would adapt to two roles
A new mother, in addition to being a wife

My career was suddenly put on hold
I was not allowed to work as planned
It was not professional to care for the ill
By a mother-to-be nurse, tho' in demand

In March of fifty-seven you came to us
Proudly bearing the reigns of Number One
It was a pleasure to cuddle and hold you
I cherished the time with my adorable son

During years of growth and development
You displayed much happiness and joy
Caring for your sisters when each arrived
A role you dearly loved as a young boy

You loved your friends, they soon became
A great part of you and your life to stay
Traveling with you to many places out west
My thoughts were with you each day

Happiness plays a very important role
As we challenge life's future dreams
Acquiring a skill in the work you enjoy
Benefits us while building strong teams

My love remains with you wherever you go
Across the big country or the deep sea
My vision is, life will reach out and give to you

Love and friendship, as you have given me

MY SECOND BORN

In September of sixty you joined our family
With a flair for action, to be on the go
Accompanying you was a challenge in itself
You loved to explore, learn and grow

You loved the mystery of the unknown
Wanted so much to be advanced and lead
Taking on this role at school, work or play
Became a big part of your world indeed

You provided enrichment, creativity and love
Offering services in a function or chore
Knowledge of your ability in mastering skills
Promoted delegation to you much more

Sharing time supporting friends and families
Each with life's problems, day after day
Became an ongoing irresistible practice
Reducing time for relaxation and play

Your love for adventure and challenges
First took you to the land far out west
I experienced great difficulty letting you go
Felt and hoped you knew your needs best

Off to the Far East you flew one day
Adapting to a new culture and land
Loving the people, trusting them all
Sharing and caring a high demand

Time spent in the distant countries
Were stressful for both you and me
The morning we met after years apart
Brought me immense joy and ecstasy

I loved you during your very short life
Continue with ongoing feelings this way
I miss your friendship, love, and dance
A vision flowing within me, here to stay!

MY THIRD BORN

You came to us very late one night
In mid- May, nineteen sixty-two
Resembling your other two siblings
When they arrived to us brand new

Being Number Three was not easy
Had many great advantages too
Learning from experiences of others
Helped adapt to life around you

As you progressed in your childhood
Reaching out to achieve many goals
Developing your very own identity
Became an asset in so many roles

Friendships were based on togetherness
Sharing love and happiness with you
The enjoyment, being in touch endlessly
This appreciation realized by you grew

Stepping into the huge adult world
Handled by you with poise and grace
Preparing yourself consistently while
Meeting a difficult, challenging pace

Then marriage came as a big reward
Enriching many of our lives and dreams
Sharing, caring, love plus motherhood
Much more meaningful than it seems

Our friendship, respect and endless love
Brings me a closeness I feel and adore

Am hoping you share these same feelings
As you advance in your world and explore

GRANDPARENTING

As one reaches their senior years
There are pluses to gain and enjoy
One tribute is having grandchildren
Interacting with many, girl or boy

My first experience came in 1990
A grandchild to love and share
A feeling within me of ecstasy
Like I was flying high in mid-air

A bonding was reached very quickly
In the time together that we spent
Those smiles and cooing, a joy to all
Made small talk wherever we went

You have added a plus to my life
MEGAN MARY with eyes so blue
I look forward to each interaction
Full of fun, love, and a purpose too

My second experience came in 1993
Another grandchild to love and share
NICOLE CHRISTINE, such a sweetheart
So engrossed, yet very much aware

Your expressions are most adorable
Sharing joy, laughter, and your love
You have added a plus to my life
My pleasures, with all of the above

I love spending time with each of you
Enjoy the emails, visits, come what may
Am hoping our bonding will continue

With many more functions along the way

HISTORICAL HANDS

Many hands present our life story
Along with reflections of who we are
Enduring chafing, bruising, scratches
May be transparent, shiny from afar

A mother's hands rocked cradles
Washed, ironed and hung clothes
Sewed on patches and buttons
Wiped many a red, runny nose

Made cakes, cookies, hot chocolate
Sandcastles, kites and snowballs
Clutched steering wheels, carriages
Bandaged many scrapes from falls

Reaching out for a hand shake
Reveals a status of our known past
A hand feeling cool to one's touch
Indicates blood no longer flows fast

Wrinkles march into our senior years
Purple veins appear, rise and fall
Brown spots dance before our eyes
Similar to ugly pictures on a wall

We can smooth our wrinkled necks
By suctioning small layers of skin away
Remove bags from around our eyes
HISTORICAL HANDS are here to stay

FEELINGS OF LOSS

Some say life can be real easy

With just a few hurdles to cross
Prepare yourselves for more, my friends
Should you experience feelings of loss

Feelings of loss permeate deep within
They are painful to carry around
Surfacing frequently in memory of
The creator, nowhere to be found

Feelings of loss were mine to absorb
Through years of unknown strife
Each crisis brought an emotional drain
Their frequency affected my life

A turnaround came with a sudden void
To the crisis that brought disarray
Forgive and forget are two words I respect
They brought many a sun shining day

Together we filled a vacuum I had
With a new shining love, tightly sealed
A love with strength that returned to me
My heart totally stable and healed

EQUALITY

When snowbirds come down south to rest
They experience living by a similar test
An owner of real estate property galore
Is not judged by the high monetary score
It's not who you were, but who you are
All here together, each at an equal par
Adjust your past, adapt to new friends
They will be part of you until your life ends
Life's memories are pleasant, some are sad
All totaling the various experiences you had
Forgive yourself should errors have been made

If you have taken risks, it is the price you paid
As long as you tried to give life a good shot
You cannot be criticized for what you are not

MY COUNTRY

My ancestors toiled as homesteaders
On arrival to this awesome land
They persevered through hardships
Without expecting a helping hand
My country gained from this action
Inherent in population growth
Families grew as they multiplied
Following each marriage oath

My country glows in the darkness
My country shines in the light
My ancestors achieved in this country
They toiled from morning till night

The potential in my great country
Full of warmth, food and dignity
Reflects much growth and expansion
From pursuing each known opportunity
Risks and challenges open to all
Wanting to pursue a life so divine
Freedom, security, space, health care
Such a virtue, this country of mine

My country glows in the darkness
My country shines in the light
Feelings of warmth, love and security
Remain with me from morning till night

EARLY NINETIES

My life began in the country out west
During years that were hard and lean
Working hours stretched into the night
Payment in return, very rarely seen
My father loved to talk and dream
About the country where he began life
Before sailing across the rough sea where
His father waited for his children and wife
My mother shared her experiences with us
As we progressed into ages of choice
Encouraged us on to expand our dreams
A reflection of sadness in her voice
My family remained close and dear to me
During the years of growth and demand
I could not have challenged the big world
Without the support from my homeland
I wanted so much to achieve my dream
Of graduating as a Registered Nurse
Had no idea of the commitment ahead
As I enrolled, began with an empty purse
The money I saved from my working days
Bought me books, cape, and uniforms
Leaving me with no financial support
For three long years in the student dorm
With my inherited stamina, I persevered
Completed my training, study and toil
My expanded role, Assistant Head Nurse
Making me feel both proud and loyal
After several years in my home base
Felt a personal need to expand elsewhere
Ventured out to visit the eastern country
Spending time with relatives and family there
The east stimulated both adventure and love
Brought me marriage, travel, much more
The challenge, "A new life, in a new land"
Was my next dream to fulfill and explore

MY COUNTRY SCHOOL

The little old school house
Looking so forlorn and gray
Was the hub of our lives
In both study and play

We walked many miles
In slush, rain and snow
Our most important factor
Keep on learning and grow

We helped the teacher
Whenever we could
She responded with praise
Making us feel so good

Teachers are role models
Inspire so many dreams
Recognize achievements
Support and build teams

Many memories flash by
As I pass the school yard
The outhouses toppled over
Doors and windows barred

I was touched by so many
Accepted each basic rule
My world greatly expanded
At MY COUNTRY SCHOOL

I WANT TO DANCE

When I was just a little girl
I loved to dance around
It helped express my feelings
They felt so strong and sound

Dancing brings me happiness
Helps make my heart feel light
My whole body craves this need
Sending problems out of sight
I want to dance again tonight!

Chorus-

I want to dance, I do
I want to dance, I do
I want to dance my whole life through
It makes me feel so good
I always knew it would
Please make my dream come true!

Dancing brings warm feelings
Both giving and forgiving
I respond with pleasure
This makes my life worth living
Dancing gives me energy
I smile, laugh and shine
Those carefree thoughts multiply
When I know this dance is mine
A perfect feeling, most divine!

Chorus-

I want to dance, I do
I want to dance, I do
I want to dance my whole life through
It makes me feel so good
I always knew it would
Please make my dream come true!

Dancing gave me a vision
For many searching years
Kept me in another world
Away from my lonely fears
I make my body movements
With many dancers each day
We all smile, laugh and shine
Those lonely fears drift far away
A dream came true, here to stay!

WHERE ARE YOU?

Where are you? Where are you?
If you hear me, tell me now
Where are you? Where are you?
Please let me know somehow!

Are you my guardian angel
With shiny, silky wings so white
Flying very close to me every
Morning, noon and night
Or are you closer to the moon
Nestled on a bright, moving star
Or flying in dark storm clouds
Please tell me where you are!

I still wonder where you are
When I walk the beach alone
You left us much too soon
To assist God in his home
Grouped with many angels
Working steadily each day
Progressing in your triumphs
Guarding children as they play

Since your departure from us
I feel so angry, lonely and sad
I miss our short time together
Sharing the dreams we had
You had many great passions
Including your love to dance
Watching you was a pleasure
So beautiful in your stance

I search for answers to my prayers
Why would God choose you?
You shared your love with many
Had a kind, caring heart, so true
I have difficulty understanding
How we reach our final destiny

Your love remains within my heart
A feeling of warmth, setting you free!!!