

**The Gift Factory**  
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## **Poetry Exemplar**

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## A Brother Just Like You

I just want to let you know  
You mean the world to me  
Only a heart as dear as yours  
Would give so unselfishly

The many things you've done  
All the times that you were there  
Help me know deep down inside  
How much you really care

Even though I might not say  
I appreciate all you do  
Richly blessed is how I feel  
Having a brother just like you

## A Brother Like You

I'm so thankful I have a brother like you to count on.  
I know you'll always be there with open arms if I need a hug,  
and an open mind if I need someone to understand.  
I'm so glad that I can be myself around you.  
You know my qualities and my faults  
and you love me just the same.

I'm so proud to have a brother like you ...  
not just for what you have accomplished, but for who you are.  
I'm so lucky to have you to talk and laugh with ...  
to reminisce and make new memories with.  
I can't tell you how much it means  
to have a brother like you.

You're one of the most important people in my life.

I love you.  
Thanks for being ...  
... a brother like you.

## A Chosen Child

You're a chosen child  
You're ours, but not by birth  
But just the same, we feel  
You're the greatest child on earth

You're a chosen child  
Sent down from God above  
Chosen to fill our home  
With laughter and with love

You're a chosen child  
You've given us so much pleasure  
Chosen above the rest  
A precious, priceless treasure

## A Cousin Just Like You

I just want to let you know  
You mean the world to me  
Only a heart as dear as yours  
Would give so unselfishly

The many things you've done  
All the times that you were there  
Help me know deep down inside  
How much you really care

Even though I might not say  
I appreciate all you do  
Richly blessed is how I feel  
Having a cousin just like you

## A Daughter

A daughter is a wonderful blessing,  
A treasure from above.  
She's laughter, warmth and special charm,  
She's thoughtfulness and love.

A daughter brings a special joy,  
That comes from deep inside.  
And as she grows to adulthood,  
She fills your heart with pride.

With every year that passes,  
She's more special than before.  
Through every stage, though every age,  
You love her even more.

No words can describe the warm memories,  
The pride and gratitude, too.  
That comes from having a daughter,  
To love and to cherish... just like you!

## A Firefighter's Prayer

When I am called to duty, God  
Wherever flames may rage,  
Give me the strength to save some life  
Whatever be its age.

Help me embrace a little child  
Before it is too late,  
Or save an older person from  
The horror of the fate.

Enable me to be alert and  
Hear the weakest shout,  
And quickly and efficiently  
To put the fire out.

I want to fill my calling and  
To give the best in me,  
To guard my every neighbor  
And protect their property.

And if according to your will  
I have to lose my life,  
Please bless with your protecting hand  
My children and my wife.

## A Father Just Like You

I just want to let you know  
You mean the world to me  
Only a heart as dear as yours  
Would give so unselfishly

The many things you've done  
All the times that you were there  
Help me know deep down inside  
How much you really care

Even though I might not say  
I appreciate all you do  
Richly blessed is how I feel  
Having a Father just like you

## A Friend Just Like You

I just want to let you know  
You mean the world to me  
Only a heart as dear as yours  
Would give so unselfishly

The many things you've done  
All the times that you were there  
Help me know deep down inside  
How much you really care

Even though I might not say  
I appreciate all you do  
Richly blessed is how I feel  
Having a friend just like you

## A Friend Like You

Someone who will understand  
Who knows the way I feel  
In every situation  
Their concern is very real

Someone who has walked my way  
Who knows my every need  
Times when they would see me cry  
Their heart would nearly bleed

Everyone should have a friend  
Just the way I do  
Richly blessed is what I am  
To have a friend like you

## A Good Shepherd

We are a flock of sheep  
Quick to wander and often tangled in the world's thorns  
But you, as a faithful servant of Christ  
Have lovingly been:

A shepherd,  
preacher,  
listener,  
comforter,  
teacher,  
counselor,  
administrator  
To all.

Even as Christ laid down His life for the Church  
You have given of yourself so much in devoted services  
To everyone who comes into your life.

We love you and prayerfully uphold you

## A Grandfather Just Like You

I just want to let you know  
You mean the world to me  
Only a heart as dear as yours  
Would give so unselfishly

The many things you've done  
All the times that you were there  
Help me know deep down inside  
How much you really care

Even though I might not say  
I appreciate all you do  
Richly blessed is how I feel  
Having a Grandfather just like you

## A Grandfather Like You

Throughout the years, you've always been  
A wonderful man, you see.  
When I was small you took the time  
to bounce me on your knee.

As I grew older you were there  
I only had to call.  
I knew that I could count on you  
You'd never let me fall.

So many hard times in my life  
You've helped to get me through,  
I'm so glad God's given me  
A grandfather just like you.

## A Grandmother Just Like You

I just want to let you know  
You mean the world to me  
Only a heart as dear as yours  
Would give so unselfishly

The many things you've done  
All the times that you were there  
Help me know deep down inside  
How much you really care

Even though I might not say  
I appreciate all you do  
Richly blessed is how I feel  
Having a Grandmother just like you

## A Mother Just Like You

I just want to let you know  
You mean the world to me  
Only a heart as dear as yours  
Would give so unselfishly

The many things you've done  
All the times that you were there  
Help me know deep down inside  
How much you really care

Even though I might not say  
I appreciate all you do  
Richly blessed is how I feel  
Having a Mother just like you

## A Marriage Prayer

God fill your marriage  
with memories to treasure

Of faith and trust along the way  
of love too deep to measure

And bring to you as man and wife  
the happiness of knowing

That God who fills your cup of life  
will keep it overflowing

## A Nurse's Prayer

Let me dedicate my life today  
to the care of those  
who come my way.

Let me touch each one  
with healing hand  
and the gentle art  
for which I stand.

And then tonight  
when day is done,  
O let me rest in peace  
if I helped just one...

## A Police Officer's Prayer

Lord, I ask for courage  
Courage to face and conquer my own fears.  
Courage to take me where others will not go.

I ask strength  
Strength of body to protect others,  
And strength of spirit to lead others.

I ask for dedication  
Dedication to my job, to do it well,  
Dedication to my community, to keep it safe.

Give me, Lord, concern for those who trust me,  
And compassion for those who need me.  
And please, Lord, through it all,  
Be at my side.

## A Second Dad

Even though you're not my dad  
I know that you'll be there  
With the little things you do  
you let me know you care

You're always there to help,  
whatever the need may be  
You've given of yourself...  
and so unselfishly

Now you're becoming the dad  
that I have never known  
I'm drawn to you more every day  
for the kindness you have shown

I just want to thank you  
and let you know I care  
A second dad as great as you  
is something very rare.

## A Rosebud

It is only a tiny rosebud  
A flower of God's design  
But I cannot unfold the petals  
With these clumsy hands of mine

The secret of unfolding flowers  
Is not known to such as I  
God opens this flower so sweetly  
when in my hands they fade and die

If I cannot unfold a rosebud  
This flower of Gods design  
Then how can I think I have wisdom  
To unfold this life of mine

So I'll trust Him for his leading  
Each moment of every day  
I'll look to him for his guidance  
Each step of this pilgrim's way

The pathway that lies before me  
Only my heavenly Father knows  
I'll trust Him to unfold the moments  
Just as He unfolds the rose

## A Second Mom

Even though you're not my mom  
I know that you'll be there  
With the little things you do  
you let me know you care

You're always there to help,  
whatever the need may be  
You've given of yourself...  
and so unselfishly

Now you're becoming the mom  
that I have never known  
I'm drawn to you more every day  
for the kindness you have shown

I just want to thank you  
and let you know I care  
A second mom as great as you  
is something very rare.

## A Shared Tear

As the sun goes down, we realize  
that another day is coming to an end.  
We feel for your family and close friends  
at the loss of your loved one.

We wish you the peace and assurance  
that the reasons are there.  
They may be beyond our understanding  
at this time, but they do exist.

We pray you are comforted during this time of  
grief, through your friends and family.

We just want you to know that  
our thoughts and prayers are with you.

## A Sister Like You

Someone who will understand  
Who knows the way I feel  
In every situation  
Her concern is very real

Someone who has walked my ways  
Who knows my every need  
Times when she would see me cry  
Her heart would nearly bleed

Everyone should have a sister  
Just the way I do  
Richly blessed is what I am  
To have a sister like you

## A Sister Just Like You

I just want to let you know  
You mean the world to me  
Only a heart as dear as yours  
Would give so unselfishly

The many things you've done  
All the times that you were there  
Help me know deep down inside  
How much you really care

Even though I might not say  
I appreciate all you do  
Richly blessed is how I feel  
Having a sister just like you

### A Soldier Reports to God

The Soldier stood and faced his God  
Which must always come to pass  
He hoped his shoes were shining  
Just as brightly as his brass.

Step forward now, you soldier,  
How Shall I deal with you?  
Have you always turned the other cheek?  
To My Church have you been true?

The soldier squared his shoulders  
and said No Lord, I guess I aint'  
Because those of us who carry guns  
Can't always be a saint.

I've had to work most Sundays,  
And at times my talk was tough,  
And sometimes I've been violent,  
Because the world is awfully rough.

But I never took a penny  
That wasn't mine to keep...  
Though I worked a lot of overtime  
When the bills just got too steep.

And I never passed a cry for help,  
Though at times I shook with fear,  
And sometimes, God forgive me,  
I've wept unmanly tears.

I know I don't deserve a place  
Among the people here.  
They never wanted me around  
Except to calm their fears.

If you've a place for me here, Lord,  
It needn't be so grand,  
I've never had that much in life,  
So if you don't I'll understand.

There was a silence all around the throne  
Where the saints had often trod  
As the soldier waited quietly,  
For the judgement of his God.

Step forward now you soldier  
You've borne your burdens well,  
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,  
You've done your time in Hell

To all that serve

## A Soldier's Son

Now I lay me down to sleep,  
I pray dear Lord, my soul you'll keep.  
My mommy says I need to pray,  
For many others on this day.

But my daddy - he's a soldier,  
Of this I'm sure you know,  
He helps protect our freedom,  
I was sad to see him go.

Although I know he's safe with you,  
I'd rather have him here,  
'Cause he's the one who always said  
With prayer, there's no fear.

Dear Lord, I know you hear me,  
Way up in the sky,  
Please protect my daddy,  
I wish he was here tonight.

I love you daddy!

## A Special Person

Beautiful eyes, a tender heart  
And a smile that's very sweet  
Before you came into my life  
It was so incomplete

You always make me happy  
You make my world go 'round  
In anything we do together  
Joy is sure to be found

I just want you to know  
And hope that you can see  
You're a very precious person  
That God has shared with me

## A Son

A son is a wonderful blessing  
a treasure from above  
He's laughter, warmth and special charm  
he's thoughtfulness and love

A son brings a special joy  
that comes from deep inside  
And as he grows to manhood  
he fills your heart with pride

With every year that passes  
he's more special than before  
Through every stage, though every age  
you love him even more

No words can describe the warm memories  
the pride and gratitude, too  
that comes from having a son  
to love and to cherish ... just like you

## A Special Wish

God has truly blessed you with unique talents and abilities  
And you have used His gifts extremely well.

Your positive attitude, your willingness to try new things,  
Your dedication, and your caring ways -

All this shows just how much you've done  
With His gifts ...

Today as you celebrate your accomplishments,  
Remember that you are an important part of God's wonderful plan.

## A Wonderful Husband

Honey, do you realize how much you mean to me?  
You give of yourself so much and so unselfishly.

You care and share and are always there  
Whenever I am in need.  
I just want you to remember  
What a wonderful husband you are to me

I am very thankful for the way you are,  
As I realize it is the only way you could be.

I just want you to remember  
I respect you so greatly  
And I thank you  
For being the greatest man in the world in every way.

I will always love you!

## A Wonderful Mother

God made a wonderful mother,  
A mother who never grows old.

He made her smile of the sunshine,  
And He molded her heart of pure gold.

In her eyes He placed bright shining stars,  
In her cheeks, fair roses you see.

God made that wonderful mother,  
And He gave that dear mother to me.

## Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound!  
That sav'd a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears reliev'd;  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believ'd!

Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promis'd good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be,  
As long as life endures.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,  
And mortal life shall cease;  
I shall possess, within the veil,  
A life of joy and peace.

This earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
The sun forbear to shine;  
But God, who call'd me here below,  
Will be for ever mine.

## Alcohol

The name of each saloon is bar; the most fitting name by far  
A bar to heaven, a door to hell; whoever named it, named it well  
A bar to amenities and wealth; a door to want and broken health  
A bar to honor, pride, and fame; a door to grief, sin, and shame

A bar to hope a bar to prayer; a door to darkness and despair  
A bar to honor and useful life; a door to brawling and sinful strife

A bar to all that's true and brave; a door to every drunkard's grave  
A bar to joy to home impart; a door to tears and aching heart

A bar to worthy human use; a door to other drugs of abuse  
A bar to heaven, a door to hell; He who named it, named it well

## Angel Light

### And Then There's You

There are those to look up to  
Those who are wise

Those who are good friends  
Those who advise

There are those who are lovable  
Those who are fun

And then there's you...  
You're all these in one!

Although you may not see them,  
you are always in their sight.

They bring the gift of love and guidance,  
It is called the Angel Light.

You know they always hear you,  
to them your voice is dear.

With the comfort that they bring to you,  
You need not ever fear.

So here's a place for to come,  
to do with angels what must be done.

To make our world whole and bright,  
and share with all, the Angel Light.

### As You Graduate

The highest goal has not yet been achieved,  
The greatest idea has not been conceived.

The loftiest honor has not been received,  
The laurels are yours for the winning!

The sweetest melody hasn't been sung,  
The swiftest race has yet to be run.

The noblest victory hasn't been won,  
Make this your bright beginning.

### Babies Don't Keep

Cleaning and scrubbing  
Can wait till tomorrow,

For babies grow up  
We've learned to our sorrow.

So quiet down cobwebs,  
Dust go to sleep,

I'm rocking my baby,  
And babies don't keep.

## Bethlehem of Judea

A little child,  
A shining star.  
A stable crude,  
The door ajar.

Yet in that place,  
So crude, folorn,  
The Hope of all  
The world was born.

## Birthdays are Special

Birthdays should be a special time  
as everyone should know.  
It means living another year of living  
another year to grow.

Birthdays should be a special time  
for each to then reflect,  
On the past and on the present  
and what the future might expect.

Birthdays should be a special time  
for to start anew,  
Setting goals and working to make  
each and every dream come true.

## Broken Dreams

As children bring their broken toys  
With tears for us to mend  
I brought my broken dreams to God  
Because He was my friend

But then instead of leaving Him  
In peace to work alone  
I hung around and tried to help  
With ways that were my own

At last I snatched them back and cried  
How could you be so slow?  
My child, He said,  
What could I do? You never did let go.

## Changed Life

Some people come into our lives  
And quickly go . . .

Some stay for awhile  
And fill a special place  
In our heart

And we are never the same again.

That's you

## Changes

This is a big change  
in your life, I can see  
But I'm willing to give  
all the love within me

I'm not your real mother,  
I'll grant you that thought  
But I will still teach you  
what your real mother taught

We can do all the things  
that you used to do  
It may feel a little strange,  
but we'll get through that, too

I'll stand by your side  
through thick and through thin  
but please never forget...  
I'm here as a friend

## Daddy

Even though I'm little  
and can't express myself with words...

Even though my thoughts  
for now remain unspoken...  
I really want you to know  
that I love the way you look at me...  
...smile at me and talk to me

You always know how to make me happy  
by doing little things for me

Being your child is fun  
and you are the best Daddy  
in the whole wide world

I love you, Daddy

## Congratulations

On this special day,  
I would like to congratulate  
you for a job well done.

I want to take this chance  
to encourage you in whatever  
you choose to do in the future.

On this graduation day,  
you must look ahead and dream  
of all the bright possibilities  
that your future holds for you.

Today and for the rest of your life...  
may all your dreams come true.

## Dad's Place

There's a special kind of feeling  
When I think about you, Dad

It's a pleasure to remember  
All the happy times we've had

There's a special kind of caring  
That is meant for you alone

There's a place somewhere  
Within my heart  
That only you can own.

## Dear Mom and Dad

We want to thank you for always being near us  
And for all the unconditional love you have given to us.

You have been the best parents we could ever want.

You were with us when we laughed,  
When we cried,

When we succeeded,  
And when we failed.

You were always there giving us a helping hand.

We thank you for being such great parents  
And we want you to know  
That we love you very much.

## Deputy Sheriff's Prayer

When I start my tour of duty God,  
wherever crime may be,  
As I walk the darkened streets alone,  
let me be close to thee.

Please give me understanding  
with both the young and old.  
Let me listen with attention  
until their story's told.

Let me never make a judgment  
in a rash or callous way.  
But let me hold my patience,  
let each man have his say.

Lord if some dark and dreary night,  
I must give my life,  
Lord with your everlasting love  
protect those special in my life.

## Desiderata

Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence.  
As far as possible, without surrender, be on good terms with all persons.

Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even to the dull and ignorant; they too have their story.  
Avoid loud and aggressive persons; they are vexations to the spirit.

If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain or bitter, for  
always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career,  
however humble, it's a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery.  
But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons  
strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself. Especially do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love;  
for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment, it is as perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth.

Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress  
yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.

Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of  
the universe no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to  
be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is  
unfolding as it should.

Therefore, be at peace with God, whatever you conceive him to be.  
And whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life,  
keep peace in your soul.

With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful  
world. Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.

## Especially for You

Carolers are singing and joy is in the air...  
Jingle bells are ringing...  
It's Christmas everywhere!

May Christmas this year  
Be your happiest yet,  
May it bring you warm memories  
You'll never forget.

May your favorite traditions  
Bring pleasure to you,  
May your loved ones and friends  
Share your happiness, too!

## Faith

Often your tasks will be man,  
more than you think you can do.  
Often the road will be rugged,  
and the hills insurmountable too.

Always remember the hills ahead  
are never as steep as they seem  
And with faith in your heart, start upward  
and climb 'til you reach your dreams.

For nothing in life that is worthy,  
is ever too hard to achieve  
If you have the courage to try  
and you have the faith to believe.

Faith is a force that is greater  
than any knowledge or power or skill  
And many defeats turn to triumph  
if you trust in God's wisdom and will.

For faith is a mover of mountains  
there is nothing that God cannot do.  
So start out today with faith in your heart  
and climb until your dreams come true.

## Fireman's Prayer

When I am called to duty, God  
Wherever flames may rage  
Give me the strength to save some life  
Whatever be the age

Help me embrace a little child  
Before it is too late  
Or save an older person  
From the horror of that fate

Enable me to be alert  
And hear the weakest shout  
And quickly and efficiently  
To put the fire out

I want to fill my calling  
And to give the best in me  
To guard my every neighbor  
And protect his property

And if according to my fate  
I am to lose my life  
Please bless with your protecting hand  
The special people in my life.

## Fly and Grow

I'm so happy you are chasing your dreams...  
achieving your goals, and becoming what  
you want to be.

I am only sad that these dreams are taking you  
so far away.

I will miss being able to call you just to talk...  
or when I'm in need of some quick advice.

You are so special and unique--with your own goals,  
plans and aspirations.

These goals, and your efforts to reach them, are steps  
to be cherished forever.

So, today I want to encourage you to fly and grow.

I'm proud of you, and I will miss you very much.

## Footprints in the Sand

One night a man had a dream that he was walking along the beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonging to him, the other belonging to the Lord.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints, and that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life...

This really bothered him and he questioned the Lord about it. Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most, you would leave me.

The Lord replied, My precious, precious child. I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you.

### For You, Son With Love

Some things will always be in style  
Good solid things like honesty, and trust and caring about people.

It's qualities like these that keep us aware of who we are  
And what we can give to life.

It's qualities like these, Son, that you've taught me to value,  
through your influence, your example, and your love.

It has made me love you very much,  
And has made me very proud to have you for my son.

### Giving From The Heart

A mother seems to specialize in doing thoughtful deeds,  
Before you ask she understands your problems and your needs.

Quietly she does her best to help, inspire and cheer,  
And everything looks brighter right away because she's near.

She always has a lot to do but still finds time to spare,  
To listen and to give advice because she really cares.

She helps because she wants to, she finds joy in being kind,  
And making others happy is the first thing on her mind.

She makes this world a better place by practicing the art,  
Of reaching out to others and by giving from the heart.

## Friends

Friends will always see you through...  
believe in the things you want to do...  
feel happy when your dreams come true...  
That's just the way friends are.

Friends will always be right there...  
with wisdom, faith and strength to share...  
with love that shows how much they care...  
That's just the way friends are.

### Glad You're My Brother

I just want you to know how happy I am  
to have you for a brother.  
There are times... like right now...  
when I want to let you know exactly how I feel.

To put it simply, I don't just love you... I really like you!  
Even if you weren't my brother, I'd still enjoy being with you.

It's true that we've had occasional disagreements over the years,  
but that's how we got to know each other better...  
to respect one another's self-worth  
and value each other's uniqueness.

I appreciate the many ways you've helped me.  
You have a real talent for knowing just when I need you the most.  
I know I can count on you for support and encouragement,  
and you've always been able to make me feel good about myself... and life.

You brought something special to our family, too.  
Life just wouldn't be the same without you...  
and all the wonderful memories you've given me.  
I'm so happy to have you as my brother!

### Glad You're My Sister

I just want you to know how happy I am  
to have you for a sister.  
There are times... like right now...  
when I want to let you know exactly how I feel.

To put it simply, I don't just love you... I really like you!  
Even if you weren't my sister, I'd still enjoy being with you.

It's true that we've had occasional disagreements over the years,  
but that's how we got to know each other better...  
to respect one another's self-worth  
and value each other's uniqueness.

I appreciate the many ways you've helped me.  
You have a real talent for knowing just when I need you the most.  
I know I can count on you for support and encouragement,  
and you've always been able to make me feel good about myself... and life.

You brought something special to our family, too.  
Life just wouldn't be the same without you...  
and all the wonderful memories you've given me.  
I'm so happy to have you as my sister!

### Goodbye

When we first met, I knew that I could trust you.  
Few times in my life has something like that happened...  
and continued to ring true through the course of time.  
You've been such a special friend to me.

You have been through so many painful, as well as joyful times  
in my life, and no words can express the sorrow that I feel  
because you are leaving.

The years have flown by, and it seems that maybe we didn't  
appreciate all of the time that we had to share with one  
another.

I know we must look upon the upcoming change as a new and  
exciting adventure... especially for you.

Although you'll always be with me in thought and prayer, I  
will miss your friendship each and every day...  
more than words can express.

### Gossip Town

Have you ever heard of Gossip Town on the shores of Falsehood Bay,  
Where old Dame Rumor with rustling gown is going the livelong day?

It isn't far to Gossip Town, for people who want to go.  
The Idleness Train will take you down in just an hour or so.

The Thoughtless Road is a popular route, and most folks start that way,  
But it's steep down grade; If you don't watch out, you'll land in Falsehood Bay.

You glide through the valley of Vicious Town and into the tunnel of Hate;  
Then crossing the Add-To Bridge, you walk right into the city gate.

The principal street is called, They Say I've Heard is the public well,  
and the breezes that blow from Falsehood Bay are laden with, Don't You Tell.

In the midst of the town is Tell Tale Park. You're never quite safe while there,  
For its owner is Madame Suspicious Remark, who lives on the street, Don't Care.

Just back of the park is Slanders Row, t'was there that Good Name died  
pierced by a dart from Jealousy's bow, in the hands of Envious Pride.

From Gossip Town, peace long since fled, but envy, and strife and woe  
And sorrow and care, you find instead, if ever you chance to go.

### Graduation Wish

As the tassel is turned  
A new path you'll make

May God always guide  
Each step you may take.

Congratulations!

## Graduation

A celebration...

A time for looking back on lessons learned,  
adventures share, bright moments filled  
with special meaning.

A farewell...

A time for saying goodbye to old friends,  
to good times you've known... a time for  
packing away memories, treasures for tomorrow

A beginning...

A time for looking forward, a time to set new goals,  
to dream new dreams, to try your wings and see  
what lies beyond

## Grandparents Special Kind of Love

There's a special kind of love that grandchildren  
have for their grandparents.

It's filled with respect for their wisdom and  
accomplishments...  
with gratitude for the values they've given us...  
with delight in the stories of our family that they  
remember and share.

It's a special kind of love that's built on a lifetime  
of caring and giving.

It's the kind of love that's felt for you, Grandma  
and Grandpa... today and always.

## Grief

There is a grief that ages the face  
and hardens the heart  
Yet softens the spirit...

A grief that casts shadows on the eyes  
Yet broadens the mind...

A grief that keeps the pain and has no words  
But increases the understanding...

There is a grief that breaks the heart and wounds the soul,  
That lasts and lasts and can shatter in a minute,  
But will inspire for a lifetime.

## High Flight

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth  
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;  
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth  
Of sun-split clouds - and done a hundred things

You have not dreamed of - wheeled and soared and swung  
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there

I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung  
My eager craft through footless halls of air.  
Up, up the long delirious, burning blue,  
I've topped the windswept heights with easy grace  
Where never lark, or even eagle flew

And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod  
The high unsurpassed sanctity of space,  
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.

## I Am Not There

Do not stand at my grave and weep;  
I am not there. I do not sleep.  
I am a thousand winds that blow.  
I am the diamond glints on snow.  
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.  
I am the gentle autumn's rain.

When you awaken in the morning's hush,  
I am the swift uplifting rush  
of quiet birds in circled flight.  
I am the soft stars that shine at night.  
Do not stand at my grave and cry;  
I am not there, I did not die.

## I am the Way

Take God's hand, He's calling you.  
He offers help in all you do.

Let not life's cares your heart dismay,  
God planned for you a better way.

Then turn from fear, let faith abide,  
Your gracious Lord is by your side.

Kneel down in peace and gently pray,  
For Jesus said... I am the Way.

## I Had A Father Who Talked With Me

I had a father who talked with me  
Allowed me the right to disagree  
To question, and always answered me  
As well as he could-and truthfully

He talked of adventures: horrors of war  
Of life, its meaning: what love was for  
How each would always need to strive  
To improve the world to keep it alive

Stressed the duty we owe each other  
To be aware each man is a brother  
Words for laughter he also spoke  
A silly song or a happy joke

Time runs along, some say I'm wise  
That I look at life with seeing eyes  
My heart is happy, my mind is free  
I had a father who talked with me

## I Just Want You to Know

I just want you to know...  
How important you are to me,  
Knowing that you care and understand me,  
... that you trust and believe in me.

I just want you to know...  
How wonderful it is having you as a lover,  
Knowing that you are always there for me,  
... that you will always be my friend.

I just want you to know...  
That I know how wonderful you are,  
... that I do care,  
... and that I do love you.

I just want you to know.

## I Like to Think of You

I like to hold a thought of you close to me...  
in a special place where I can pull it out  
to bring a touch of cheer to my day.

I like to think about all the things you've  
done to show that you care, and the many  
ways you have of turning a nice time into  
a wonderful occasion.

I like to think of you...  
because you're one of those people  
who really helps to make my world  
a richer and a happier place.

## I Said A Prayer

I said a prayer for you today  
And know God must have heard.  
I felt the answer in my heart,  
although He spoke no word.

I didn't ask for wealth or fame,  
I knew you wouldn't mind.  
I asked Him to send treasures,  
Of a far more lasting kind.

I asked that He'd be near you,  
At the start of each new day.  
To grant you health and blessings,  
And friends to share your way.

I asked for happiness for you,  
In all things great and small.  
But it was His loving care,  
I prayed for most of all.

## I Love You Dad

What can you say to someone who has always been  
One of the most essential parts of your world,  
Someone who took you by the hand when you were little  
and helped to show the way?

What do you say to someone who stood by to help you grow  
Providing love, strength and support  
So you could become the person you are today?

What can you say to let him know that he's the best there is  
And that you hope you've inherited some of his  
wisdom and his strength?

What words would you say if you ever got the chance?  
Maybe you just say, I love you Dad  
And hope he understands.

## I Shall Not Pass

I shall pass this way but once.

Therefore any good that I can do,  
Or any kindness that I can show,  
Let me do it now.

For I shall not pass this way again.

## If I Could Catch a Rainbow

If I could catch a rainbow  
I would do it just for you  
And share with you its beauty  
On the days you're feeling blue

If I could build a mountain  
You call your very own  
A place to find serenity  
A place to be alone

If I could take your troubles  
I would toss them in the sea  
But all these things I'm finding  
Are Impossible for me

I cannot build a mountain  
Or catch a rainbow fair  
But let me be what I know best  
A friend that's always there

## If Roses Grow In Heaven

If Roses grow in Heaven,  
Lord please pick a bunch for me,  
Place them in my Mother's arms  
and tell her they're from me.

Tell her I love her and miss her,  
and when she turns to smile,  
place a kiss upon her cheek  
and hold her for awhile.

Because remembering her is easy,  
I do it every day,  
but there's an ache within my heart  
that will never go away.

## If it Helps

If it helps to know  
someone cares...

I do.

If it helps to know  
Someone is willing to share...

I will.

If it helps to know  
Someone will always be there...

I am.

## If Tears Could Build A Stairway

If tears could build a stairway  
And memories were a lane  
We would walk right up to Heaven  
And bring you back again

No farewell words were spoken  
No time to say goodbye  
You were gone before we knew it  
And only God knows why

Our hearts still ache in sadness  
And secret tears still flow  
What it meant to lose you  
No one will ever know

But know we know you want us  
To mourn for you no more  
To remember all the happy times  
Life still has much in store

Since you'll never be forgotten  
We pledge to you today  
A hallowed place within our hearts  
Is where you'll always stay

## I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God laid for me.  
I took His hand when I heard Him call;  
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way;  
I found that place at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared a laugh, a kiss;  
Ah yes, these things, I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much;  
Good friends, good times, a loved ones touch.

Perhaps my time seems all to brief;  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free.

## In His Care

It's hard to see tomorrow  
When someone you love is gone  
It's harder still to realize  
That your life will still go on

The Lord won't give you burdens  
He knows you cannot bear  
He will not leave you comfortless  
You'll always find Him there

We're all our Father's children  
On earth and up above  
Your loved one's walking close to God  
Surrounded by His love.

## I'm Glad There's You

I'm glad there's you to smile at me  
And brighten up my day,  
To share my thoughts and understand  
The things I do and say.

I'm glad there's you to laugh with me  
At ordinary things,  
To show me what is special,  
In everything life brings.

I'm glad there's you to be with,  
And I think it's time you knew,  
Just how happy you have made me  
And how glad I am there's you!

## In His Footsteps

When someone does a kindness  
It always seems to me...  
That's the way God up in heaven  
Would like us all to be.

For when we bring some pleasure,  
To another human heart,  
We have followed in His footsteps,  
We've had a little part...

In serving Him who loves us,  
For I am sure it's true,  
That in serving those around us,  
We serve and please Him too.

## It's Up To You

One song can spark a moment,  
One flower can wake the dream.  
One tree can start a forest,  
One bird can herald spring.  
One smile begins a friendship,  
One handclasp lifts a soul.  
One star can guide a ship at sea,  
One word can frame the goal.  
One vote can change a nation,  
One sunbeam lights a room.  
One candle wipes out darkness,  
One laugh will conquer gloom.  
One step must start each journey,  
One word must start each prayer.  
One hope will raise our spirits,  
One touch can show you care.  
One voice can speak with wisdom,  
One heart can know what's true.  
One life can make the difference,

You see, it's up to you!

### Lawyer's Prayer

Our Father, who shall be termed party of the first part,  
Whose place of business is in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name.

Thy Kingdom, pursuant to terms and conditions, come.  
Thy will, duly uncontested, be done on earth,  
in so far as existing statutes permit, as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts,  
notwithstanding claims, liens and legal costs, as we,  
who shall be termed party of the second part, forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation (i.e., sin, corruption, greed, gluttony, etc.),  
but deliver us from evil, the nature of which shall be determined by the Court.  
For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and, pending appeal, the Glory forever.

Amen

## Journey of Love

Everyday that passes  
I feel that I love you more  
I feel thankful for the times we spend together  
I know and feel that you are my perfect companion  
And friend  
And I'd choose you again...  
And again...  
And again!

Naturally we have difficult moments  
But I would not give up even these  
Because it's a part of the journey of love  
That we've been on  
I want to travel by your side...  
Forever

Because I Love You

## Life's Clock

The clock of life is wound but once,  
And no man has the power  
To tell just where the hands will stop  
At late or early hour.

To lose one's wealth is sad indeed:  
To lose one's health is more:  
To lose one's soul is such a loss  
As no man can restore.

The present only is our own,  
Live, Love, toil with a will --  
Place no faith in 'tomorrow' --  
For the clock may then be still.

## Little Leaguer's Prayer

Lord, give me the strength to hit the ball,  
And if I do, don't let me fall.  
Help me to pick the one that's right,  
Then let me knock it out of sight.

Then let me run with deer-like grace,  
Don't let me miss, but tag first base.  
Then on to second, stay with me, Lord  
Cause this one out, we can't afford.

Then let me zoom like a flying bird,  
Right down the line and on to third.  
Then let me slide with feet outhrust,  
Across home plate in the swishing dust.

Bur first of all, Dear Lord, I pray,  
Just tell the coach to let me play!

## Life's Trials

I know that there has been so much  
that you have been through.

Life sometimes hands us challenges to  
test our ability and courage.

Your illness has been a very trying experience,  
I know, but you have shown so much faith and  
strength in everything you've been through.

I'm so glad that you are almost over this  
trial, and that you will soon be able to get back  
to the things you enjoy and the people you love.

I am so proud of you, and glad that you are going  
to be well again soon.

## Love Can Never Die

One must go and one be left  
The lonely road to tread  
There comes a day when all must face  
The path that lies ahead

Knowing that the best is over  
With a loved one gone  
There seems no point in going on

But time is kind, the passing years  
Their balm of healing bring  
And like a bird at winter's end  
The heart begins to sing

We come at last to realise  
Death breaks the earthly tie  
But love survives when grief has passed  
For LOVE CAN NEVER DIE

## Love and Years

I just want to let you know that you will always be  
A very special person who means the world to me

From the first, so long ago, until this very day  
You've only grown more lovely with your tender touch of gray

You take the time to listen to what I have to say  
Which means so very much in this world of dismay

And even though some lines have come across your face  
To me they've added character in each and every place

I see you standing firm in a world that's changing fast  
To me you are the link between my future and my past

The years will come and go and I know that things will change  
But the memories I have of you, in my heart they will remain.

### Love is the Key

Sometimes you think I don't understand you, but I do remember  
how hard it is to be a teenager.  
I know it's not easy working through the feelings you are experiencing,  
and I hope you will always feel free to talk with me.  
Your teen years should be filled with wonderful experiences,  
and I want your life to be happy and enjoyable.

Sometimes you may feel I'm too nosy in your private life,  
or it may seem that I tell you what to do too much.  
I don't mean to make you feel like you have no independence,  
and I know you need some space and room to grow at times.  
But as your mother, I want you to be healthy and happy  
and to have every opportunity in life that you deserve.  
I want us to be able to work out any of our differences  
and communicate openly with each other.

Just as any relationship has ups and downs, so will ours.  
We have always had a good relationship, and we can grow  
and learn together in times ahead if we both work hard  
at listening and respecting each other.  
You are so important to me.

I hope you know I love you with all my heart,  
and I love being your mother.

### Love Sings a Song

Love songs sung softly  
by sweet voices of gold  
Thoughts of a poet  
through his poem gently told

Both speak of love  
that through the years has grown  
Both tell of two hearts  
reaping joy that they have sown

Hope paints a picture  
that grows sweeter with the years  
Love sings a song  
that comforts all your fears

Through commitment and trust  
and tender sweet care  
The vintage of our love  
is God's gift we now share

### Love Is

Love is patient, love is kind.  
It does not envy, it does not boast.  
It is not proud, it is not rude.  
It is not self-seeking.

Love is not easily angered.  
It keeps no record of wrongs.

Love does not delight in evil,  
but it rejoices in the truth.

Love always protects, always trusts,  
always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails.

### Matthew 7 7-8

Ask  
And it shall be given you  
Seek  
And ye shall find  
Knock  
And it shall be opened unto you

For every one that asketh, receiveth  
And he that seeketh, findeth  
And to him that knocketh  
It shall be opened.

## Measure of Success

When sunshine falls upon your day  
And fades from out the west  
When business cares are put away  
And you lay down to rest

The measure of the day's success  
Or failure may be told  
In terms of human happiness  
And not in terms of gold

Is there beside some hearth tonight  
More joy because you wrought?  
Does someone face the bitter fight  
With courage you have taught?

Is something added to the store  
Of human happiness?  
If so the day that now is o'er  
Has been a real success

## Miracles

You are a witness to many miracles  
This fact you may not know  
If you'll open your eyes to God's wonders  
These miracles will be shown.

The miracle of friendship,  
The miracle of true love  
The miracle of a sunset, in the sky so high above.  
The miracle of our laughter  
The miracle of our tears  
The miracle of our growing, and maturing over the years  
The miracle of each loved one, the miracle of joy  
That comes with the beautiful miracle  
of a newborn girl or boy

Oh, let us focus our clouded eyes  
on the miracles all around  
For whenever we can see clearly,  
God's miracles can be found

## Merry Christmas

May your holidays  
be happy days,  
filled with love  
and laughter.

And may each day  
bring joy your way  
in the year  
that follows after!

## Mother

For as long as I can remember...  
You were always by my side,  
To give me support, confidence and help.

For as long as I can remember...  
You were always the person I looked up to,  
So strong, so sensitive, so pretty.

For as long as I can remember...  
You always provided stability within our family,  
Full of laughter, full of tears, full of love.

For as long as I can remember...  
And still today,  
You are everything a mother should be.

Whatever I have become is because of you...  
... and I thank you forever for our relationship.

## My Angel

Angels come from up above,  
to show you God's eternal love.  
They keep you safe from harm,  
they surround you with their loving arms.

Just listen with an open ear,  
and they will calm your every fear.  
Have you ever thought you heard,  
an angel's soft and gentle word?

Angels come from up above,  
to show God's eternal love.

## My Child Did Exist

I've lost a child, I hear myself say,  
And the person I'm talking to just turns away.  
Now why did I tell them, I don't understand.  
It wasn't for sympathy or to get a helping hand.  
I just want them to know I've lost something dear.  
I want them to know that my child was here.

My child left something behind which no one can see.  
My child made just one person into a family.  
So, if I've upset you, I'm sorry as can be.  
You'll have to forgive me, I could not resist.  
I just want you to know that my child did exist.

## My Brother

My brother's very special  
He's loved a whole lot too...

Because my brother's wonderful  
Because my brother's you.

## My Cousin

My cousin's very special  
And loved a whole lot too...

Because my cousin's wonderful  
Because my cousin's you.

## My Dad

My Dad is very special  
He's loved a whole lot too...

Because my Dad is wonderful  
Because my Dad is you.

## My Friend

We have come such a long way in the time that  
we've known each other.

We've given each other encouragement and have  
accomplished things that we never thought we  
could do.

I have become a better person since knowing you.

You have given me many things which I will  
treasure for a lifetime...

And the most important thing of all,  
is the gift of your friendship.

## My Dear Mother

To one who bears  
the sweetest name,  
and adds lustre  
to the same,

long life to her,  
for there's no other,  
who takes the place  
of my dear mother.

## My Granddaughter

A granddaughter is like a special book  
For a person of some age  
Like reading a beautiful story  
Each time we turn the page

There's mystery and excitement  
As the story begins to unfold  
Sometimes laughter, sometimes tears  
Then joy, as the story is told

You bring back special memories ...  
Times I lovingly recall  
All the happy times we had  
When your father was very small

But above all this, there is a peace  
And a deep contentment within  
Knowing that a part of me  
Will go on without an end

I just want to let you know  
How much you mean to me  
I know that I am truly blessed  
With a special family

## My Grandpa

My Grandpa's very special  
He's loved a whole lot too...

Because my Grandpa's wonderful  
Because my Grandpa's you.

## My Kitchen Prayer

God bless my little kitchen  
I love its every nook.  
And Bless me as I do my work,  
Wash pots and pans and cook.

And may the meals that I prepare  
Be seasoned from above  
With Thy great blessing  
And Thy grace  
But most of all Thy Love.

## My Grandson

A grandson is like a special book  
For a person of some age  
Like reading a beautiful story  
Each time we turn the page

There's mystery and excitement  
As the story begins to unfold  
Sometimes laughter, sometimes tears  
Then joy, as the story is told

You bring back special memories ...  
Times I lovingly recall  
All the happy times we had  
When your mother was very small

But above all this, there is a peace  
And a deep contentment within  
Knowing that a part of me  
Will go on without an end

I just want to let you know  
How much you mean to me  
I know that I am truly blessed  
With a special family

## My Mom

My Mom is very special  
She's loved a whole lot too...

Because my Mom is wonderful  
Because my Mom is you.

## My Mother

To one who bears  
the sweetest name,  
and adds lustre  
to the same,

long life to her,  
for there's no other,  
who takes the place  
of my dear mother.

## My Niece

My Niece is very special  
She's loved a whole lot too...

Because my Niece is wonderful  
Because my Niece is you.

## My Nephew

My Nephew's very special  
He's loved a whole lot too...

Because my Nephew's wonderful  
Because my Nephew's you.

## My Perfect Child

As my children were born, I wanted them to be perfect.  
When they were babies, I wanted them to smile and to be content  
playing with their toys.

I wanted them to be happy and to laugh continually instead  
of crying and being demanding. I wanted them to see  
the beautiful side of life.

As they grew older. I wanted them to be giving instead of selfish.  
I wanted them to skip the terrible twos.  
I wanted them to stay innocent forever.

As they became teenagers, I wanted them to be obedient and not  
rebellious, mannerly and not mouthy. I wanted them to be gentle,  
kindhearted, and full of love.

Oh, God, give me a child like this, was often my prayer.  
One day He did.  
Some call him handicapped... I call him perfect!

### My Pledge

Because our relationship is based on mutual honesty  
And communication. . .

Because I like the way you treat me with respect. . .

Because we don't need to play games or test each other. . .

Because I feel happy and lucky to have found you. . .

Because my wish for us is that we spend the rest of our lives together. . .

Because I respect you,  
Appreciate you,  
And most of all,  
I love you. . .

### My Son

Sticky fingers, dirty face  
Rugs and pillows out of place.

Cars and trucks here and there,  
playing cowboys without a care.

Gold and silver I have none,  
but worth millions is my son.

### My Sister

My sister's very special  
She's loved a whole lot too...

Because my sister's wonderful  
Because my sister's you.

### My Son's Dear Wife

I need, today, for you to know  
Just what you mean to me  
Even though at the first  
It was hard for me to see

But now I see, as time goes by  
In those special needs in life  
That only you could be the one  
My son's own beautiful wife

To see the happiness you've brought  
this man, my little boy  
I am so very thankful  
And my heart is filled with joy

As the love you have for one another  
Blossoms, blooms and grows  
I see a beautiful flower garden  
And you... the perfect rose

## My Sons

My two sons are a wonderful blessing, treasures from above.

They bring me laughter, warmth, and special charm.

My sons bring me special joy that comes from deep inside.

And as they grow to manhood they fill my heart with pride.

With every year that passes they are more special than before.  
Through every stage, through every age, I love them even more.

No words can describe the warm memories,  
the pride and gratitude, too  
that comes from having two sons to love and to cherish...  
just like the both of you.

## My Special Sister

I served the cake, you poured the tea  
We built a house under the tree  
In grown up clothes we played all parts  
Secrets told, we crossed our hearts

Through all the years, the smiles and tears  
First true loves ... and football cheers  
I've never found a friend so true  
I'll love you Sis, my whole life through

## My Student

You're a very special person  
And you should know  
How I loved being your teacher  
And how fast the year did to

Please come back to visit me  
As through many grades you'll grow  
try hard to learn all that you can  
There is oh so much to know

One thing that I tried to teach you  
To last your whole life through  
Is to know that you are special  
Just because you are you!

## My Uncle

My uncle's very special  
He's loved a whole lot too...

Because my uncle's wonderful  
Because my uncle's you.

## My Very Special Parents

Mom and Dad,

I may no longer be that little child who always  
Wanted another hug or minute with you  
But I still miss you when we are apart

I may no longer need your hand for every step I take  
But I still need your acceptance and support of everything I do.

I may not be that little child who asked  
For all the things I ever wanted in the world  
But that's because long ago you taught me  
How to go after my dreams.

I may no longer be that little child who  
Looked to you to share every hurt, smile and tear  
but I still feel like that child whenever I think of you ...

I'll always love you, Mom and Dad,  
With the heart of that little child  
Grown to love you only more.

## My Wish for you

When you are lonely  
I wish you love.

When you are down  
I wish you joy.

When you are troubled  
I wish you peace.

When things are complicated  
I wish you simple beauty.

When things are chaotic  
I wish you inner silence.

When things look empty  
I wish you hope.

## Never Stop Learning

On this, your graduation  
May all stand and give cheer  
To honor you for all the work  
You've done to get you here

As we rise and give applause  
be sure you don't forget  
That learning is not over  
As your future plans are met

May you always be a listener  
And learn from all you meet  
Always keep a student's spirit  
And your life will be complete

## No One Else

No one else has quite your way...  
Of caring and sharing everyday

No one knows so well the art...  
Of living and giving from the heart

## Number One Teacher

A teacher should have  
A special place  
In every child's heart

Because in this game of life  
They help them get their start

I just want to thank you  
For all the things you've done

You're a very special teacher  
And to me you're number one!

## Once in a Lifetime

You meet someone wonderful  
Once in a lifetime

Once in a lifetime  
Your dreams all come true

And life from then on  
Can be nothing but special

My Once in a Lifetime is you!

## Once in a While

Once in a while a friend is found,  
Who's a friend from the very start...

Once in a while a friendship is made,  
That really warms the heart...

Once in a while a friendship is found,  
To have a lifetime through...

It really does happen  
Just once in a while...

It happened to me and you!

## One Day After Christmas

It's Christmastime at my house, the relatives are here.  
They eat me out of house and home, and drink up all my beer.

I love the decorations, and the sleigh bells in the snow  
But I wish those pesky relatives would take their kids and go.

Those cookie crunchers fed the dog a twenty pound rib roast.  
His feet are sticking in the air like skinny old fence posts.

Now they're in a free-for-all, the girls against the boys.  
They're fighting over boxes 'cause they're bored with all their toys

My mother-in-law is snoring in my favorite TV chair.  
Those kids are stringing lights on her and tinseling her hair

I oughta wake her up before the fireworks begin.  
But I wanna see those blue sparks fly when they plug her in.

Author Unknown

### Only for Love

We are your parents, and we love you so much.

Because we care so deeply for you, we will risk your love for us  
in order to do the right thing for you.

Please understand, we are not trying to limit your freedom  
with the rules we ask you to follow.

We are giving you guidelines for the important decisions every person must make...  
from choosing the right friends, to a reasonable hour to come home.

You may think we are too strict or demanding, but we want you to develop the  
inner strength and character that will carry you through, and enable you to live a  
meaningful and fulfilling life.

We will certainly make mistakes as parents, just as we did when we were teenagers.

We pray that we...and you...can learn from our mistakes and grow through them.

We hope that we will not forget what it's like to be a teen, and hope that you will  
forgive us when we do.

Someday you will understand what a special joy it is for us to watch you grow,  
change and become the person we know you will be.

### Our Children Did Exist

I've lost two children, I hear myself say,  
And the person I'm talking to just turns away.  
Now why did I tell them, I don't understand.  
It wasn't for sympathy or to get a helping hand.  
I just want them to know we've lost something dear.  
I want them to know that our children were here.

They left something behind which no one can see.  
They made just two people into a family.  
So, if I've upset you, I'm sorry as can be.  
You'll have to forgive me, I could not resist.  
I just want you to know that our children did exist.

### Our Daughter

A special little girl God gave to us one day,  
You were placed into our arms for us to lead your way.

The love we had for you right from the very start,  
Has grown so much and now it completely fills our hearts.

Our lives have had some laughter,  
We've had our share of tears.  
But God has given each their place,  
With the passing of the years.

You stand before us now and it's hard to understand,  
How God has turned our little girl into a fine young woman.

But this one thing remember as you open each new door.  
That as much as we do love you God still loves you more.

### Our Family

Our family is a circle  
of strength and love.  
With every birth and every  
union, the circle grows.

Every joy shared adds more love.  
Every crisis faced together  
makes the circle stronger.

## Our Father

Our father is loved  
more and more with every year

He gives so much of himself...  
he is so very dear

He's a special kind of father,  
who can brighten any minute

Because of all the thoughtfulness  
and kindness he puts in it

He's a special kind of father  
who adds so much joy to living

He is always very supportive  
very loving and so giving

## Our Grandma

Our grandma is loved  
more and more with every year

She gives so much of herself...  
she is so very dear

She's a special kind of grandma,  
who can brighten any minute

Because of all the thoughtfulness  
and kindness she puts in it

She's a special kind of grandma  
who adds so much joy to living

She is always very supportive  
very loving and so giving

## Our Friendship

We have formed a friendship  
That has become invaluable to me

We discuss our goals and plan our futures  
We can talk about our dreams  
And share our fears

We can be very serious  
Or we can just have fun

We understand each others lives  
And try to encourage each other  
In all that we do.

## Our Grandpa

Our grandpa is loved  
more and more with every year

He gives so much of himself ...  
he is so very dear

He's a special kind of grandpa,  
who can brighten any minute

Because of all the thoughtfulness  
and kindness he puts in it

He's a special kind of grandpa  
who adds so much joy to living

He is always very supportive  
very loving and so giving

## Our Mother

Our mother is loved  
more and more with every year

She gives so much of herself...  
she is so very dear

She's a special kind of mother,  
who can brighten any minute

Because of all the thoughtfulness  
and kindness she puts in it

She's a special kind of mother  
who adds so much joy to living

She is always very supportive  
very loving and so giving

## Our Son-In-Law

The day you wed our daughter  
The day you took her hand  
We didn't want to let her go  
For you, or any man

But now we see the joy she's found  
How on you she can depend  
You've made her life complete  
You've become her special friend

So now we want to tell you  
That you have grown to be  
Someone we think the world of  
We're glad to call you 'family'

## Our Son

A special little boy God gave to us one day  
You were placed into our arms for us to lead your way

The love we had for you right from the very start  
Has grown so much and now it completely fills our hearts

Our lives have had some laughter  
We've had our share of tears  
But God has given each their place  
with the passing of the years

You stand before us now and it's hard to understand  
How God has turned our little boy into a fine young man

We've failed in many ways to be the parents we should be  
But we can say we love you as these passing moments flee

But this one thing remember as you open each new door  
That as much as we do love you, God still loves you more.

## People Just Like You

Someone who takes the time to think of other people's needs  
And warms so many hearts with gentle words and thoughtful deeds

Someone who can always chase a little cloud away  
And add a bit of fun... a ray of sun to every day

Someone who sincerely tries  
to understand and sympathize

Someone who's glad to share  
so glad to help and give and care

It's wonderful to know someone who always wears a smile  
Who sees the sunny side of things... who makes life so worthwhile

It's wonderful to have a chance like this to tell you, too  
The world would be a better place...

...if more people were like you.

## Policeman's Prayer

When I start my tour of duty God,  
wherever crime may be,  
As I walk the darkened streets alone,  
let me be close to thee.

Please give me understanding  
with both the young and old.  
Let me listen with attention  
until their story's told.

Let me never make a judgment  
in a rash or callous way.  
But let me hold my patience,  
let each man have his say.

Lord if some dark and dreary night,  
I must give my life, Lord with your  
everlasting love protect  
my family and those in my life.

## Pray

I got up early one morning and rushed into the day  
I had so much to accomplish that I didn't have time to pray  
Problems just tumbled about me and heavier came each task.  
Why doesn't God help me? I wondered.

He answered, You didn't ask.

I wanted to see joy and beauty,  
but the day toiled on gray and bleak

I wondered why God didn't show me.  
He said, But you didn't seek.

I tried to come into God's presence  
I used all my keys at the lock  
God gently and lovingly replied,

My child, you did not knock.

I woke up early this morning and paused before entering the day  
I have so much to accomplish that I had to take time to pray.

## Proverbs 3 5-7

Trust in the Lord  
With all thine heart  
And lean not unto thine own  
Understanding.

In all thy ways acknowledge Him  
And He shall direct thy paths.

Be not wise in thine own eyes,  
Fear the Lord and depart from evil.

## PUSH

When everything seems to go wrong,  
just P.U.S.H.!

When the job gets you down,  
just P.U.S.H.!

When people don't react the way  
you think they should,  
just P.U.S.H.!

When your money is low and the bills are due,  
just P.U.S.H.!

When people just don't understand you,  
just P.U.S.H.!

P.U.S.H.= PRAY UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS

### Rainbow Bridge

Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge.

When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here,  
that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for  
all of our special friends so they can run and play together.

There is plenty of food, water and sunshine,  
and our friends are warm and comfortable.

All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor;  
those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again,  
just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by.

The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing;  
they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops  
and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent;  
His eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to run from the group,  
flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet,  
you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again.  
The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head,  
and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet,  
so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross Rainbow Bridge together....

## Rainbows

Rainbows appear after mighty storms  
When things look their very worst  
Just when the skies are darkest gray  
Look for the rainbow first.

The rainbow is a sign of God's promise  
That He will guide us through all our trails  
No matter what be their form  
When you feel battered by life's storms  
And you are filled with doubt and dismay

Just remember God's rainbow will come  
For it's only a prayer away.

## Real Love

Every time I think of you  
I feel the intensity  
Of loving you  
Like you could never imagine.

What I want more than anything  
Is to hold you in my arms  
And tell you how much I love you  
And how much I want you in my life.

Please...  
Don't ever doubt my love for you  
Because it is as real today  
As it was the day  
We first began to share a love.

## Risks

To laugh is - to risk appearing the fool.  
To weep is - to risk appearing sentimental.  
To reach out for another is - to risk involvement.  
To expose feelings is - to risk exposing your true self.  
To place your ideas before the crowd is - to risk their loss.  
To love is - is to risk not being loved in return.  
To live is - to risk dying.  
To hope is - to risk despair.  
To try is - to risk failure.

But risks must be taken, because the greatest  
hazard in life is to risk nothing.  
The person who risks nothing, does nothing,  
has nothing and is nothing.

He may avoid suffering and sorrow,  
but he simply cannot learn, feel,  
change, grow, love -- LIVE.  
Chained by his certitudes, he is a slave,  
he has forfeited freedom.

Only a person who risks is free!

## Santa Won't Tell

'Tis the week before Christmas and every night  
As soon as the children are snuggled up tight  
And have sleepily murmured their wishes and prayers,  
Such fun as goes on in the parlor downstairs!

For father, big brother, and grandfather too,  
Start in with great vigor their youth to renew.  
The grown-ups are having great fun - all is well;  
And they play till it's long past their hour for bed.

They try to solve puzzles and each one enjoys  
The magical thrill of mechanical toys,  
Even Mother must play with a doll that can talk,  
And if you assist it, it's able to walk.

It's really no matter if paint may be scratched,  
Or a cogwheel, a nut, or a bolt gets detached;  
The grown-ups are having great fun - all is well;  
The children don't know it, and Santa won't tell.

## Self-Control

When I have lost my temper  
I have lost my reason too.  
I'm never proud of anything  
Which angrily I do.

When I have talked in anger,  
And my cheeks are flaming red,  
I have always uttered something  
Which I wish I had not said.

In anger I have never  
Done a kindly deed or wise.  
But many things for which I felt  
I should apologize.

In looking back across my life,  
And all I've lost or made,  
I can't recall a single time  
When fury ever paid.

## Santa's Secret Wish

On Christmas Eve, a young boy with light in his eyes, looked deep into Santa's, to Santa's surprise,  
And said as he nestled on Santa's broad knee, I want your secret, tell it to me.  
He leaned up & whispered in Santa's good ear, How do you do it, year after year?  
I want to know how, as you travel about, giving gifts here & there, you never run out.  
How is it, dear Santa, that in your pack of toys, you have plenty for all of the world's girls & boys?  
Stays so full, never empties as you make your way from rooftop to rooftop, to homes large & small,  
From nation to nation, reaching them all? And Santa smiled kindly & said to the boy,  
Don't ask me hard questions. Don't you want a toy?  
But the child shook his head, and Santa could see that he needed the answer. Now listen to me,  
He told the small boy with the light in his eyes, My secret will make you sadder & wiser.  
The truth is that my sack is magic. Inside it holds millions of toys for my Christmas Eve ride.  
But although I do visit each girl & each boy I don't always leave them a gaily wrapped toy.  
Some homes are hungry, some homes are sad. Some homes are desperate, some homes are bad.  
Some homes are broken, & children there grieve. Those homes I visit, but what should I leave?  
My sleigh is filled with the happiest stuff, but for homes where despair lives,  
toys aren't enough. So I tiptoe in, kiss each girl & boy, and pray with them that they'll be given the joy  
Of the spirit of Christmas, the spirit that lives in the heart of the dear child who gets not,  
but gives. If only God hears me & answers my prayer, when I visit next year, what I will find there  
Are homes filled with peace, and with giving, and love  
And boys and girls gifted with light from above. It's a very hard task, my smart little brother,  
To give toys to some, and to give prayers to others.  
But the prayers are the best gifts, the best gifts indeed.  
For God has a way of meeting each need. That's part of the answer.  
The rest, my dear youth, is that my sack is magic. And that is the truth.  
In my sack I carry on Christmas Eve day more love than a Santa could e'er give away.  
The sack never empties of love, or of joys 'cause inside it are prayers, and hopes. Not just toys.  
The more that I give, the fuller it seems, because giving is my way of fulfilling dreams.  
And do you know something? You've got a sack, too. It's as magic as mine, and it's inside of you.  
It never gets empty, it's full from the start. It's the center of lights, and of love. It's your heart.  
And if on this Christmas you want to help me, don't be so concerned with your gifts 'neath your tree.  
Open that sack, call your heart, & share your joy, your friendship, your wealth, your care.  
The light in the small boy's eyes was glowing. Thanks for the secret. I've got to be going.  
Wait, little boy, said Santa don't go. Will you share? Will you help? Will you use what you know?  
And just for a moment the small boy stood still, touched his heart with his small hand & whispered,  
I will.

## Sister

We ran and played and shared our toys...  
How I remember childhood joys.

We shared a home with Mom and Dad...  
These memories now make me glad.

I looked to you when times were bad...  
You saw my face when it was sad.

We see each other less these days, but...  
You'll be close to me always.

I've loved you Sister from the start...  
The ties that bind are in the Heart!

## Soldier's Prayer

Lord, I ask for courage.  
Courage to face and  
Conquer my own fears...  
Courage to take me where  
Others will not go.

I ask for strength...  
Strength of body to protect others...  
Strength of spirit to lead others.  
I ask for dedication...  
Dedication to my job, to do it well...  
Dedication to my country,  
To keep it safe.

Give me, Lord, concern...  
For Those who trust me  
And compassion for those  
Who need me, and Please Lord...  
Through it all be at my side.

## Someone Who Cares

When someone knows your weakness  
But loves you anyway  
And they will always be there for you  
Each and every day  
When someone will stop and listen  
When you're feeling low  
When someone cares so very much,  
So much to let you go

When someone is willing to do without  
So your life is complete  
And they will give you courage  
When you have faced defeat

When someone is this special,  
You know they're from above  
And there's a place within your heart  
Filled with special love

Thank you for everything  
I hope these words convey  
The love I feel for you  
Each and every day.

## Special Kind of Love Grandma

There's a special kind of love that grandchildren  
have for their grandparents.

It's filled with respect for their wisdom and  
accomplishments...  
with gratitude for the values they've given us...  
with delight in the stories of our family that they  
remember and share.

It's a special kind of love that's built on a lifetime  
of caring and giving.

It's the kind of love that's felt for you, Grandma...  
today and always.

## Special Kind of Love Grandpa

There's a special kind of love that grandchildren  
have for their grandparents.

It's filled with respect for their wisdom and  
accomplishments...  
with gratitude for the values they've given us...  
with delight in the stories of our family that they  
remember and share.

It's a special kind of love that's built on a lifetime  
of caring and giving.

It's the kind of love that's felt for you, Grandpa...  
today and always.

## Special People

When special people touch our lives,  
then suddenly we see  
How wonderful and beautiful  
our world can really be

They show us how our hopes and dreams  
can take us very far  
By helping us to look inside  
and believe in who we are

They bless us with their joy and love  
in everything they give  
When special people touch our lives  
they teach us how to live

## Thank You

I want to thank you for the smiles.  
I smiled all day!

Just thinking about it made the world  
look better to me... because you brightened it...  
and because of the wonderful feelings I have  
because I know someone cares.

Your thoughtfulness touched my life  
in more ways than you know.

## Special

'Special' is the word that's used to describe  
something one-of-a-kind like a hug or a sunset...  
...or a person who spreads love with a smile or a kind gesture.

'Special' describes people who act from their heart...  
...and keep in mind the hearts of others.

'Special' applies to something that is admired and precious...  
...something which can never be replaced.

'Special' is the word that best describes... you.

## The 23rd Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures  
He leadeth me beside still waters  
He restoreth my soul  
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness  
For His name's sake.

Yea though I walk through the valley  
Of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil for thou art with me  
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me  
In the presence of mine enemies  
thou anointest my head with oil  
My cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
All the days of my life.  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

## The Art of Marriage

A good marriage must be created.  
In marriage the little things become the big things.

It is never being too old to hold hands.  
It is remembering to say I Love You at least once a day.  
It is never going to sleep angry.  
It is having a mutual sense of values and common objectives.  
It is standing together facing the world.  
It is forming a circle of love that gathers the whole family.  
It is speaking words of appreciation  
and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways.  
It is having the capacity to forgive and forget.  
It is giving each other room to grow.  
It is a common search for the good and the beautiful.

It is not only marrying the right person.  
It is being the right partner.

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father  
Who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth,  
As it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those  
Who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil;

For Thine is the Kingdom,  
And the Power.  
And the Glory, forever.  
Amen

## The Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit  
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are they that mourn  
For they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek  
For they shall inherit the earth.  
Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness.  
For they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful  
For they shall obtain mercy.  
Blessed are the pure in heart  
For they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers  
For they shall be called the children of God.  
Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake  
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye when men shall revile you falsely, for my sake.  
Rejoice and be exceedingly glad  
For great is your reward in heaven.

## The Miracle of Friendship

A Miracle called friendship  
Dwells within the heart

You don't know how it happens  
Or when it gets it's start

But the happiness it brings you,  
Always gives a special lift

Then you realize that friendship  
Is one of God's most precious gifts!

## The price of love

Grief never ends,  
But it changes.  
It's a passage,  
Not a place to stay.

The sense of loss  
Must give way  
If we're to value  
The life that was lived.

Grief is not a sign of weakness,  
Nor lack of faith,  
It is the price of love.

## The Rainbow Bridge

There is a bridge connecting Heaven & Earth.  
It is called the Rainbow Bridge because of its colors.  
Just this side of the Rainbow Bridge there is a land of  
meadows, hills and valleys with lush green grass.

When a beloved pet dies, the pet goes to this place.  
There is always food and water and warm spring weather.  
The old and frail animals are young again. Those who  
are maimed are made whole. They play together all day.

There is only one thing missing: They are not with  
their special person who loved them on Earth.  
Each day they run and play until the day comes  
when one suddenly stops playing and looks up!  
The nose twitches! The ears are up! The eyes are staring!  
And this one suddenly runs from the group.

You have been seen, and when you and your special friend meet,  
you take him or her in your arms and embrace.  
Your face is kissed again and again, and you look once  
more into the eyes of your trusting friend.

Then you cross the Rainbow Bridge together,  
never again to be separated.

## The Serenity Prayer

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things  
I cannot change, courage to change the things I can,  
and the wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time;  
Accepting hardship as the pathway to peace.

Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is,  
not as I would have it.

Trusting that He will make all things right if I  
surrender to His Will;

That I may be reasonably happy in this life,  
and supremely happy with Him forever in the next.  
Amen

## The Silent Ranks

I wear no uniforms, no blues or army greens.  
But I am in the military in the ranks rarely seen.  
I have no rank upon my shoulders. Salutes I do not give.  
But the military world is the place where I live.

I'm not in the chain of command, orders I do not get.  
But my husband is the one who does, this I cannot forget.  
I'm not the ones who fires the weapon, who puts my life on the line.  
But my job is just as tough. I'm the one that's left behind.

My husband is a patriot, a brave and prideful man  
and the call to serve his country, not all can understand.  
Behind the lines I see the things needed to keep this country free.  
My husband makes the sacrifice, but so do our kids and me.

I love the man I married. Soldiering is his life.  
But I stand among the silent ranks known as the Military Wife

## The Ten Commandments

Thou shalt have no other gods before me

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy

Honor thy father and thy mother  
That thy days may be long upon the land  
Which the Lord thy God giveth thee

Thou shalt not kill

Thou shalt not commit adultery

Thou shalt not steal

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor

Thou shalt not covet

## Thoughts Of You Dad

Often I find myself thinking of you Dad

Of the support and encouragement  
You've given me over the years

Of your generosity, kindness and guidance  
And especially of the many talks  
That we have had together

And it's when I think of these things  
That I realize how much it has helped me  
To know that you've had many of the same dreams  
And doubts that I've had in life

Though I know I don't say it often enough dad  
I admire you and love you very much.

## Thoughts of You, Mother

My earliest memories of you, Mother, are made up of very special feelings ...  
... feelings of warmth, safety and contentment  
and I know it's because you were always there taking good care of me.

I remember how you encouraged me  
because you always knew what I was doing  
even when I didn't.

I remember times you comforted me over a disappointment or a sadness  
and how happy you would be for me when things were going well.  
I remember how you listened patiently to my ever-forming thoughts and ideas.

But most of all, I remember you  
... wise, helpful and caring ...  
always believing in me and loving me.

I'll always be glad for these memories, Mother, and I love you for each and every one.  
Your friendship and faith in me have helped me find my way in life.

I know that if I've turned out even a little bit like you hoped I would,  
then all you've done for me and all the love that guided you  
will have been worthwhile.

## To A Special Teacher

When I started in school,  
This day seemed so far away.

Now it's here and I can't believe  
That time has passed so quickly...

But through your encouragement and guidance,  
I feel I'm ready for tomorrow's challenges.

Teachers play such an important part in shaping and guiding...  
Especially teachers like you. Thank you for caring so much.

## To Dad on Father's Day

I sure hope this Father's Day  
Is your very best by far,

Extra nice and extra fun  
The way you always are.

Times are fun when you're around,  
No nicer dad could ever be found!

You're the greatest kind of dad  
Any kid has ever had....

## To Dad With Love

Some things will always be in style  
Good solid things like honesty, and trust and caring about people.

It's qualities like these that keep us aware of who we are  
And what we can give to life.

It's qualities like these, Dad, that you've taught me to value,  
through your influence, your example, and your love.

It has made me love you very much,  
And has made me very proud to have you for my dad.

## To Daddy With Love

Some things will always be in style  
Good solid things like honesty, and trust and caring about people.

It's qualities like these that keep us aware of who we are  
And what we can give to life.

It's qualities like these, Daddy, that you've taught me to value,  
through your influence, your example, and your love.

It has made me love you very much,  
And has made me very proud to have you for my daddy.

## To Father With Love

Some things will always be in style  
Good solid things like honesty, and trust and caring about people.

It's qualities like these that keep us aware of who we are  
And what we can give to life.

It's qualities like these, Father, that you've taught me to value,  
through your influence, your example, and your love.

It has made me love you very much,  
And has made me very proud to have you for my father.

### To Granddad With Love

Some things will always be in style  
Good solid things like honesty, and trust and caring about people.

It's qualities like these that keep us aware of who we are  
And what we can give to life.

It's qualities like these, Granddad, that you've taught me to value,  
through your influence, your example, and your love.

It has made me love you very much,  
And has made me very proud to have you for my Granddad.

### To Grandfather With Love

Some things will always be in style  
Good solid things like honesty, and trust and caring about people.

It's qualities like these that keep us aware of who we are  
And what we can give to life.

It's qualities like these, Grandfather, that you've taught me to value,  
through your influence, your example, and your love.

It has made me love you very much,  
And has made me very proud to have you for my Grandfather.

### To Grandpa With Love

Some things will always be in style  
Good solid things like honesty, and trust and caring about people.

It's qualities like these that keep us aware of who we are  
And what we can give to life.

It's qualities like these, Grandpa, that you've taught me to value,  
through your influence, your example, and your love.

It has made me love you very much,  
And has made me very proud to have you for my Grandpa.

## To My Dad

Dad, you're very special  
you mean so much to me  
There aren't many Dads like you  
who give so selflessly

When life has turned my world  
completely inside out  
You're always there to lean on  
I know without a doubt

Whenever things go wrong  
and I don't understand  
I know that you will be there  
to lend a helping hand

The years have brought a touch of gray...  
...some lines upon your face  
But to me there's not another Dad  
who could ever take your place

## To Someone Special

Some things will always be in style  
Good solid things like honesty,  
And trust and caring about people.

It's qualities like these that  
Keep us aware of who we are  
And what we can give to life.

It's qualities like these  
That you've taught me to value,  
Through your influence, your example,  
And your love.

It has made me love you very much,  
And has made me very proud to  
Have you for my special friend.

## To Papa With Love

Some things will always be in style  
Good solid things like honesty, and trust and caring about people.

It's qualities like these that keep us aware of who we are  
And what we can give to life.

It's qualities like these, Papa, that you've taught me to value,  
through your influence, your example, and your love.

It has made me love you very much,  
And has made me very proud to have you for my Papa.

## True Friends Always Remain

In Each Other's Hearts

A friend is someone who listens to you without judging  
Right or wrong, good or bad.  
When you're feeling low about yourself  
They gently help you to see the right perspective again.  
A friend reminds you of all the positive qualities  
You forgot you had.

When you share with a friend  
Decisions are easier to make and problems seem less serious.  
A friend gives you the precious gift of time  
To talk about new ideas and desires  
Of reaching goals and accomplishing dreams.  
A friend loves you for who you are not what you do.  
Feeling so accepted makes you want to try harder  
And set higher goals  
And accomplish more.

Through close friendship you learn the fine art of giving.  
You begin to care more deeply and enjoy sharing.  
Seeing the happiness you bring to another person  
Increases your ability to love.  
Wherever you may go in life a friend will always be with you.

## True Friends

There are many people  
That we meet in our lives.  
But only a very few  
Will make a lasting impression  
On our minds and hearts.

It is these people  
That we will think of often,  
And who will always remain  
Important to us as...

True Friends!

## Try To Know Others

If I knew you and you knew me  
If both of us could clearly see  
With an inner sight divine  
The meaning of your heart and mine

I'm sure that we would suffer less  
And clasp our hands in friendliness  
Our thoughts would pleasantly agree  
If I knew you and you knew me

If I knew you and you knew me  
As each ones known to be  
We could look each other in the face  
And see therein a truer grace

Life has so many hidden woes  
So many thorns for every rose  
The why of things our hearts would see  
If I knew you and you knew me

## Two Kinds of Love

Once there were two women  
Who never knew each other  
One you don't remember  
The other you call 'Mother'

Two different lives  
Shaped to make yours one  
One became your guiding star  
The other became you sun

The first gave you life  
The second taught you to live  
The first gave you need of love  
The second was here to give

One gave you a nationality  
The other gave you a name  
One gave you the seed of talent  
The other gave you an aim

One gave you emotions  
The other calmed you fears  
One gave you your sweet smile  
The other dried your tears

One gave you up  
It was all that she could do  
The other prayed for a child  
And God led her to you

Is it heredity or environment  
That you're the product of?  
Neither, my darling ...  
Just two different kinds of love

## Unfailing Grace

I find comfort for each care,  
Wrapped in a promise wondrous fair.  
No matter what the grief or pain,  
There will be sunshine after the rain.

A softest rainbow spans the sky.  
A symbol He keeps watch on high.  
If we abide in Him each day,  
We can never lose our way.

Immortal love through time to be,  
Is what He planned for you and me.  
Accept His help turn not away,  
There is new hope in God each day.

## Wait Upon the Lord

They that wait upon the Lord  
Shall renew their strength  
They shall mount up with wings  
As eagles  
They shall run  
And not be weary  
And they shall walk  
And not faint

## Walking with Grandma

I like to walk with Grandma,  
Her steps are short like mine,  
She doesn't say, Now Hurry Up  
She always takes her time.

I like to walk with Grandma,  
Her eyes see things like mine do...  
Wee pebbles bright, a funny cloud,  
Half hidden drops of dew.

Most people have to hurry,  
They do not stop and see.  
I'm glad that God made Grandma  
Unrushed and young like me.

## Walking with Grandpa

I like to walk with Grandpa,  
His steps are short like mine,  
He doesn't say, Now Hurry Up  
He always takes his time.

I like to walk with Grandpa,  
His eyes see things like mine do...  
Wee pebbles bright, a funny cloud,  
Half hidden drops of dew.

Most people have to hurry,  
They do not stop and see.  
I'm glad that God made Grandpa  
Unrushed and young like me.

## We Thought of You Today

We thought of you today,  
But that is nothing new  
We thought of you yesterday  
And will tomorrow, too.

We think of you in silence  
And make no outward show.  
For what it meant to lose you  
Only those who love you know.

Remembering you is easy,  
We do it everyday.  
It's the heartache of losing you  
That will never go away.

## Welcome to the Family Brother

I'm really glad now that we're part of the same family  
You probably know I wasn't so sure at first.  
I guess I was just afraid...

Afraid that there wasn't enough room  
for both of us in the same family...  
Afraid that I would be forgotten or  
loved a little less than before you came along.

But somehow we've managed to weather all that  
and grow closer too.  
Now I realize how much you've added to this family...  
How much you've added to my life.

I just want to thank you for being such a loving,  
kind and patient brother...

Such a very thoughtful, very special person.

## Welcome to the Family Brother-in-Law

I'm really glad now that we're part of the same family  
You probably know I wasn't so sure at first.  
I guess I was just afraid...

Afraid that there wasn't enough room  
for both of us in the same family...  
Afraid that I would be forgotten or  
loved a little less than before you came along.

But somehow we've managed to weather all that  
and grow closer too.  
Now I realize how much you've added to this family...  
How much you've added to my life.

I just want to thank you for being such a loving,  
kind and patient brother-in-law...

Such a very thoughtful, very special person.

## Welcome to the Family Daughter-in-Law

I'm really glad now that we're part of the same family  
You probably know I wasn't so sure at first.  
I guess I was just afraid...

Afraid that there wasn't enough room  
for both of us in the same family...  
Afraid that I would be forgotten or  
loved a little less than before you came along.

But somehow we've managed to weather all that  
and grow closer too.  
Now I realize how much you've added to this family...  
How much you've added to my life.

I just want to thank you for being such a loving,  
kind and patient daughter-in-law...

Such a very thoughtful, very special person.

## Welcome to the Family Sister

I'm really glad now that we're part of the same family  
You probably know I wasn't so sure at first.  
I guess I was just afraid...

Afraid that there wasn't enough room  
for both of us in the same family...  
Afraid that I would be forgotten or  
loved a little less than before you came along.

But somehow we've managed to weather all that  
and grow closer too.  
Now I realize how much you've added to this family...  
How much you've added to my life.

I just want to thank you for being such a loving,  
kind and patient sister...

Such a very thoughtful, very special person.

## Welcome to the Family Sister-in-Law

I'm really glad now that we're part of the same family  
You probably know I wasn't so sure at first.  
I guess I was just afraid...

Afraid that there wasn't enough room  
for both of us in the same family...  
Afraid that I would be forgotten or  
loved a little less than before you came along.

But somehow we've managed to weather all that  
and grow closer too.  
Now I realize how much you've added to this family...  
How much you've added to my life.

I just want to thank you for being such a loving,  
kind and patient sister-in-law...

Such a very thoughtful, very special person.

## Welcome to the Family Son-in-Law

I'm really glad now that we're part of the same family  
You probably know I wasn't so sure at first.  
I guess I was just afraid...

Afraid that there wasn't enough room  
for both of us in the same family...  
Afraid that I would be forgotten or  
loved a little less than before you came along.

But somehow we've managed to weather all that  
and grow closer too.  
Now I realize how much you've added to this family...  
How much you've added to my life.

I just want to thank you for being such a loving,  
kind and patient son-in-law...

Such a very thoughtful, very special person.

## Welcome to the Family Stepfather

I'm really glad now that we're part of the same family  
You probably know I wasn't so sure at first.  
I guess I was just afraid...

Afraid that there wasn't enough room  
for both of us in the same family...  
Afraid that I would be forgotten or  
loved a little less than before you came along.

But somehow we've managed to weather all that  
and grow closer too.  
Now I realize how much you've added to this family...  
How much you've added to my life.

I just want to thank you for being such a loving,  
kind and patient stepfather...

Such a very thoughtful, very special person.

## Welcome to the Family Stepmother

I'm really glad now that we're part of the same family  
You probably know I wasn't so sure at first.  
I guess I was just afraid...

Afraid that there wasn't enough room  
for both of us in the same family...  
Afraid that I would be forgotten or  
loved a little less than before you came along.

But somehow we've managed to weather all that  
and grow closer too.  
Now I realize how much you've added to this family...  
How much you've added to my life.

I just want to thank you for being such a loving,  
kind and patient stepmother...

Such a very thoughtful, very special person.

## What is a Grandmother

A grandmother is a remarkable woman.  
She's a wonderful combination of  
warmth and kindness, laughter and love.  
She overlooks our faults, encourages our dreams,  
and praises our every success.

A grandmother has the wisdom of a teacher,  
the sincerity of a true friend, and the  
tenderness of a mother.

She's someone we admire, respect and  
love very much.

A grandmother will always have a cherished  
place in our memories and in our hearts.  
She's someone for whom we want every happiness  
in return for the joy she always brings.

A grandmother is all the dear and precious  
things in life...

When she's a grandmother like you.

## What Shall We Give The Children

Christmas is almost here.  
Toys and games and playthings,  
as we do every year?

Yes, for the magic of Toyland  
is part of the yuletide lore  
to gladden the heart of childhood,  
But I shall give something more,  
a more sympathetic ear,  
a little more time for laughter,  
or tenderly dry a tear...  
I shall take time to teach them  
the joy of doing some task.

I'll try to find some time to answer  
more of the questions they ask.  
And take long walks in the sun.  
Time for a bedtime story,  
after the day is done.

I shall give these to my children,  
weaving a closer tie,  
knitting our lives together  
with gifts that money can't buy.

## When Santa Claus Comes

A good time is coming, I wish it were here,  
The very best time in the whole of the year;  
I'm counting each day on my fingers and thumbs,  
the weeks that must pass before Santa Claus comes.

Then when the first snowflakes begin to come down,  
And the wind whistles sharp and the branches are brown,  
I'll not mind the cold, though my fingers it numbs,  
For it brings the time nearer when Santa Claus comes.

## When Parents Become Friends

As a child  
I sought your  
Guidance and strength  
To help me find happiness in life.

Now as an adult  
I walk  
Beside you  
And find happiness in sharing  
Your Understanding  
Your love and  
Your friendship.

## Why Dream

Some men see things  
That are and say  
Why?

I dream things  
That never were and say  
Why Not?

## Why I Love You

I love you for so many reasons  
Big and small  
And all of them are wonderful.

I love you for all the special qualities  
That make you one of a kind...  
The only one in the world for me.

I love you for the things you do  
That bring such special meaning to my life  
I love you for the silent times  
When your eyes and arms tell me all I want to know.

I love you  
Just because I do

Because now  
In the deepest part of my heart...  
A place where there was nothing before  
There is love.

## Wings of Light

Angels above him,  
guardians of his soul,  
protect, guide, and assist him,  
so that he may grow.

Archangel Michael on his right,  
Gabriel on his left,  
Rafael in front of him,  
Auriel at his back,

Mother Earth beneath his feet,  
Christ's Light from above,  
enfold him in your wings of light,  
fill him with your love.

## Work is a Pleasure

What a blessing it is to have someone  
to work with just like you

You make work fun and time goes fast  
in everything we do

the people who you work with  
can make your day or break it

Through times when work is just so hard  
we feel we may not make it

I'm thankful for someone like you  
who makes my work a pleasure

I hope you get your heart's desire  
and blessings beyond measure

## Would I Be Called A Christian

Would I be called A Christian if everybody knew  
My secret thoughts and feelings and everything I do?  
Oh, would they see the likeness of Christ in me each day?  
Oh, would they hear Him speaking in every word I say?

Would I be called A Christian if everybody could know  
That I am found in Places where Jesus would not go?  
Oh, would they hear His echo in every song I sing...  
In eating, drinking, dressing would they see Christ in me?

Would I be called A Christian if judged by what I read  
By all my recreation and every thought and deed?  
Would I be counted Christ-like as I now work and pray  
Unselfish, kind, forgiving to others every day?

## You Do So Much

You do so many little things  
that make life more worthwhile  
You're always there to take the time  
to understand or share a smile

And because you give such happiness  
through the many things you do  
We just wanted you to know  
we wish life's best for you

## You're Missed

It's surprising how often I think of you  
turn to speak to you  
and realize you're not right there  
as I expect you to be

I guess I hold you so close in thought  
that it's hard to understand sometimes  
that you aren't close in person  
but I wanted to let you know  
I'm thinking of you  
and wishing we could talk  
and just be together awhile  
you're really missed!

## You Mean So Much

You truly seem to specialize  
in doing thoughtful deeds

Before I ask, you understand  
my problems and my needs

Quietly you've done your best  
to help, inspire and cheer

And everything looks brighter  
right away because your near

You always have a lot to do  
but still find time to spare

To listen and to give advice  
because you really care

You've helped me because you wanted to...  
you found joy in being kind

And making others happy  
is the first thing on your mind

## You're Really Special

We can't choose the people we work with,  
but sometimes we have the good fortune  
to wind up with someone special...  
the way I did with you.

It makes such a difference in my day,  
just knowing that you'll be there.  
Your way of looking at things  
helps me put them in perspective.  
Your sense of humor always gives me a lift.

I feel that I was really lucky getting someone  
to work with who turned out to be...  
a really good friend!

## You've Touched My Life

You've touched my life...

in special ways through your understanding  
and the thoughtfulness you've shown.

You've touched my life...

through all the loving guidance  
that you've given me...  
through the memories we share.

So whether we're near or far,  
in so many warm and special ways,  
I know your love will always touch my life.



