

Beginning to Love



LIFE'S WATER POND

They say our love is but
A drop in life's water pond.
The tears of joy that come
In a new relationship.
The tears that are shed
When a loved one passes on.
The tears when we brought
A new life into the world.
Each and every tear we shed
Brings new waves to
Life's water pond.
All the tears we are made of are
But a drop in life's water pond.

~ Joanne "Nicky" Roach

PECK ON THE CHEEK

I'm awakened in the morning by a sudden peck on the cheek.
My eyes are still closed, and now my lips try to speak.
The very few words I've time to say right now
Are meant to make the bond between us rebond somehow.
Somehow I fit in: I love you, have a nice day or just
goodbye...in a rush.
I hope my words are helpful to you; not much time before
the bus.
And thank you for remembering me before you fly away for
the day
'Cause I feel so loved and special to greet the world this way.
I'm so happy you are my child – so close to my heart
So many mothers' children tear theirs apart.
I'm suddenly finding myself noticing a responsible young lady
And hey, you're making it harder to believe you ever were a
baby.
So, as I sometimes wish that I'd really like to sleep late,
That peck on the cheek makes me happy I'm alive, I'm awake.

~ Donna Caplinger

LOVING FATHER

I would like to be remembered as
A loving father
A father of three daughters
Hannah, Hayley, and Hope
A father who did his best to raise them on his own
A father who took them to sporting practices
and games for school
A father they came to when they were sad
A father they could talk to so they would feel better
A father that would give his own life to save them
A father that loved them
A father who was proud of his three beautiful daughters

~ Gary Bunch

REFLECTIONS OF LOVE

I feel for you the indescribable; I know you and I are only one soul. We don't need words to say "I love you" because we feel it when we look at each other. When you think of me and touch me, you don't need a sign of approval to know that you are me and I am you. You respect me all of the time because you love me, and I love you. You miss me and I miss you too. We always wait for each other. We wish always to be together from the start to the end of each day and for each minute of our lives.

Tenderness, passion, comprehension, respect, consideration, love, security—all is natural because there is love. In all relationships there is love. I do believe that a better way to live in peace is with love: loving your work, loving your friends, loving your children, loving your life.

This year was good although there was so much suffering. I missed my father, I missed my mother and other friends too. My sister Inirida had cancer; she had nine chemotherapies and she said, "I won't let that cancer kill me." With her second chemotherapy she lost her hair, her eyebrows, eyelashes, and almost her life, but love won the race: Love for her son, for her family, for her life. Her perseverance, her desire for life, for love, for help, to see her son grow up even more, and the love that she received from her friends and her family made it possible too.

We had a hard time, difficult, terrible; my sister who always was very happy, strong inviting and enterprising – I saw her in a condition of weariness, sadness, desolation, not wanting to think about tomorrow. This pain is hard for anyone to imagine. My heart shrinks when I think about it, but although that cancer made metastasis, it went the same way it came. It's a miracle that she was healed and is now cancer free; love triumphed.

In situations like this, love looks like it's been given in different ways, but in reality it is always the same, the same dedication, the same worry, the same interest and wishes for our beloved beings not to suffer and to keep them always with us. It is merely a human condition, which should never be forgotten because nothing prevents us from suffering by internal or external causes. We should cherish how beautiful life is. With love we can confront life and overcome all obstacles.

~ *Doris Molina Hernandez*

HOW I WOULD LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED

If it should be the will of God for me to die and go on to Heaven, I would like all my friends and family to remember me as a loving and good father. I would also like to be remembered as a loving and good husband. Most of all, I would like to be remembered for my spiritual life with God – a man who loved God and who was a good servant of God.

I would like my wife to remember me as a husband who had the love to prefer her over myself. That my wife would know that she was my best friend. I also would want her to believe and know that she was the love of my life. My wife and I have been married for 34 years. If I had a choice, I would do it all over again. If I had 10 lives, I would want to share them all with her.

I would also like to be remembered as a good father who loved his children very much. A dad who had patience with them when they didn't always do right. That I showed patience and gave them time to learn some lessons on their own. A father that was always there in their failure and their success, to cheer them on.

In my spiritual life, I would hope to leave a legacy of being a good servant. One who loved God with all his heart. One who was faithful to God and the house of God. Also, that I stood firm on the word of God. That my life would shine long after I am gone by the work that God allowed me to do by serving others.

I believe that these principles are the most valuable things that life holds. A good father, a good husband, and a good servant of God. I would hope to fulfill these valuable principles and be remembered for them if I die.

~ *Donald Bunch*

MY MIND WONDERS

Every time I close my eyes
My mind wonders
What would it be like if
I wasn't around?
Who would clean the house,
Cook, and take you to school?
Who would ask you, "How was school?"
Help you with your homework?
Who would replace my dinner chair?
Who would tuck you into bed,
Read you a story, tackle you,
Kiss you goodnight, and say, "I love you"?
My mind wonders
What would it be like?
No one knows the little things
That mean so much to you.
I wonder, what will tomorrow bring?
Will I be around to fulfill your needs?
My mind wonders every time I close my eyes.
What would it be like, if I were not by your side?

~ Ivette Soto

THINKING OF YOU

What is it like to find true love?
Is it like a splinter in your thumb
that you can't get out?
Is it like a rose that wouldn't grow,
or the light that wouldn't shine,
or the night that never ends?
And how will I know when I have found it?

Will it hit me like a speeding car,
or will it be as slow as a growing garden?
I hope that one day I will find it.

~ Shannon Zimmerman