



Down Memory Lane

From Norb:

- AH, those round coffee and apple cakes were always a hit at breakfast.
- 2) When I was in Holy Family elementary in WhiteFish Bay, I remember you and pa coming to my Christmas Play (I was one of the 3 Wisemen)..you must have enjoyed it since you talked about it for quite awhile.
- 3) In Kenosha, I use to get to serve Mass at a nun's retirement home on the Lake, at 6 AM in the morning in their very small chapel, and you always got up and attended that Mass whenever I was serving.
- 4) You always were instrumental in getting us all together to say the Family Rosary together. We still try and do so in May and October.

- 5) Every Christmas, you always cooked a big dinner, inviting over Aunts Marion, Helen, and Alice to celebrate with us.
- 6) I remember you going with me to get my tux for the MUHS senior prom. I certainly appreciated your taking the time to do this.
- 7) Who can forget your famous ladyfinger torte which you fixed for many a Birthday or you schuam torte with strawberries?
- 8) You praised the friends I hung around (Dan Kelly, Jim Lange, Ralph Grant). Knowing your mom (or dad) likes your friends is reassuring !
- 9) I always enjoyed the stories about your family as you were growing, and the 9 of you sat around the dinner table discussing the day's events.
- 10) Your job as dietician, whether during WWII, in Kenosha, or in Milwaukee, impressed me as someone who had a good handle on what one should eat.
- 11) When I had to go into the hospital (St Mary's) in late June 1970, you and pa came to visit everyday, and kept me positive!
- 12) I really enjoyed the living room chats with you and dad on politics, religion, family life, and other topics.
- 13) Although not an animal lover yourself, you and pa let us have a cat when we were living in Kenosha.
- 14) You and Pa sincerely congratulated me when I successfully passed MUHS's entrance exam.
- 15) I always liked sitting down on Sunday nights, eating the hot fudge sundaes that you and Pa made, and watching the western "Maverick" together.
- 16) I appreciated the graduation parties, the Confirmation and First Communion parties, inviting all the relatives, recognizing those milestones.

- 17) I felt really important to have you and Pa trust me in taking the family car to high school in my junior year.
- 18) You always made good breakfasts (oatmeal, or cream of wheat) and dinners, while continuing to work full time.
- 19) Thanks for all the family trips you and pa always planned out for each summer.
- 20) I always enjoyed watch the Hallmark Hall of Fame and Perry Mason shows with you.
- 21) Thank you for nourishing our Catholic Faith.
- 22) I remember your concern when President Kennedy was shot and killed in 1963.
- 23) Thank you for the Sunday brunches of hot ham and rolls!
- 24) How could I forget your talent at playing the piano, whether it was in Wisconsin or in Florida, it's music to my ears!
- 25) Your ability to put others first and your tolerance are two virtues you practice all the time.....I guess you had to for some of the dumb stuff we all did! But it also showed up in your caretaking of Pa when he was sick. Thank you!
- 26) You told us (I suppose you were directing your comments to Bob) that you wanted to be a race car driver when you grew up!!
- 27) Your spunk was shown again just last summer when you were up for the Walish party. I remember Aunt Marge mentioning she had gotten a couple of speeding tickets, and you telling her that she had to keep her eye on the review mirror more!
- 28) You always have style.....even your grandkids have said: "What other grandma looks that great?"
- 29) Your wisdom and guidance and caring are second to none: For example. I certainly appreciated it when you (and Virginia) came up north after I had gotten out of the hospital in 2003!



- 1. Ahhhhh!!! Those anise cookies were great!(We sure comment a lot about food, don't we???)
- 2. All those Thanksgiving turkeys and cranberries and stuffing-a lot of work, but worth every bite!(The best part was the leftovers the next day!)
- 3. Then for Christmas, also, you made the best oatmeal chocolate chip cookies!(Healthy, too!!)
- 4. During the summer, every now and then, we'd make a trip to the local Henry's hamburger stand, especially when it was hot out.
- 5. And what about those jaunts to Paddock or Brown's Lake—you al ways made sure the Noxema was handy at night to soothe the sunburn!
- Each Fourth of July wasn't complete without a little baseball practice with dad.
- 7. But you were the one to show us how to ice skate and swim!
- 8. How about when dad would buy a 100 or so copies of the Sentinel so Norb and Lould make a Little extra money hawking papers on 86th and Lisbon on the Fourth of July!
- 9. I needed a little prodding sometimes to get the grass cut on 86th street, but you were al ways appreciative!

- 10. Remember that old green Hudson getting stuck in the driveway in Kenosha and we had to shovel it out!
- 11. Never did we miss Mass on a Sunday or hol yday! Thank you for guidance, concern, and prayers!!
- 12. Thanks for letting me drive that big green Buick Electra.
- 13. Do you remember when the policeman came to the door on 86th street on a Sunday morning to tell you and dad that he had stopped me and given me a warning that I need to be more careful while driving and not kissing my future wife while the car was moving!!
- 14. Needless to say, you were al ways so kind to my wife and children
- 15. So many great memories and so many more things to be thankful for(most of which escape memory), that, suffice it to say, you will always be in my prayers.

Your son Dave



- 1) I always feel like I 'm "somebody" and my self confidence is elevated when I leave from visiting Mom.
- 2) I am proud that Mom is smart and especially smart about understanding people.
- 3) I love to brag that my Mom was an Officer in World War II.
- 4) I am proud that Mom was the boss of the Milwaukee County Hospital Dietetic Department. Her office at Milwaukee County was a sanctuary that I felt privileged to visit.
- 5) When I worked at Milwaukee County Hospital one summer, I knew that the medical records job I had was temporary and that my real career someday would be as a decision maker like my Mom.
- 6) Mom made the best coffee cake and spaghetti in the world and even today, no coffee cake or spaghetti is as good.
- 7) I loved the new outfits that Mom got me (and all of us) for the 4th of July picnics each year.
- 8) I love it that Mom would tag an outfit for every day that she was gone to the annual dietetic convention. It made me feel that she was there every day that she was gone.
- 9) I love how Mom reacted to Dad's gifts every year of her favorite Channel perfume (not toilet water) and flowers. She is gracious. She is the classiest woman I know.
- 10) I love that Mom quit smoking early when the dangers of smoking first became suspect. I realized that she cared about being healthy and was a good example for me and all of us.

- 11) I loved the rose colored chair that Mom bought for our predominantly beige living room and later, family room. Mom has an unexpected streak of fun without any recklessness or selfishness.
- 12) I loved it that Mom came to see me after Sean was born. She made that first week much easier and gave me the confidence to handle a baby and know that I could be a good Mom myself.
- 13) I loved it that Mom would go with me to buy the new school books each year at the start of the school year at St. Margaret Mary. The new books and workbooks smelled good and Mom always told me that I took good care of my books. This made me proud to take care of my books and get a good price for the used books at the end of the year.
- 14) I love it that Mom sent me to sewing lessons and enter a couple of Simplicity sewing contests. To this day, I feel like I am a good and precise sewer.
- 15) When I was little, I loved it that Mom gave me equal consideration to my older brothers and sister, even though they were bigger and more advanced than me.
- 16) I loved to hear Aunt Marge tell me at the August, 2005 picnic that Mom was the smartest of all the girls that she and Mom hung out with.
- 17) I was very happy during my teenage years that I had gone to camps in the summer, had dance lessons (tap, ballet, etc.), and makeup and etiquette lessons. At a young age, I knew that my knowledge of life was broad and was from experienced and professional people. I felt that I could be on an equal basis with anyone and never have to feel "less than" somebody else.
- 18) I loved to keep up with Mom at the shopping center. She moved fast and there was purpose to her shopping never idol, wasted time.
- 19) Mom has never seemed mad at me. Even when she disagrees with me, I always feel she loves me, deeply.

- 20) I loved the petunias Mom planted at the beginning of summer on 86th Street. I loved it when she sang "I 'm a lonely little petunia in an onion patch" when we were admiring the petunias.
- 21) I loved the independence Mom gave me. I especially liked to go to the downtown YMCA for swimming lessons on the bus and then shop downtown afterwards. I always got a brownie a la mode at the Woolworth's counter. I knew how to look out for myself in a big city.
- 22) Mom gave me a dime to go swimming at the big pool every day in summer that it wasn't raining. Those were very fun days with my girlfriend, Kathy, riding our bikes and spending the whole afternoon at the pool in the park but it took all our strength going up the big hill on the way home. But Mom always had a full dinner not too long after I got home that I really looked forward to.
- 23) I liked it that Mom and Dad were in peace on winter days when Dad was laying in front of the fire, taking a nap. Mom was, and is, diplomatic to all of us and never nagged. But she always gets her point across in a powerful way.
- 24) Mom is always sincere. Her beliefs are solid and her actions follow her beliefs. Her faith is always present and encouraging to me.
- 25) Mom is strong in the true sense of the word. She has never needed the world to tell her who or what she is. She knows her strength comes from God and her communication with, and love of God is never interrupted, no matter what occurs in life.



It's just the way

- 1) you looked in your high school picture, like a St. Agnes or the Virgin Mary.
- 2) And in later years, the family photos, you looked every inch the movie star, so slim and sleek. You could have given Loretta Young a run for her money.
- 3) you cooked spare ribs and sauer braten in the slow cooker oven pan before crock pots, and not to forget the spaghetti sauce and meatballs and stews in the pressure cooker. And, oh those roasts and turkeys on the holidays, they were so good. The ribs were marinated overnight and the flavors seemed to seep in, tender and juicy, something not even famous southern rib houses have matched.
- 4) you had to get an outside job to pay for the Catholic education for your children.
- 5) you and Dad always had lots of presents under the decorated Christmas tree Christmas morning, and that Dad had gotten a couple extra for free on Christmas Eve. So we were awash in Christmas Spirit. But, you never forgot what important – Mass first, breakfast, was then the presents.
- *6) that you demonstrated your faith in the way you lived and the importance of going to church and praying do as I do.*
- 7) you had us sniff the candy wrappers to preserve our appetites for supper and not get fat, while maintaining some self control.
- 8) you smoothed things over when tempers got hot.
- 9) you played the piano, in this order; the exercises, the classics, the Marquette and Notre Dame Fight Songs, and finally, the piece de resistance, Whispering. At Christmas, it was the Great Catholic Christmas songbook.
- 10) you picked us up from school in the rain, when the news of the Kennedy assassination closed schools early. And you let me watch the whole thing on TV that weekend.

- 11) you celebrated all of our milestones, the communions, and confirmations, graduations with big and personal sized events – from parties to trips to the custard stand for hot fudges.
- 12) you show your racing prowess, nerve, and fearlessness in hitting that pedal when I'm late to church. NASCAR could learn a trick or two. I'm happy you got to own that dream golden Caddy.... So, is GMC, no doubt.
- 13) you laughed during those nighttime parties with family and friends when we kids were supposed to be asleep. Your peals of joyful laughter wafted up and made everything so merry. And, yes, we could tell it was yours. It was almost like being there.
- 14) you and Dad danced the waltz and fox trot, after taking lessons, at the weddings and the Elks parties. Fred and Ginger were never so smooth.
- 15) you had nearly endless variety of homemade sandwiches, a piece of fruit and a dessert each day for school time lunch. We may have seen it before, but never in the same week. Now that's organization.
- *16) your closet full of shoes, one for each outfit, and a purse to go with. Mom, you were never out of style.*
- 17) your hugs and kisses could make all the hurt go away.
- *18) your letters to friends and family, so stylish and witty. They must have looked forward to them.*
- *19) you insisted we hand write those thank you notes to show our appreciation for the kindness of others.*
- 20) your easy practicality. Things got done. There was order out of chaos.
- 21) your patience with me and us when we were trial for a saint.
- *22) your unconditional love and service, without asking for anything, but maybe we pick up our socks, clean our rooms, get to bed. .*
- *23) your WWII army jacket you let me use during the 60's to be in fashion, with the insignia, which, out of humility, you took off.*

Love, Virginia

- *24) you like to keep things shipshape even when you don't feel like it or your get resistance in throwing things away.*
- 25) you share your life with me.