

# MOM



This was an extremely difficult morning for me. The phone never rang, as it would for the past 14 years, there was silence in my house. She always beat me to it, she never forgot to call and of course wake me up doing so. But today, I miss you mom even more than ever and my heart is aching for you and your call to hear you voice say "Happy Mothers Day" to me, and then for me to wish you Happy Mothers Day too. So mom, I hope you hear me now and all day when I wish you a Happy Mother Day and that we all love you and miss you.

My mother was more than just a mother; she was my best friend, and the most incredible Nana to my children, just like another parent to them. Even though she was always so busy with her work, she would always find time for me and my kids. She made sure she was there for every birthday and every special event that occurred.



Two years ago on her birthday, I tried to make her a jello mold cake. We both don't really eat real cake so I wanted to make her one that we would actually eat. Well, the jello just refused to come out of the mold and we had to sing Happy Birthday carrying in a plate of crumbled jello with a candle. She was so happy, even with the pile of jello and she even took pictures of it. She was always happy with whatever was on her plate and life certainly gave her a full one filled with challenges.



When my mom met Ajit, she instantly was smitten with him. I remember her waiting by the phone for his calls; she was just like a little school girl again. It was fun having another thing to share with her, dating. She loved him dearly and so do I, and he became a father to me, something that I never felt since my own father had passed. My mom was happy; she had a complete family for all of us.



WEDDING DAY IN INDIA found Helen and Ajit in traditional garb. They wear the ritual tikka on their foreheads.



I loved helping her in anyway I could and so did my kids. She knew she could call me anytime, even in the middle of the night. One time she called in a panic, the smoke detector over the stairs which can't be reach by hand, was beeping and she just could not make it stop. She had beaten it with a broom and it was hanging by a wire when I got there. After a few minutes I listened and realized it was her carbon monoxide detector beeping that was behind a chair. She made me feel loved and VERY needed. That was a very special bond I had with her, a perfect balance I always felt. She made the kids feel so loved and her hugs meant so much to them.

The phone would ring in my house and everyone would rush to answer it, hearing the phone proclaim "It's Nana", "It's Nana" (it had a special ring that spoke her name). The kids couldn't wait to tell Nana anything and everything that was on their minds and she patiently would listen to every word. This was an everyday ritual, numerous times a day. On many occasions, too many to remember, we would call each other at the exact same time, and have to leave voice mail for each other. Then I would call her back and we would laugh since she said she was also trying to call me. She would call every night to chat, even while she was driving home from somewhere. I am still talking to my mom every night that will live on forever.

Shopping was a favorite thing my mom and I always did together. I had so much fun picking out her clothes for her and she would always insist on buying something for me too. The only problem that I always tried to avoid was entering the department stores near the shoe section. She couldn't make it much further once she eyed them. On a few occasions, I would have to leave her there when I had my kids and come back and find her still there, in the midst of a HUGE pile of boxes and shoes everywhere.

Growing up wasn't easy for any of us. My father died when I was 12 and my mother was left to raise us all on her own. During my father's long illness, she had very special people, Mr. and Mrs. Labrie and their daughter, Christina helping us all through the hard times. They became the biggest support and family to all of us. My mother would always treat my friends like family. Back then, my mom had very unusual suppers once in a while, one thing she would cook was tongue! Christina was invited for dinner and when she saw what was being served, she went running home horrified to her mother very upset since Debbie's mom had tried to make her eat a cow's tongue! Over the years, my mother learned to cook many other things and my kids couldn't wait to have their favorite meal she made, her meatballs. She would always keep a bag of frozen meatballs and turn them into something incredible.

My mom had tremendous patience. She was always taking me and the kids out for dinner which at times can be quite an ordeal. We even dragged her to the Rain Forest Café for a birthday dinner this year. I know that was not fun for her. In the winter, for my son's birthday, she spent 2 days with us at a hotel in Mass and sat by the pool which was over filled with screaming children. She just loved everything in life and it's just not fair hers was ended this soon. She left this world extremely happy; everything seemed to finally be going her way.



My mother will always be with me, and I hope she knows I am still with her too. This is a bond that can never be broken. I love you mom, you will always be in my heart and soul. You will always be my best friend and I miss you more than you can imagine. Again, I wish you a very Happy Mothers day and I know your happy wherever you are.