

My Darling Daughter Grace.

This letter is written so that it will reach you on your sixteenth birthday. You must understand this has been written for me, -- not by your mother -- according to my directions.

Dearest Grace, I want you to know, that during my life time I have tried to do what was best and proper both for you and mother. I have provided for you both, to the best of my financial means, through the several life insurance companies.

I have left a business which made it possible for us to obtain our daily needs. I am only sorry that of necessity your mother will have to continue in my place. It will be hard for her. yet I am sure she will do her best to carry on.

You are growing to woman-hood. It is only a few years away. Mother will do her share for you. She will see to it, to the best of her ability, that you get an education; will supply you with food, clothing and all the necessities of your future life. She will do her best for you, for I know she loves you dearly. All her thoughts and efforts will be directed for your welfare and future. I want you to realize that, won't you?

Well then Grace, try to do YOUR utmost and make mother's burden as easy as you can. Don't be hasty in your speech towards her. Give her every respect a daughter should. She may be a little excited after a days work, and perhaps raise her voice to you, or say something you may not like. Overlook this dear. Her nerves may be on edge at that moment. Do as she asks of you. If you do not completely agree with her at times, try to place yourself in her position and see her view point. I'm sure you will meet her half way.

Darling, although you will not see me again, nor I you, I should like for you to always remember me. I've loved you dearly as a daddy should. I had hoped to see you graduate High school and later college, and then wished to see you happily married. That pleasure has been denied me. I do hope, God willing, that mother will have that privilege. However, I shall rest peacefully in the knowledge that your love for mother and myself will be eternal, and that you will genuinely follow my advice as set forth above.

Also remember that you are a Jew. Live up to that great tradition. Whatever else you may do or believe, please observe Rosh-Hashonah and Yom-Kippur. Go to synagogue. On those days think of me. Raise your voice and say Kaddish and Yizkor. I honestly believe my soul will be listening to you, and hear you speaking to me.

To show my gratitude to YOU and let you know that my soul thinks of you, I have made arrangements whereby you will receive this little gift of appreciation from me. Buy some pretty clothes or whatever else you may need. Do with it as your little heart desires.

Please keep this letter and occasionally read it.

Come now, dry those tears. It's your birthday you know. Here's wishing you lots of joy and happiness on this day. May you have many more birthdays in the future. My love to mother and you both.

Your
Daddy.