

Letter -August 19, 2002

My Lady,

19 Aug 2002

Sorry to hear about Rich. I wish we had found out in time to attend the funeral. While I didn't see him all that often, I miss him already. I know it's a "time of life" sort of thing, but everyday I seem to understand Stienbeck better. The bell really does toll for me.

On a brighter note, we got an invitation to Mike and Ann's wedding. Very fancy invitation. Also I got an invitation to a sort of wedding shower for Mike. They are calling it a "Honey Do Shower", the idea is for us to give Mike tools so he can do things around the house. He is "registered" at Home Depot. I love the idea - but doubt the wisdom of giving power tools to your nephew. Perhaps I'll give him a First Aid Kit.

Last night I went to one of Julie's baseball games. Ten year old girls don't play all that well, but some are so serious about it. Julie's team lost pretty badly but Andifer seemed overly happy for some reason. It took some doing but I came up with an acceptable way to ask about the contrast. She told me that I didn't understand and explained that Julie actually "played" in the game - sometimes when she doesn't get to play the position she wants, she will just stand in the field with her arms crossed. That's my little sister's daughter!!!

You know sitting here looking at the Christmas Picture you sent me, I realize that I'm seeing the same smile that charmed me 28 years ago. Being the way I am, I checked. I took out the Wedding album and compared - with and without my glasses - it's the same. I know that I've seen that smile a million times - and - I feel cheated that I can't remember each and every one of them. But right now one does leap to mind - I was driving us down the road in Kauai - Tony and Marie were in the back seat - you had just zinged Tony about something - I glanced over and there it was - you looked so happy, I couldn't take my eyes off of you - it's a wonder that I didn't run off the road.

As much as I would sometimes like to, there isn't much that I can do about the past. But to be sure from now on I will try to memorize every smile you send my way. Brings to mind a line from a song - "I memorize moments that I'm fondest of" - good advise.

Oh no, it's time for me to go to work and I've started

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remembering the "red dress" and the night in Honolulu that you wore it. It's going to be a rough day - but that's my problem. You have a great day and know that I'm thinking about you - even when I shouldn't be.

Love,

Wayne