

## Eulogy: Tom Grube to mother Kathryn

Sat. 7Dec2013 Cincinnati, Oh

Honor thy father and mother.

I am thankful for parts of the bible that are simple.

The bible does not give exceptions.

It does not say Honor them... unless you have a good reason not to.

Every child at some point can think of or experience a good reason not. But the Bible instructs us to anyway.

There was suffering grief and drama in mom's life. Especially during the last several years. Her own health problems.

The illness and death of her son.

Other discord in her family.

I've learned a lot from it and am thankful.

There was also joy.

And we have cards and pictures to prove it. I was fortunate to experience much of it and I am thankful. Some of the joys were earlier in time and I have to resist the temptation to give undue focus to upsets simply because they are more recent. Mom was blessed to have lived 70 years and had a full life.

I am thankful for mom's faith. She was raised Catholic. She took her children to various churches and vacation bible schools. I don't remember her quoting scripture around the house but she had faith.

Her faith was tested greatly throughout her life. Everyone's is.

At times I think her faith came up short and I wish that she had more. Everyone should.

Blessed are the poor in spirit.

I am simply thankful for the faith that she had; which was an important seed for me personally.

I am thankful for many good memories from my childhood.

I am thankful for times when mom was not an angel in my life, but I can think of someone else who was.

Judge not lest ye be judged.

I wish that we could see her as God sees her. He knows all of her advantages and disadvantages. Jealousies, fears, self pity, hurts, fears, angers, defensiveness, abuses. Manipulations. Fears.

God knows and sees through it all. He alone has perfect knowledge.

I take great comfort that God, all knowing what travails her life would have, still chose to create her. And not by a slim margin, not like he was weighing scales that it would just barely be worth it. He did it with the full and overwhelming love and intentions that he has for everyone. We are all equal before God. Equally important. Mom was critically important to Gods kingdom. Equally as important as anyone else.

He knows her heart. He knows all of her sins, and he forgives them.

I am thankful for what I've learned about sin from her. How painful sins can be. How sins against each other lead to more sins. Unless we put a stop to it. Unless we learn to resist temptations. Unless we learn to forgive.

I am thankful for learning from her that pity is not the same as love. Pity is easy. Love can be difficult, but Love is what we need.

I am thankful for all of her grandchildren, who in spite of everything else, she had a clean slate with them and they were a great blessing to her.

I am thankful for all the many small kindnesses she showed. Many cards notes candy gifts and crafts that she sent to me and others.

I am thankful for her daughter Norma who sacrificed and endured many burdens to live with and take care of mom for many years.

I am thankful for her son Walt.

I am thankful that she was able to care for him and their reconciliation during his last few years of life.

I am thankful for her children John and Mary and Paul and their spouses families and friends who are blessings to her in countless seen and unseen ways.

I am thankful for her friends and caregivers and aides. For anyone who ever showed her even five minutes of compassion, encouragement.

I am thankful for the ambulances and police; for the people who came when she called. For her sons and other family and all of the servicemen and women who protect us.

I am thankful for this country and all of its freedoms and prosperity.

A short 100 years ago the richest man in the world did not live as well or as long as my mom. She had air conditioning, and 500 TV channels, an iPad, medical care, insulin that an emperor in 1913 could not buy at any price.

I am thankful for this Church. For the warmth with which they hosted our family at the grieving of our brother Walt, and now again with our mom.

I am thankful to all of you for coming today, for however you knew her personally or have known her children. For whatever you have enjoyed or learned from her.