

Dear Dad,

Today, my son is a year old. He is finally asleep after a long party where you spoiled him with gifts, bubbles and all the love in the world. My son has the greatest grandpa. But this isn't a letter from him to you.

I just wanted to take the opportunity to say – Thank you.

Thank you for being the best dad in the world.

Thank you for the sleepless nights, the bottle feeds, the early mornings, the bubbles and giggles.

Thank you for taking me to the park and playing with me the time all the other kids got sick and I was sad about being alone.

Thank you for helping me when I tried to rescue that bird from the roadside. And thank you for holding me when I wept after the bird died. Thank you for showing me that it was okay to fail.

Thank you for showing me how to study instead of grounding me for my bad grades. Thank you for going over my college applications, and after that, my job applications. I still use the format you gave me for my resumes. It still holds up, even after all these years.

Thank you for laughing at me, then supporting me through my pre-wedding jitters.

More than anything, thank you for showing me how to be a good dad. Because of you, I will be a good dad to my son, to your grandson. And that is the greatest gift you have given me dad. Thank you for all your love. I love you.

Your son,

[Your Name]