

To my amazing Gran,

I wanted to let you know how instrumental you have been in shaping my personality and still continue to be so. I always admired all that you did, and there was so much you did! You single-handedly raised three children and secured their futures, and then in your old age had so much energy to play with your grandchildren too. Thanksgivings were always the best at your house. Starting with your signature turkey, and the yearly treasure hunt. There were always gifts aplenty for all the children at Christmas, and so much cookie baking to be done.

From my childhood, I had always viewed you as a sort of anchor for all the people around you. Be it the society, or the family. You brought people together, and you do that to this day. Home has always been your house, a place of comfort where I know I can show up whenever I'm feeling low. That, and your chicken soup always hits the spot. During my rebellious teen years, your advice and our evening talks were mostly what kept me grounded. You taught me how to be a responsible, considerate man who stands up for what he believes in.

You supported me and even talked mom and dad into letting me pursue what I wanted to. For what I am today, much of the credit goes to you. You taught me the importance of family, and of treasuring the people dear to you. I hope one day to be half as good a grandparent as you are. Gran, thank you for being around my entire childhood, and for guiding me on the right path when I felt lost. I will never be able to put into words how important you are to me, but for now, I love you, Gran!

Your loving grandson

Rick