

Without You

When death came to claim you, you must have been so scared
I found your lifeless body; I was shocked and totally unprepared
Expecting, you would live forever, you were so incredibly strong
Being sick for years I thought it would be me first, guess I was wrong

58 years ago we were teenagers when we married, a long time ago
One tried too little, the other tried too much, what did we know
It was hard raising a big family, then we had less, but expected much
We made beautiful children, pray they turn out okay, with God's grace and some Irish luck

Pain came our way once in a while, then in great big droves
We buried our son, survived break-ups, faced trials, left us badly wounded yet still whole
Some of our problems never would be resolved, justice never done
We found love and laughter when we could, sought God's peace on the run

Everyone came to your funeral, our grandson held me up trembling, it was hard
Our children gave their father an outstanding eulogy, delivered by the grace of God
We raised good men and women, they turned out well, as I ponder upon your urn
Now they have children and grandchildren of their own, to love and guide, now it's their turn

I don't want to leave our home, you made it so nice, I feel your presence in everything
Sometimes I can still hear you lifting weights, I hear your music, I can still hear you sing
We didn't agree on a lot of things, and argued way too much
Then healing would come through a kiss, or a familiar lover's touch

Looking out the window, the deer you so enjoyed are in the yard
For a second I want to show you, then I realized I can't; please help me God
The car is different now, plates and insurance all in my name
When I pick up the mail, it's addressed only to me my life has been rearranged

I have had to make difficult decisions, while ignoring my heavy heart
Alone I meet people we love, go to places by myself, it feels like the end, not a new start
Can you believe I ordered oil, put out the garbage, with our daughter's help; I'm paying bills on time
The kids are in and out checking up on me, making sure I'm fine

My birthday, our anniversary came and went, I got through it with all our family's love
They're here all the time, I can see you shaking your head from up above
When I run the water or cook too much, I can still hear you complain
So far the power has gone out, the generator turned on, the gazebo fell down, all from a heavy rain

Sometimes I can't sleep, you know I can't eat, and reading has become a chore
That's when I hear footsteps, lights go out, and I wait for you to come through the door
When I go to bed, I hug a pillow, wishing it were you
You told me I was going to miss you, well, I surely do

I have a lifetime of memories, locked inside my mind
When missing you gets overwhelming, they're not too hard to find
You told me if you died, you'd die happy because you had a wonderful life
You told me you were proud of your family and your wonderful wife

For me you will always be my one and only, your shoes are still under my bed
I always loved you, no matter what anyone said
The leaves are falling; it's getting cold, soon Christmas and snow will arrive
Everyone loved you, we all miss you and your laughter, and we miss you by our side

"See you in church!"
Love, Mary Lou