

Best wishes to ROOTS and SHOOTS of Washington State

LETTERS TO OUR DAD, HILRA ESTELL PRESTON:

DAD,

I know I don't say it often enough how I feel about you. I just wanted you to know that I love you more than I know how to express. You are always in my prayers. With God's help, I believe you can get better. I just want you to be happy, because nothing hurts me more than to know you're hurting. You can be confident that you have given me the strength and foundation necessary to accept whatever life dishes out. You know me; I'll always come out fighting, or at least arguing -- just another talent I inherited from you. You know, I can't even imagine my life without you in it. But if ever you get tired of fighting, I just want you to know I'll understand. I'll always love you. All my life you've given me love, support, wisdom and guidance. No matter what, you've always taken care of me. And, because of the memories we've made and the special relationship we share, you'll always be an important part of me and my life. I only wish I could give you something back in return. Unfortunately, I'm not rich and I can't perform miracles. Besides, no amount of money could pay for what you've given me. But I do desperately wish I could heal you. And, even though I can't, we both know who can. So I continue to pray, because I believe God answers prayers. However, we must accept that God knows what's best for each of us. God loves you, Dad, and so do I.

Your Daughter,
Kathy

DEAR DADDY,

For all the times I didn't say it, I love you. You were a very brave and courageous man; you were always willing to give in any possible way. Daddy, you were there to give me love and support when it was needed; I could trust and believe in what you said. Don't think of death as an ending; think of it as beginning of a new life without going through the pain and suffering that you went through. Daddy, no one could have done a better job than you did.

I love you,
"Shawni-Poo"

DADDY,

In memory of you, who taught me the meaning and importance of faith, of love and respect for myself and my family, of love and respect for others, of tolerance and of humbleness... thank you for the character you built in me.

Love Always,
Linda