

Florence Burstyn 1930 - 2001

Dear Mom,

It's been four years since you've been gone, so we thought we'd let you know how we've been managing without you. We could never be prepared for the grief and shock of losing you in such an untimely way, but you'll be pleased to know that we've been managing well. You made sure of that. As a working mother you modeled the importance of being independent, but not at the risk of family interdependence. Loving, close relationships ruled in our household. As a result, we learned the value of looking after ourselves and of looking after each other. It's a lesson that has served us well.

We continue to love each other, care for each other, encourage each other and support each other. We don't always agree with each other, but you know only too well the value of a good debate. We often find ourselves seeking your advice and are thankful that your years of "let me tell you somethings" have left us with quotable and valuable wisdoms.

Our tears haven't dried but we smile and laugh more often than cry as we recapture your energy and dynamic personality. In our daily lives, we find ourselves identifying with unique traits and attributes that it appears you've passed on.

You also made a very strong and lasting impression on your grandchildren. They still talk about your brisket and chicken soup, your loving embrace and your special style. You can take pride in their value for education, their love for Israel and in their "menschlekeit".

Your beloved husband is healthy and active. He continues his business interests and continues to promote Holocaust awareness. He also continues to walk... He walks in Calgary, Edmonton, Hawaii, Israel, wherever his life and travels take him. He walks with you in his heart and memories of you at his side, every step of the way.

Mom, since you left us, our lives have shifted and changed. But one thing remains the same. There isn't a day, or hardly an hour that goes by where you aren't remembered, missed, commemorated and loved.

Forever,
Your loving family.