

Dear Grandma,

I guess I have put off sharing my thoughts and feelings with you because... I thought I did it already. I really thought I had processed all of them.

Even the thought of having to sit down to do this makes me feel... sad. I guess I was just really good at suppressing all my feelings.

For so long I have... missed you.

I guess I never really thought that I ... would still get this emotional about losing you.

But, I now know that... grief doesn't ever go away, we just learn to live with it better. I have to face it to get through it.

Where do I ... begin?

How do I begin to ... describe what you mean to me

All the years that ... I did have with you

I wonder if you know ... how I still think of you now.

But, when I think about ... your time near the end of your life.

I have so many mixed emotions over... selfishly wishing you were here longer vs being happy that you left us when you did so you didn't suffer more.

How I wish ... I could've had more time with you like the rest of my cousins. I also wish you could've met my husband.

But now I have ... to accept that I can't change it, nor would I want to change anything about our relationships.

I never thought I could have so many different ... things of you in display in my own house!

How can I ... keep remembering our time together when I feel it is slipping away in my mind?

But, I know ... that I could never forget the love that you always showed me.

Even as I begin to become honest, I feel ... lucky to have so many special memories with you compared to a lot of my other cousins. I do feel sad about not being at your funeral, but I also know that you would have been SO MAD if I didn't go on that trip. I can almost hear you now

exclaiming “What in the world are you doing here? Why aren’t you on a plane to Mexico right now?”

For too long I have ... tried to tell myself that I’m fine and I have processed all of my feelings and bottle them up.

I feel that had I ... been at your funeral I may have been able to process my feelings a bit more. But I also wonder if it would’ve just been more for me to bottle up, since at that time in my life I was always determined NOT to cry, no matter what it was about.

I never gave myself permission to feel ... sad about losing you after my vacation because everyone else around me seemed to have processed it already while I was gone.

I guess I had simply ... bottled everything up, like I always do, to give the impression that I had grieved.

You always made me feel special when ... we had our sleepovers, making chocolate covered marshmallows and “playing” the piano.

You were so selfless when you would ... continue to watch me and care for me even as your body started to age and fail you.

It makes me smile when I remember ... our sleepovers, our Wednesday lunch dates for potato soup, and your stubbornness with my mom over who would pay the check.

How you used to make me smile when I would see you ... at my cheerleading competitions and musical shows. You were always my biggest fan.

Our family is so much richer for ... having your traditions and wisdom passed down. I feel that I still learn things that you taught my mom, aunts, or cousins.

You always seemed to ... be the star when you were in the room. You really lit it up with your witty jokes and sarcastic comebacks.

We could always count on ... you to have some sort of snack prepared for us.

Just the thought of you makes me feel ... nostalgic, like a child again.

How I miss the ... way you smiled.

I remember Christmas time when ... you, all the aunts and adult cousins would have those wine slushies that looked so good!

I could always count on knowing that you would ... be at my shows, watching me even if I was in one or two scenes.

We always looked forward to ... spending time together at any point in my life.

I remember that you used to always tell me ... how you couldn't wait to see me on Broadway someday.

You never forgot about .. my friends and asking about them too

It seemed like you were always ... going to be at all of my events in my life \\ But no, that there is an empty chair where you used to sit, I feel ... sad that you missed these events, but I know you watched them from Heaven.

I can't help but feel ... regret for not spending as much time with you and asking you questions about your life when I was older.

I know you must ... be so proud of the person I've grown to be

If God allows you to peak down from Heaven, I want you to be able to see ... how I've grown closer to God and the life I'm building. I don't think I realized just how close we were.

There will always be ... pieces of you around in my life.

Regardless of how the years may pass, I want you to know that ... I'm so thankful to have the memories that we have together.

I want to make sure that you ... tell Grandpa about our time together

I will dedicate myself to ... loving others the way you loved us

I want you to know that ... I think about the memories I made with you and try to create similar, special memories with my nieces and nephews.

I have so many ... questions that I wish I could've asked you about your family and what life was like for you growing up.

I know that you are in Heaven, but I still ... feel your love and hear your voice.

I feel blessed by having ... your Bible, Bible studies, and some angle decorations

You have touched so many with your ... advice and willingness to help

So often, I remember ... the end of your life before our memories together, and that frustrates me. I guess I remember it so well because I was older then compared to when we had our sleepovers, which makes sense that my memory is better then. I still don't like it though lol.

It brings a smile to my face when ... I see your personality in myself (stubborn Irish, oops!)

I know, if you could tell me anything, you would want me to know ... how proud you are of the woman I am and the life I am living.

I can only imagine the welcome you received by the Lord when He ... opened the Gates for you.

It is neat to think of you with your new body. My how you must be ... so happy to not have your gray hair anymore!

I can only imagine how much fun you are having ... with the rest of your family and friends looking down on us.

As much as I miss you, I would never want ... you to have to go through more suffering just to stay here on earth with us.

I know, when we see each other, you will ... give me the biggest hug and kiss on the cheek and introduce me to the rest of my grandparents.

I want you to make sure that when I arrive that we get to ... sit and talk about your life and I can ask you the questions I've been wondering.

It must be amazing seeing ... Jesus

No doubt you have been having long talks with ... Grandpa about what happened down here since he left.

And, since there aren't any calories in Heaven, I imagine you are enjoying ... all the Eat n Park potato soup your heart desires!!

Since getting your new body, I am so glad that you don't have to deal with ... the arthritis that I know affected you so badly on Earth.

It must have been amazing stepping out of your body into wholeness. I wonder what you felt like with that rush of revitalized energy and absence of pain? No doubt you ... were excited.

Make sure that when I arrive ... we can make our chocolate dipped marshmallows together

I know, if you could allow me to see what you see, you would tell me ... to keep listening to my gut and not to get too caught up being in this world.

I know that you are so glad that ... I have continued my walk with Jesus

I want you to know ... that I've found comfort in my life knowing that you would have thought I was a rockstar in whatever I'm doing.

Well, as I begin to think about letting you go and closing this chapter of my life, I feel ... torn because I don't want to forget you or our time together but I know that I have to move on to grow. Just because I let go and move on doesn't mean I can't ever think of you or remember our time together.

You will always be .. someone I look up to and my guardian angel

Someday I hope to ... be the strong, loving woman that you were.

But, for now, I will ... find comfort knowing that you are happy and at peace in Heaven

Please know that I will ... try every day to be the rockstar you believed I was.

I will miss the thought of ... your hugs when I need comforted.

Until that day ... thank you for loving me the way you did and making saying goodbye so hard.  
Lots of love.