



Dear Bill:

Cindy and I are so happy to be here to share this special milestone of your 65th birthday with you, Pam and good friends. We pray that we continue to share in many more "simchas" together.

As I sit and reflect on so many different events we have shared together, I break into smiles, chuckles and tears. While Pam had suggested that I write a few words (somewhat of an oxymoron for me) regarding a favorite memory, funny story or piece of advice you have imparted along the way, it would take me many pages. I have chosen to share the more emotional side.

We met many years ago in a transaction wherein I was counsel to a buyer and you were the broker. In those days, my shell and demeanor was somewhat more difficult than it is today. Not saying I have gone soft as there is no need for me to tell you about that! There was a connection that we made- the Italian / Jewish thing I think, but whatever it was I knew I had made a friend for life. As our business relationship grew into a personal one, my family was welcomed into your family with open arms. Most memorable for me and my children are the x-mas times spent where it was just us. You, Pam and the boys made each and every one of those times so very special, leaving a lasting memory of the spirit of the holidays and the importance of spending quality time with family. I will never forget any of those times and love you guys for that.

As you and I embarked on our real estate business, you continued to always accentuate the positive and I balanced your sometimes-zealous optimism with the "imaginary horrors". All taken together make us a strong team.

As I encountered, and continue to encounter, the trials and tribulations of parenting, you help identify what you believe to be the correct and proper way to deal with so many issues. I don't always agree with you, but as I have watched your boys grow into men and the quality people they each are, I know for sure it was the fault of you and Pam and the guidance that you have both given to them, plus a little luck from the powers that be. You have always told me that it's smart to be lucky!

As my personal journey traveled down an unpleasant path with a divorce, you were always there to share your views and perspective, the spiritual and the practical, a crutch for me that helped me get beyond the unimaginable and the pain that came with it. The love and caring that I received will never be forgotten.

I then met Cindy and shared so many thoughts with you. She is my shining star and I thank you for helping with my clarity as to the ability to let this beautiful woman into my life and my heart. Your relationship with Pam, your display of respect, love and admiration for each other has certainly shaped your views of what a meaningful relationship is. Those actions and words have been an inspiration to me.

On the lighter side, I cherish your smiles, laughter and willingness to find happiness in all that the journey offers. I look forward to spending as much time with you as I can.

Well before I get longer winded, I want you to know that I love you and thank you for being my friend.

Love, Sam