

A special memory I have is
Kerry's love of God no matter what
was going on in her life. She
seemed to never lose the faith.

In Him,
Jay & Gail Hunt

A funny memory I have is
her love of chocolate bars and us
always talking about losing weight.
It was an ongoing topic of
conversation. We talked about how
finally with the "Weif Dens Workshop"
maybe we had finally found the
answer. There goes her faith again.

In Him,
Gail Hunt
12-2-98

Once when I was about 5 and Johnny about 4, Johnny was being picked on by an older next door neighbor. Kerry (a little older than the neighbor) came out & beat him up, & I don't remember him picking on Johnny again.

I started talking late & mom has told me that Kerry used to talk for me. She'd tell mom things like "Rick wants a banana." She also taught me to do a cartwheel when I was 5.

When Kerry was 10 we had a 20 lb. tom cat named Fluffy. Kerry trained it to walk across a ladder that was five feet off the ground. She had him do tricks for a visitor (Joe Webb) who trained world champion Tennessee walking horses. Joe was amazed at what Kerry got that cat to do. Kerry also taught her horse Taffy to jump.

Rick McEwen

Dear Trotter family,

I've thought for some time to remember a certain moment or incident that typifies your mom. But in everything, it finally dawned on me what it really was —

No matter what was going on around her, how many children were demanding her attention, she always looked so very peaceful. Her face always was calm, or smiling. I remember seeing her during worship times when I myself was having trouble concentrating, and her face was totally absorbed in the message & in communion with her Lord. That is a gift beyond price — and already I see it in many of you. Pat & I have had Sarah and Jamie in class, Anna, and now Audrey. That peace is there, shining out of those faces.

May God bless you all & always hold you closely — Pat & Shirl Sean

Dear Jonathan, Kathryn, Corrie, Anna,
Jamie, Sarah, Audry, and Andrew:

There are so many special memories I remember of your Mother, and how she touched my life through those memories in the 14 years I knew her. I believe the greatest quality of hers was giving. Whether it was giving of a gift, her time or opening her house to others. Kerry never thought twice.

I remember many times coming to your house and your Mom was always giving advice on raising and training children to serve the Lord. This was very important to me and meant so much because she knew that all I dreamed of was getting married and having children of my own. I believe this was our special bond, my love for kids and your family.

My last visit with your Mom, which at the time I did not know would be my last visit to see her, she had given a book to me entitled To Train Up A Child. I have treasured this book not only because she had given me her only copy at the time, but also since my last visit we had a little girl, Ashlyn Ann, and this book has helped us in raising our daughter.

You can be proud of your Mother; she exemplified Christ in every area of her life. Her life was and still is a blessing to me.

Love Always,

Amy

(Lunch→babysitter neighbor)

December 1998

One of my earliest memories of Kerry was "Skit Night" at Camp Tokkodah (I don't remember the year). I can still hear her "Check, Check my name is Kerry". Always on check-in day I looked forward to seeing the Tratters and I knew before they left Kerry would go to "The Bluff". I still think of Kerry often and I realize being 84 that it won't be too long until I see her in her new home.

Love
Grammy Ball

John and I had the privilege of meeting your mother the summer of 1995. I remember the first time I met Kerry. It was at church in the nursing room next to the nursery. She was nursing the twins who at that time were one year old. I remember thinking how impressed I was that she was nursing twins and how hard that must be, yet she had already been doing it for a year. It wasn't until later that day that I found out she had four other children. From that moment on, the more I learned about Kerry and the more I learned from Kerry the more impressed I was. She was genuine and honest in her ideas and thoughts and was not afraid to "tell it like it is". I learned more from her by just sitting and listening than I could have learned in a dozen classes.

She was always such an inspiration to me. The way she lived her life and raised her children was a wonderful example of how we all should live. Her only direction in life was to live for God and to do his will. I truly have respect for Mark and Kerry. They always did what God wanted them to do no matter what the odds. I wish I could have known Kerry longer. I know I could have learned so much more from her. I treasure the times I spent with her, though they were few. She was a very special person and will never be forgotten.

John and Kim Tebo

12-11-98

We didn't know your mother very well but we
saw the love she had for her family.

The togetherness you all had for each other.
you older ones took charge of the younger ones
and helped out.

We never hear noise out of any of you in
Church. (Well almost never).

Your mother left you a legacy of
LOVE and COMPASSION. Pass it on -

Fred & Catherine Cullison

Atlanta, GA - January 4, 1999

When I think of Kerry, I always think of a gentle, loving and caring person. She always seemed to be in control of her life because I knew God always led her in the right direction. I admired her devotion towards home-schooling when it was not a popular thing to do yet. And now look at her efforts... I believe Jonathan, Katherine and Corey have been well served during those years.

Having been married now for twelve years and some, I can truly say that the marriage example that Kerry and Mark lived was truly a blessing to my life. I could feel their oneness in their union and in theirs hearts as well as their oneness with the Lord Almighty.

As I reflect back to those wonderful years at Red Bridge church of Christ, I can truly say Kerry made it a better place just because of her servanthood and her desire to worship God. I never doubted her faith nor her love for Christ since it was so apparent in her daily devotion to Him.

Kerry was a great ambassador for God ...

Didier "D.D.A."
Didier Villard.

January 2, 1999

Being a new mother at home full time can be quite isolating at times. So when Kerry Trotter invited me and my baby, Roman, over for coffee one morning, it made me feel good.

Kerry Trotter was an older, more experienced mom. I liked the way she ~~was~~ so easy going- things didn't have to be perfect or fancy. We casually sat, sipped and shared upstairs by the window. Heather Carter was there too with Alexa J'ayne.

Kerry encouraged me- things that might worry me was no big deal to her. She was interested- asked questions about me (I'm sure she probably did that to everyone), which made me feel cared about. It made me want to be like her- caring and hospitable.

Being hospitable came very naturally to Kerry and Mark- one of the highlights of our time in Missouri with the church there was the annual Sunrise Devotional that Mark and Kerry hosted, complete with a fire and hot chocolate, not to mention much sharing of scripture, prayers and testimonies.

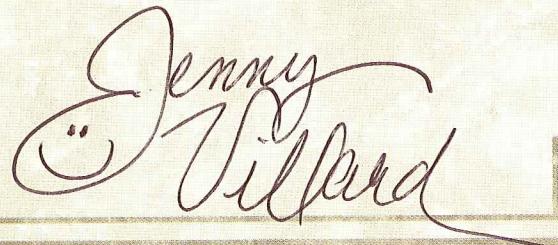
Though easy-going, I remember that the things Kerry felt strongly about she let you know, like missions and her admiration of people like Cory Tinboom who adventured and sacrificed for Christ in other countries.

When ~~we were~~ visiting Red Bridge church and saw her in her last months here on earth, I was surprised at how she seemed really okay with everything, "bien dans sa peau" as we say in French. She showed grace, strength and focus- trusting the Master Plan, such as it was.

As Kerry and Mark's children, I'm sure you will inherit many of these wonderful qualities I've mentioned.

Grace and peace to you all, from Jenny Villard.

In His Love,



A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jenny Villard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Jenny" on the top line and "Villard" on the bottom line, connected by a flourish.

January, 1999

Dear Children and Grandchildren of Kerry Trotter,

"Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: 'Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.' Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate." Proverbs 31:28-31

"I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." Psalm 40:8

I and my family first met Kerry in June of 1996. We had just placed membership with Red Bridge and on one of those first Sunday evenings after service we were invited to McDonald's by your family. Audrey was only a baby, not even two months old. As we walked out to the van, the girls knew more about your family than I did. "Mom, they have seven children and they are all girls except the oldest is a boy." This began our friendship with your family. My mental picture of Kerry at that time can be described as soft, gentle, peaceful.

As time went on and I learned more about your family, I remember questioning myself, "With all that has happened to them, how does she seem to deal with it so well?"

The summer of '97, when Kerry was pregnant with Andrew, she taught a ladies Bible class at Annette Dalton's. The class was "Experiencing God." That was the first time that I heard her talk about Laura and Anna and how Effie Harnden encouraged her to praise God for it all. My question was answered even though not entirely comprehended. That was how she did it - through praising God and accepting the power of God to work through her.

Your mother and grandmother desired to do God's will more than her own. Because of that, God blessed her with the needed grace to make it through those situations, and she accepted this grace. This same acceptance of God's grace working in her life, as well as your father and grandfather, was clearly evident during her illness. To this day, God's grace continues to be evident in the entire Trotter family. This is a great example and encouragement to the church and the world and my family.

Dear children and grandchildren of Kerry Trotter: As a mother desiring to instill in my own daughters to love the Lord God with all their heart, with all their soul, with all their mind and with all their strength. I encourage you all to do the same. Love him deep in the inner most of your hearts. Love him above all else. Desire to do his will knowing that that way you will always be safe in his loving arms and he will keep you from the evil one. (Deuteronomy 6:5; Matthew 22:37; Mark 12:30; Luke 10:27; Psalm 27:5; Psalm 34:7; Psalm 121; Proverbs 29:25; Matthew 6:13; John 17:15; 2 Thessalonians 3:3; 1 John 5:18)

As your mother and grandmother said on a practice tape for the 1990 Mo-Kan Ladies retreat, Power in Praise - "Just do it."

*My love in Christ to you all,
Mary Hunzinger*

Dear Children,

Your mom was very special to me. I feel God used her to give me a better view of Himself. To show me He still actively works in the lives of those who love Him.

She talked of things I had never heard before in Church of Christ circles. Things that challenged me to dig deeper into God's Word. She also shared special ways God had worked in her life; like God's promise to her of Corp.

Your mom was the first one to tell me about Brittany, from knowing what God had done in her life, it gave me the hope I needed to believe it could happen. She continually encouraged me along the way not to lose that hope.

She was also the first to present to me a new vision for a family. One where the children are drawn to their father and to their siblings. One I am forever grateful for.

The best advice your mom ever gave me was to pray that God would make my desires His desires. That has been steadfast advice that has worked wonders in my life.

Oh how I miss being able to sit and visit for hours with her. Solving world problems as I called it. Those are such sweet memories for me.

Love to you all,

Robin

(This is page 11)

Memories of Carrie Trotter

Our family came to the Red Bridge Church of Christ sometime in November of 1993. We had lived in Texas for 12 years and relocated to Missouri to be closer to our family. My first memories of the Trotter family was meeting Mark. I quickly came to realize that Mark seemed to make it a point to meet every "new face" that walked in the door. This simple act of welcoming us was a refreshing change from some of the other congregations we had visited. At that time, there were only four kids in the Trotter clan.

After meeting Carrie, I was impressed how Carrie's personality complemented Mark's. Carrie was more reserved than Mark but very strong in her convictions and was not afraid to vocalize those convictions. Quickly it was evident where Carrie's heart was. It was for raising Godly children. She was strongly convicted that each of her children was a blessing from God and she did not want to refuse God's blessings for her. Both of these convictions influenced many people (many more than Carrie ever realized).

Carrie's desire to home school her children was admired by many. She was willing to share her views on home schooling with those who were home schooling, who were thinking about it, those who had not yet thought seriously about it, and even to those who were opposed to it.

I was encouraged more by the fruit of Carrie's (and Mark's) labor than by her words. What a nice family! Since 1993, it has been encouraging to see how much respect Jonathan, Kathryn, Corrie, and Anna had for their mother and their willingness to be under the umbrella of their parent's authority. When Sarah and Jamie came along, the family unit adjusted. How happy it was to witness these cute little girls and the love their Mother had for them. When Audrey came along, again, with joy the family unit adjusted! Again, God's blessing was counted and a cute little red head was cherished by her Mother. Then God blessed the Trotter family again a ninth time with the birth of Andrew. I remember that Carrie was concerned for Andrew. She loved him very much but was already experiencing some of the effects of her cancer. She wanted a close bond with him so that he would always know how deep her love was for him. Since Carrie's death, again, God has provided for the Trotters through their faithfulness even in times of sorrow and loss. I have seen how love flows from sibling to sibling; something that is not seen in a lot of American families. Little Andrew is a happy little boy doing the Trotter crawl (no knees on the ground!) and his Father, brother, and sisters all love him.

In summary, it is not surprising that many of the memories that I have about Carrie revolve around the Trotter family as a whole. The annual church hay rides, sunrise service at the Trotters, IBLP and ATI seminars, and Sunday nights visits at McDonalds are good memories that I have of Carrie Trotter. Even in her death, her life's story continued to be a testimony of her love for her children and her trust in Jesus Christ her Savior!

"The memory of the righteous is blessed" Proverbs 10:7



It is hard to know where to begin
your mom was just every where - always
doing and helping everyone out. She
always had something cheerful to say
and a smile on her face. She
seemed so calm and "easy going" no
matter what was taking place
She and your Dad were wonderful
parents. We miss her as we
know you all do. Know you all
have great memories of her and will
help keep them alive for the younger
children
all send love
Nathalie & Woody Woodward

Jan. 4, 1999

Dear Trotter Family,

Kerry was an excellent Christian example of Christian womanhood - wife, mother, friend, and teacher. I remember being in ladies' Bible classes that she taught. a Bible verse that she used many times and applied to her life:

I Thessalonians 5:18 "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." She knew the power of praise to God for everything.

With Love, Dolores Dotson

I observed Kerry's spiritual growth in the support group "The Twelve Steps - A Spiritual Journey". She applied James's admonition to ..."Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so you may be healed."..., James 5:16.

Sincerely,
Jim Dotson

Dear Trotter children,

1/4/1999

After our second child Joseph was born, I talked with your mom about Marsha's and my decision not to have any more children. I talked about the practical aspects (expenses) of having more; your mom talked about the blessings. As a result of that conversation, Marsha and I decided to have another baby. We were not to have only one more, however, but two -- Jennifer and John. We have your mom to thank (as well as God) for the blessings of Jennifer and John in our lives.

Remembering your mom,
Ron & Marsha Sifuentes

We met Kerry the 1st day we visited at Red Bridge. She was ~~warm~~ and welcoming to our family. Now that we've been attending Red Bridge for over 2 years, I think about that 1st meeting and how much it enriched our lives to meet her. She loved children and was delighted to meet our Audrey. She was also so congratulatory, as we were 3 months pregnant with our Avery.

After that time, I always saw Kerry and noticed how she always was smiling all the time. She always spoke to Tom's I, which is so nice in a world where everyone is always too busy for a common courtesy.

Smiling and talking about her family. That's how we remember Kerry.

Jennifer & Tom Nenson

Memories of Kerry

By Sheri Thomas

When I first met Kerry she was about 8 months pregnant. Soon afterward we all celebrated Corrie's birth, but I didn't realize the significance of the celebration until several months later when I listened to Kerry speak to a group of ladies at Red Bridge. She told the story of Laura's birth, life and death. Kerry's testimony was full of praise and pointed to the glorious God who was her strength. Her words touched me deeply and planted the seeds in my heart that would enable me to develop a deeper, more intimate relationship with my Lord. Kerry's example helped teach me to praise God in every circumstance. She shared a scripture in her talk that morning that meant a great deal to her.

"I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11

Kerry shared how God had comforted her through this promise – especially when she discovered that the name she had chosen, Corrie, meant "prosperous one." I turn to this passage often for comfort and I never read it without thinking of Kerry.

On several occasions when I have faced major decisions in my life, Kerry's "words of wisdom" have challenged me to think differently, dig deeper into God's word and listen more intently to his voice. She had a talent for helping me to discover God's will for me without ever giving advice.

I am grateful for the memories I have of Kerry. They form a collage of smiles, laughter, dedication to her family and a tremendous passion for her Lord. I will continue to remember you, her children, in my prayers.

*Love,
Sheri Thomas
12/2/98*

Nov. 28, 1998

When I think of your mother, I remember her as a devout Christian, a loving wife, a caring mother, and a good friend. She loved God, her family & friends and this church.

At almost every ladies class she would share a Bible verse she had read that week & tell how much it meant to her. Often she would stop at the Great Harvest Bakery when it was at 103rd st. She would bring some kind of treat to share with the class. Oh, those wonderful oatmeal cookies. To this day, I can't eat one of those without thinking of her.

She was so thoughtful of others, always asking me about my daughter & grandchildren. I feel very blessed by knowing her.

Thank you for keeping her memory alive.

Doris Durkman
Red Bridge church
of Christ.

Dear Jonathan and Kathryn;

We remember your mom (Ferry) as
always a happy and cheerful Christian
Person.

Her love for her Lord and
her Children & husband seemed to
be the great part of her life.

You can see the love she
had with the great attendance
at her funeral.

She is missed.

In Christian love.

The Garretts

Elaine & Jerry

Although I didn't get a chance to really know Kerry, I related to her situation. When I was 11 yrs old my mother had cancer. My mother's faith was so evident in that situation and in many others. Watching Kerry from afar reminded me of my own mother's battle. I saw Kerry fight her battle with great faith and trust in our Lord.

Her strength in the Lord radiated to everyone who heard of her battle. She has touched far more lives than we can possibly imagine. I did write to Kerry and relate my mother's story to her and she told me how touched she was by it and was glad that I had written her about it.

I feel privileged and honored to have been given the opportunity to write to her and in some small way be a part of her life. Whenever I hear someone talk about Kerry I feel the warmth and love coming from them as they relate their story. The love that she gave will live on in the hearts of all who knew her. Kerry's life was a true witness to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Kerry Trotter was a wonderful example for us all. Although we did not know her personally, we felt very close to her in her struggles with her illness. She still managed to present a composed appearance throughout. We admire her for that but know her strength came from God. She was such an inspiring Christian mother and wife. The children and their sweet, loving personalities are the product of her teachings. Frankly, we don't know how she did it - but she did. She was very fortunate to have Mark for a husband. What a family! When we see the kids in church, we marvel at how well-behaved and caring they are. She would be proud! And they will carry on through their lives with the same love she gave them. We miss her. We wish we knew more or knew her more so we could share more with you - but what we did know affected us deeply.

Our love,
Paul & Paula Hauser

November 24, 1998

Dearest Children of Mark & Kerry Trotter.

Thank you so much for giving us this opportunity to share with you the appreciation and love we had for your mother. Kerry possessed qualities that endeared her to many. She approached life with an "open-heart, open-home" attitude that seemed to draw people near. The genuine interest she had in people, her listening ear and acts of kindness when the need arose were all things that your mother expressed to us and to others over the years.

We shared many conversations, cups of coffee, bits and pieces of each other's lives since becoming friends back in 1983. It was always so easy to be around your parents, such acceptance and love always from them. They have given out more of themselves than they will ever receive back in return. When asked to share a specific instance that stands out in one's memory, we would rather say our memories are a gradual blending of time in which a steady friendship grew and flourished. We are richer in spirit for having known your mom and hope that you can feel some portion of the love others had for her.

God bless and keep you always.

Harry & Janet

Harry & Janet Moore

I never intended to raise an average child. I never quit praying for help.

After Mark asked Kerry to marry him, she kept asking me "Mom, what should I do?" After about the 100th time she asked me that, I said "Can you imagine the rest of your life without him?" She finally had her answer.

One time she asked me if such & such was true. I had only to say "it is not in the Bible." So she learned how to weed out disbelievers.

I cannot believe she is gone. I picture her riding a dappled grey & mare & holding Laura as she rides.

You children will always do her honor.

Grandmom Lois

March 31, 1999

Dear Jonathan, Kathryn, Corrie, Anna, Sarah, Jamie, Audrey and Andrew,

This book is a wonderful idea, and I'm sorry it's taken me all winter and some of the spring to get my memories to you. It isn't that I couldn't think of any! I just miss your mom so much, it's difficult to sit down and let them all rise to the surface. Today, however, they keep bubbling up so here they are! Before I write any of them down, let me tell you that my very favorite memories of her are contained in each of you. Through your own individual personalities, some of Kerry Trotter shines forth. She was, and I feel certain is, so very thankful and proud of each of you.

Jonathan, I remember driving down "the tunnel," as my girls call it, of trees on the way to your house with your mom. (I think it was the time we met at a ladies' brunch at church, and afterwards she had spontaneously gone with me to the funeral of my second cousin's wife. I barely knew who the deceased was. Your mom didn't know her at all, but she helped me do my family duty by keeping me company.) We were talking about how important our loved ones were to us and how difficult it would be to say good-bye to their physical bodies should they die. I didn't have any children, and you were pretty young, Jonathan. But your mom told me how very precious your body was to her because she had seen you grow from a baby to a strong active boy, and you were a part of her. It was a concept that I had never considered before, and it made an impression on me. I didn't understand it, though, until Alexa'jayne and Rachel were born.

Kathryn, I remember coming to visit you in the hospital when you had hand surgery. Your mom was expecting Laura and she was uncomfortable, but her concern was for you. I have a visual picture of you in the hospital bed all surrounded with white and your mom in a bright maternity dress sitting on the chair next to you. She was always so proud of your gymnastic ability. As you grew older, there was a quiet, easy way about you that she appreciated. She saw in you something that was not natural to her but which she highly valued. Kerry never lost sight of trying to become more of that gentle, quiet spirit. She also thought you were beautiful.

Corrie, it was a special time to be pregnant with Alexa'jayne when your mom was pregnant with you. Because of Laura's death, she was so very concerned about you. In the midst of that, however, she was an encouragement to me. She and your dad gave us a wonderful baby shower at your house. She also made me a quilt for Alexa'jayne. I wonder that that wasn't a very difficult thing to do having so recently lost a baby. I marvel that in her grief for Laura and her concern for you she was able to extend such dear gifts to me. So often I witnessed your mom go beyond her own feelings to serve others and show them love. She lived her faith. When you were born, she called me at 2:00 in the morning to say, "Oh, Heather! We've had a girl and she's healthy!" We enjoyed dressing you as twins and just watching you play. Those were very happy times.

Anna, your mom nursed her other babies, and she wanted to nurse you. Even though you had a difficult time nursing, she continued, believing that was the very best thing. One day the other children came into her room while you were nursing. They were being rowdy, but she needed it to be calm. In frustration she said she would stop home schooling before she stopped nursing you. God didn't require her to make that choice, but it impressed me that she wanted to give you the best she could offer no matter how difficult that was for her. After you were born, she did everything she could to try to learn about the way God had "knit you together." She read a great deal and talked to other parents of children with Down's Syndrome. She believed God created you and had a special purpose for you.

Sarah and Jamie, I wish I could write a paragraph for each of you, but my memories involve you together. I do know, however, that you are two different people. Your mom wanted you to be able to be yourselves. She was so excited when she found out she was having twins. She called me and left a message on my answering machine, and I called her back while she was at the hair dresser. It was fun to chase all over town for the good news! After you were born, she read all about twins. Then, after you learned to walk and climb, she called me every day with a different story of something you had done! She was amazed at the mischief you could get into! Some days there were two and three stories! One day you unwrapped a Christmas gift for Dr. Holly and drew all over it while you were locked in a bathroom. Another, or maybe the same day, you coated each other with Vaseline. I laughed over that one because your mom had really laughed when Alexa'jayne had done the same thing years earlier.

Audrey, I had such a good time visiting with your mom after you were born. Alexa'jayne and Rachel were with me and we took turns passing you around. Your mom was so tickled by the way you looked as you got older. She was pleased with your red hair. She shared with me the high hopes she had for you. She didn't want people to pity you because you were the eighth child, the seventh daughter. She asked God to work through you to let people know that children were a blessing, no matter what their birth order was or how many siblings they had. She was pleased that you and Anna played together.

Andrew, your mom was so filled with joy over your birth. The day you were born, her joy in you swallowed up the news she had about her cancer. She called me from a surgery holding room after she had the cesarean and before the mastectomy. She didn't want me to cry about the cancer but to rejoice with her over you. She couldn't believe you were so beautiful, and you were such a good baby. She was so thrilled to have you!

Your mom excelled at being a mother! She was a wonderful example to me and many others. She was also a great friend. A memory that often comes to me is of her laughing. I loved to laugh with her because when she got to laughing then she was funny! Her eyes crinkled up, she'd laugh until she cried, and then she couldn't talk. She could see the humor in most things. She loved to celebrate. I miss talking to her on the phone. I miss reading the same books. One day another friend was talking about the book club in which she and other friends discussed books they were reading. I called Kerry and told her we were a book club. I could always count on her for a good review. I miss knowing that she would think the same thing about something as I do. I miss her constant challenging faith. I'm so thankful to have been blessed by one of the best earthly friends anyone could ask for! I'm thankful that she had each one of you!

Love in the Lamb,

Heather

Dear Jonathan, Kathryn, Corrie, Anna, Sarah, Jamie,
Audrey, and Andrew,

Your mom wrote me a note when I was in residency when I was struggling with the loneliness of being single and in it she quoted Psalm 37:4 "Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart". It was the first time in my 26 years of life that I had known what great comfort that verse could bring. Your mother was terrific at knowing and bringing in scripture that applied to the occasion or situation. Frequently in our talks she would share a verse or passage that would enlighten and comfort me. She used scripture so naturally in conversation, better than anyone else I have known. I miss her greatly for that aspect of her character. She also was never afraid to share what the Lord was teaching her through the Bible. She was always so excited to be learning more about God and His character every day. Her excitement was contagious. Also, she introduced me to many of the great Christians who showed their love of God through their lives; Corrie Ten Boom, Francis Schaeffer, Brother Andrew, Elisabeth and Jim Elliot, Joni Erickson Tada, and many others.

My life has been greatly enriched and my faith strengthened by reading and hearing the testimonies of these individuals.

What I will miss most about your mom was her ability to make you feel special, important, that God had created you uniquely and your mom wanted to know each person she came into contact with in a deep and meaningful

way. She placed a great trust in me when she transferred you guys to my practice for medical care and she made me feel like I was something special both as a doctor and a person. She listened avidly to all my details of my life and she asked deeply probing questions that showed she was always interested in knowing more about me. She had an unusual ability to engage anyone in conversation and then to really find their heart. I was never bored when talking with your mom because she always bypassed the surface stuff and spoke at a deep level.

My first meeting with your mom was a Sunday afternoon in August 2 days after Laura was born. She was sitting beside Laura's isolette (incubator) in the NICU at Children's Mercy. I was the doctor on call there for the day. She had so many questions, the majority of which I couldn't answer. In spite of having just had a baby, in spite of that baby being seriously ill, she still asked questions about me. I watched her go through the agony of making decisions for Laura after she knew that Laura was going to die. I watched her as Laura struggled to breath on her own after her heart surgery. Your mom had accepted the gift of Laura's life, however short, as God's blessing, and her overriding desire at that time was for Laura to live long enough so that she could take her home and sit outside on your swing with her. I was so tremendously grateful to God that He allowed Laura to go home and sit in that swing with your mom. Your mom gave me a mug as a thank you for my role in Laura's life. It says "those who reach

touch the stars". It is something I treasure as a part of your mom and an encouragement to me to be a more merciful person which I will share

I first met Kerry when I was about 11 or 12 years old. She had come up from Arkansas to visit Mark in the summer before returning back to Harding. I came up the stairs from our basement and found her sitting in our livingroom by herself. (I'm not sure where everyone else was at the time.) I introduced myself, and when I found out that she was Mark's girlfriend I said, "Did you know that when he was a little boy he wanted to grow up to be a clown? Does he still want to be a clown?" I don't remember her reaction, but she probably thought I was a goofy, little girl - HA! anyway... I felt like we hit it off pretty well after that. Also, wasn't it my obligation to let her know about Mark's future aspirations?!?!?

That was the beginning of a 25 year friendship and family relationship that I enjoyed and was always grateful for. I have many fond memories of different family - get - togethers that we had through the years. Mark & Kerry were always interested in what I was currently ^{doing}. In 1980, I graduated from high school, and Mark graduated from Dental School. They helped to send me off to Harding with some new clothes, well wishes, and advice on scheduling my classes. When I came home for my first spring break in 1981,

I was thrilled to share in
their joy of the arrival of Jonathan.

They also shared in our excitement
on the long awaited arrival of our
Sam. I can remember Kerry calling
me on the phone when Sam was
about a week old. It was
a special memory as we were
both holding our newborns (sle with
the two month old twins) while we
talked.

Mark & Kerry have been such
wonderful examples of a living,
strong faith in God. It showed
in every aspect of their lives:
in their commitment to their
marriage and to their children,
to their friends and extended
family, to Christ and his church.
I think of the verse in Proverbs
where it says "iron sharpens iron"
They loved, supported, and challenged
each other through the celebrations
and trials in their life. It is
such a blessing to see this loving
legacy live on in their children.
Mark did grow up to be a clown.

A Caring
Loving
Obedient to God
Wise through the Word
Man of God

... Kerry was his companion
through those years as they
grew in love and spiritual maturity.

Janelle Rossio

Once upon a time, in the late summer of 1964, Kerry, Grandma and Grandpa Benson, and myself went on a little vacation. Kerry was ten years old, and I was thirteen. We drove in Grandpa's Cadillac from Searcy to New York City. The trip lasted about two weeks, and we made lots of stops at hotels and gas stations and red lights.

Granddad would stop at motels with swimming pools, because Kerry loved to swim. So did I. When we stopped at a hotel, Kerry and I would race to see who could jump into the pool first. The first time we went swimming, I was wading around the pool, innocently minding my own business, when an underwater monster grabbed my legs and pulled me under. I managed to get free, but a second later it jumped up behind me, put its hands on my head, and pushed me back under the water. The underwater monster was Kerry, of course. I caught on real quick, and for the rest of the trip, Kerry and I had lots of fun trying to drown each other.

When our car pulled into a gas station, a man who worked at the station would come to the

car and put the gas in it. Before the man got to the car, Kerry would duck down beneath the window closest to where the man would stand to pump the gas. When he was standing close by, she would pop up, holler "Hi!" wave, and smile. When we stopped at red lights, Kerry would bang on the car window, and wave and smile at people who were walking across the street or on the sidewalk.

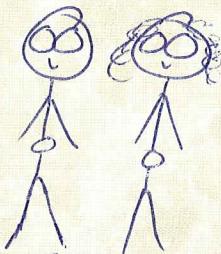


Once those total strangers got over the shock of being smiled and waved at, they always smiled and waved back.

In New York City we stayed in a tall hotel. Our rooms were very high up, and overlooked a sidewalk crowded with people. Kerry and I opened a window, leaned out, and yelled and waved to the people below. But we were too high, so no one noticed us. We contented ourselves by throwing pennies and nickels onto the sidewalk and watching to see if anyone would pick them up.

The last night we were in New York, we ate in a cafeteria. We were able to go through the food line and take anything we wanted. Kerry and I loaded our trays with food. Grandpa smiled and said, "It looks like your eyes might be bigger than your stomachs." He was right. Neither

of us came close to finishing all our food.



From New York, Kerry went back to Arkansas, and I went home to Illinois. Because we lived so far apart, we didn't see each other very often, and before the trip we didn't know each other very well. But for a few days in 1964, Kerry and I were best buddies. I'll always remember how neat it was to have a cousin who loved life so much, and loved to enjoy it with those around her.

George Rutherford

Kerry

It's hard to put into words a friendship that has lasted over twenty years. The first time I met your mom was during college when your dad brought her to Raytown for a party with high school friends. She was pretty, outgoing, and easy to talk with.

After your mom and dad got married, we came in contact with them again as your dad and Bill were in dental school together. We, as well as your mom and dad, ended up at Rockhurst College as the head residents of the dorms. Your mom seemed to really enjoy living in the dorm and had a real impact on the lives of those girls that lived in the dorm. She seemed to easily make friends with the girls and the girls really liked your mom, as it seemed whenever we came over for a visit she was always surrounded by students.

Your mom was full of good character qualities. She was friendly, outgoing, and had a genuine concern for others. I remember talking to her last May when

she was struggling with cancer. It seemed like I was talking to her as I had in the past — she was concerned and interested in what was going on in our lives. She asked about the development of houses around our house. Here she was going through so much yet she never seemed to lose her concern for others.

I remember being at a Basic Life Principle Seminar with your mom. She commented that her spiritual gift was a prophet. She really had a strong sense of right and wrong. She was able to share with others what she knew to be true and what was on her heart. When your family first joined AIG, she shared with me her excitement in not only being able to teach the wisdom books to her children, but, also, in being able to teach herself the biblically-based information in the wisdom books. She had a strong desire for truth and for God's Word. Your mom dearly loved nature.

She had a passion for dappled gray horses. We were excited to hear when she finally got one. I think that passion carried over from her childhood.

We dearly loved your mom and enjoyed the friendship we had with her as well as with your family. Your mom has been greatly missed by us as well as many, many others. However, her influence will be carried on by you, her children, as you grow up and carry on the principles and traditions that she dearly loved.

Dear Trotters,

It is a privilege to share with you my memories of your mother. Even though our times together were not frequent, our whole family felt close to your family. I think one important reason for this was Kerry's natural friendliness. The first time she came to our farm, she came with my sister, Teri. We had a great visit sharing our common interest in horses and love of the country life. Your mom had a special gift for making friends.

Once our friendship with Kerry was made, we could always pick up where we had left off even if months or a year had gone by. After we had both lost a child due to birth defects, we shared our common bond of grief, pain, and fear. But we didn't stop there. Kerry wanted to let God be her comfort and to move on to a hopeful future based on God's promises in Scripture. When Corrie was born, Kerry wrote me a special card that I've kept. She reminded me of a Scripture we had shared that had helped us both. It was Jer. 29:11.

"his plans for you are good, plans to prosper you, not to harm you." Since Corrie's name meant "Prosperous One", Kerry wrote, "I thought how appropriate! That had been my favorite scripture throughout my pregnancy." It was a privilege to share spiritual truth and encouragement with Kerry because she wanted to walk with God and trust Him to meet her needs.

To me, you are your mother's greatest legacy. You represent her love of life, her love for her family, her courage, and her willingness to trust God. She sacrificed to give you life so you could know God the way she did. However, that might not have been possible had she not chosen a godly man to marry. You have a great dad, and you can safely follow in both their footsteps. That is a great treasure!

Thank you for letting us share in your memories of your mother. We care so much about you all, and we'd like to get to know you better as you grow. We'll be praying for God's best to you all in the future.

Sincerely,
Debby, for
Sal, Betsy, Lance, Heidi,
Zac, & Kelly, Cornelius

Memories of Kerry

I first came to know Kerry when she and Thark had two young children, Jonathan and Kathryn, toddling about.

Over time, it became apparent through visiting, phone conversations, and observation that Kerry was a woman of conviction and that she possessed the courage to live by her convictions. Kerry spoke plainly and openly. Her desire was to make God number one in her life. She was not afraid to change, based on new learning.

Kerry was devoted to Thark and to her children. Her greatest desire for her children was that they grow up to serve God.

Kerry was the type of person that one could not help but like. She was down-to-earth and personable.

She did not sweat the small stuff. For example, once when we were at a church picnic, Kathryn, a toddler at the time, managed to grasp the edge of an almost-empty-pan-of-braunies and pull it off the table. She then sat down under the table with the pan and proceeded to stuff her cute little face with handfuls of braunie crumbs. It was precious. And since it was hurting no one, Kerry let her sit there and enjoy herself.

Another example, Kerry's babies and toddlers could come to church wearing no shoes or socks if they wished.

Kerry was not bothered by such things. Instead

she devoted herself to the things that mattered.
Such as being certain her children received
plenty of cuddling and space to play and to
discover God's marvelous creation. And such
as taking responsibility for her children's
education, and guarding their hearts and souls.

Kerry Trotter was a special lady. I thank
God for the privilege of knowing her.

In Him,
Glenda Knowles
6-20-99

Nov. 17, 1998

Dear Trotter children,

It is such a great pleasure for me to tell you of some of my memories I have of your dear Mother. Our family was so very pleased when your Grand Parents told us that they were expecting their first child. Kenny Ann was born on our Sons (Mac Angels) birthday, he was 19 years old, we were pleased about that. Not only did they share the same birthday they had children Anna and David that had the same birthday Jan 12, and they also had daughters with the same name, Kathryn.

When Kenny was a student at Harding University, she and I would drive to Wensett, Ar., a little town five miles from Sedgewick, for a visit with my Mother, her Grand Mother.

We had the pleasure of attending your parents wedding and also your Grand parents wedding. Your second father (Richard) was my youngest brother.

Your Mother always sent us birth announcement when each one of her children were born. We also looked forward each year to getting a Christmas card with a group picture of all of you.

After your Mother became ill I called her and during our conversation I said " Honey, do you have help?" and without any hesitation she replied "My children," I thought that was such a sweet thing for a mother to say.

We all loved your Mother very much
she was always a joy to be with.
We wish for all of you a happy and
productive life, if you ever get the chance
to come to see us we would welcome
you, would love to see all of you.

Our thought and prayers are with
you, may God be with you.

With love
Lais "Buddy" Angel

September 14, 1998

Dear Mark, and Kerry's children,

I only heard a few days ago with incredible sadness that Kerry died. It is a loss I feel very deeply, even though I have been away from the day to day life of your family for over a decade now. But I thought the only thing I could do that might make a difference in this very very sad time for all of you is to write you a letter and share with you my admiration and love for your mother and wife.

Kids, I knew your parents when they were very young—before you all were born—even you, Jonathan, and that is a long time now. My own two daughters were only about 5 and 7 and Kerry came to take care of them as a way of making money while your Dad attended dental school. I was the most extraordinarily lucky working woman as a result, because she was a delight to have in the house. She was a loving and loyal and creative babysitter to my girls—now aged 28 and 25—and Jessica, the 25 year old already has three children of her own. She was like a second mother to them, playing with them, disciplining them when they needed, helping me as well to run a household while I was working full time. Your mother had the most extraordinary ability to be good and decent to everyone, even as she could be outspoken and never afraid to give her opinion about anything. I loved that about her—her competence, her friendliness, her cheerfulness, her energy. I loved all these things, but perhaps the think I loved the most about her was her strength and intellectual curiosity. Although she always seemed to me to have a deep and abiding religious faith (and my own commitment to Jewish observance sparked many interesting discussions about our differing interpretations of the Bible and ancient history) it never stopped her from asking questions, thinking through new ideas, having tolerance and compassion for other people and their opinions, and being a deeply egalitarian and just human being. She wasn't someone who gave one the feeling that she knew all the answers, she was a searcher, always asking questions, always thinking things through, always renewing her self examination and the examination of the world around her. She was never complacent, and she needed to think through the answers for herself. This meant that I always enjoyed her company, not just as a friend, but as an intellectual companion as well. We loved those talks—at least I did, and I valued her friendship in numerous ways. It didn't take very long for her to become much more than a young employee, she was a real and vibrant friend. After your Dad and Mom transitioned out of the status of being students and began a family of their own, Kerry and Mark always included us in their celebrations and important events. I remember bringing my girls to help them decorate their Christmas tree when they still lived in the dental student dormitories. I remember visiting when they first purchased your house and following all the additions to your family and the changes in your lives. And Kerry and Mark also were always ready to adjust to the changes in our lives as well. Every Christmas I got a new and delightful card with a picture of your growing family, and when I read the little notes Kerry always wrote catching me up on the events, I always had to stop and smile and take a minute to mark the importance of such a valued friend and friendship.

There is a Jewish legend that says that the world doesn't self destruct because at any one given moment there are at least 36 righteous people who hold up the world. In

Hebrew thirty-six is pronounced by the Hebrew words “lamed vov.” We call a person who is a member of that group a “lamedvovnik.” I’ve always suspected that Kerry Trotter was a lamedvovnik—one of those extraordinary and special people on whose goodness to world depends. When she died, hopefully another was born to take her place—or maybe, just maybe that person is one of you. We can’t know that, but I do know this: Your mother was one of the special Righteous Ones, and I will miss her deeply and with all my heart. Please know that I will be thinking of you all, too, and the sadness and loss you must feel. We mourn deeply when we lose someone as extraordinary as your mother, but we can rejoice too, that we were privileged to know her. Thanks for giving me the chance to share my feelings with you and much love to you all.

With grief and sadness, and hope & faith
for all of you

Gena Morantz-Sawley

February 8, 1999

1.

You asked about memories of Kerry. You know our family lived off in Illinois so we didn't see her often. But when we would see Lois' family at my parents' home, the children would have a big time together. As Kerry was growing up, we would see pictures in my mother's scrapbook of Kerry with her blond hair; on her birthdays, in "Easter" outfit, hugging her new doll, cuddling her pet, riding a horse, in a cheerleader uniform, and school pictures. So we knew she was athletic and later a lifeguard at Camp Takhodak.

We saw her wedding pictures taken at camp in that lovely outdoor setting with Mark. Then after she married I would see her in the Trotters' family picture they sent my parents at Yulee.

We appreciated her and Mark coming to the funerals of my mother and father in 1981 and '91. And that we had a chance to visit once again. We have a beautiful picture of Kerry with Mark on the day of my mother's funeral taken in the living room of the house on Cloverdale. Kerry is wearing a cream-colored blouse and brown jacket that highlights her blond hair.

In the spring of '93 we visited Dick in Kensee and your grandfather showed us the video he was proud of: the interview with Kerry about your baby sisters.

Ruth Crowder

death showing your mother's faith in God.

Kerry had enjoyed seeing my mother's scrapbooks / albums when she and Mark visited us. And we enjoyed seeing your home and eating picnic dinner while meeting Anna, Jamie and Sarah for the first time as well as seeing Lorrie, Kathryn, Jonathan, Kerry and Mark again in Sept., 1995.

Your great-grandmother Benson loved Kerry very much. Had you seen this quote from the L. E. Myers Co. bulletin where Dick worked which she has in her scrapbook?

"The sun eclipsed the Rio Grande flooded, Churchill left the country, the Guatemalans revolted, and it actually rained in Little Rock the day Lois and Dick McEuen increased their exemption to "3" by virtue of 8 lb. 13 oz. Kerry Anne."

Another item from the school newspaper, "Southwest Mustang," of Oct. 25, 1968 (about the school's cheerleaders) says of Kerry: "loves Mission Impossible, Fridays, and gym. Her favorite book is With Love From Karen."

With love from your aunt Ruth (great-aunt, that is), sister to your grandmother Lois.

January 21, 1999

Mark, Kerry, Jonathan, Kathryn, Corrie and two month old Anna Trotter, entered our life in March of 1993. We had just moved to Kansas City from Oklahoma City and it was only our second Sunday morning to visit Red Bridge Church of Christ. Mark and Kerry invited us to lunch after services, along with David and Heather Carter. Needless to say, due to such warm Christian hospitality, we placed memberships soon afterward.

You only had to talk to Kerry for five minutes to know that she was totally Christ centered and devoted to her family. She was always so interesting to visit with because she was an avid reader of God's word and many religious authors. She was continually passing on Godly wisdom and truth, not to mention lots of "good old common sense". The insight I have gained from noble women, such as Elisabeth Elliott, is due to Kerry's own hunger and thirst for righteousness.

I can still see Kerry's smiling face all over the church building (especially by the nursery). She truly loved Christian fellowship. Kerry had a unique intensity which she would focus on you during a conversation. She was a great listener and truly cared about you and what you had to say. Kerry knew the true meaning of encouraging and uplifting fellowship.

Kerry was hospitable, regardless of how busy her family life was. When we

Moved out to Raymore, she appeared on our doorstep with food and a great visit! You always felt "at home" in Kerry's home.

I will always remember talking with Kerry a few weeks after she was diagnosed with cancer. I came out to the house, not knowing any words of comfort or peace to offer. She was sitting in her chair in the bedroom; looking beautiful! Beauty was radiating from within. She personified Romans 8:5 - "... those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit." I'll never forget what she told me that day. She realized how unimportant all the trivial and petty differences are and how important and necessary is our love for each other and our willingness to glorify God through servanthood. I drove home that day, smiling, because I had been the one offered words of comfort and peace - from Kerry!

I now have the privilege and honor of taking care of her children. I am a witness every day to the personal legacy she left behind. Anna, Jamie, Sarah and Audrey told me the other day, "my mama was special and now she's in heaven. Can we blow her a kiss?". At two, four and five, they know the most important thing about Kerry - she loved God, she obeyed him and now she lives with him!

Jesus said in Matthew 19:14 - "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the Kingdom of heaven." Thank you, children, for bringing me closer to the Kingdom each day. I spend with you! Always seek His kingdom and righteousness first, as did your "SPECIAL" mother.

I love you all,
Janell

1-8-99

Dear Jonathan & Kathryn,

I was the oldest grandchild of George & Sallie Ellis Benson. Kerry was the second grandchild. I always knew that I was special to my Grandmother Benson and I knew that Kerry was special to her Grandmother McKeun.

Kerry was four years younger than me and we lived a long way apart. I can't say that we were close. My memories are that she was always bubbly and had the cutest southern accent. (I lived in Illinois.)

I am including pictures of a time we did spend together. Grandmom & Granddad Benson took me, my brother George, & Kerry on a trip in the summer of 1964. It was quite a trip driving a swath across the Eastern United States.

We visited Chattanooga, TN. Rode the Incline Railway there. We saw the Natural Bridge in Virginia and visited Mount Vernon. We stopped in Washington, DC and Valley Forge. The trip culminated in New York City at the World's Fair. The picture of Kerry in the hat is at the fairgrounds. The other pictures were taken in Colonial Williamsburg.

2-16-1999

Dear Jonathan & Kathryn,

I'm so glad you are making a memory book for your brother & sisters.

When I think of Kerry, I remember her love and compassion in expressing her priorities in life as a Christian, wife, mother and friend.

My really personal memories are how much Kerry and Mark visited and showed love for grandmother (Nelle). When she lived in her apartment alone, she looked forward to their visits and bringing the children. As time passed she needed a care-giver. The lady needed a little vacation so I took time from my job to be with her. Kerry called and said she and Mark really wanted to help me. It was a cold winter season, but the next morning Kerry drove from Raymore with Jonathan and Kathryn, who were very young, and stayed with grandmother. I went on to work.

Mark and Kerry kept up their visits whenever grandmother was. One night at the time of a hospital visit grandmother seemed unable to talk and eyes closed. The nurse would say they felt sure she could hear. Kerry said they all sang hymns to her. I pray she heard them. Kerry was always an encouragement to me in the years to follow, and she and Mark kept on giving gifts of love, food, flowers and their time.

Kerry loved picture albums and has shared so many of your children with us. I hope you will enjoy seeing

the ones I have chosen of some special occasions.

The first is taken when you visited us one evening. Kerry would call and then you all would come over. I believe the baby is Corrie, along with Aunt Sandy and Leslie. Jonathan and Kathryn were probably playing downstairs.

June 17, 1984 - Was open house for Grandmother's 90th birthday. David, Jonathan and Kathryn ran around in our beautiful backyard. That day it looked like a park. Friends and relatives come to share birthday cake & punch.

Mother's Day 1991 - We all ate dinner together at the Nursing Home. You can see Jessica, Ryan, Leslie, Corrie, Kathryn, Jonathan and David.

June 17, 1994 - Grandmother's 100th birthday. She was not awake much that day but friends and family who loved her stopped in and could see pictures of her life and shared cookies and punch. That special day, Mark, Kerry, Corrie, Anna, Jamie & Sarah were there.

There are many memories of special times with Kerry. I'm so glad you have the TV50 Video Tape so Jamie, Sarah, Anna, Audrey and Andrew can hear Kerry's voice expressing her love for her babies and their importance to her. She loved them so much.

With much love
Aunt Betty + Uncle Floyd Rhode

Dear Trotters,

Kerry was my long-distance cousin who was about 3 or 4 years older than me. Because we lived in Illinois, and she lived in Arkansas while we were growing up, we didn't get to see them all that much, except for at Christmas and or summer vacations. But I remember times with Grandmom and Grandpa Benson, and Kerry and her family at Camp TaKoda and at the Benson's home in Searcy. They were a lot of fun!

But the one thing that I really appreciated about Kerry was something that happened later. I lived in Minnesota, and Kerry and her family lived near Kansas City. We would stop by and visit if we were on a trip going south. We each had 3 children at the time, and I was nervous about having another child because our 3rd child had had a lot of medical problems. Kerry's little daughter had died about a year or

two before this, so she knew how I felt. In Kerry's kitchen, all over her kitchen cabinets, were scriptures encouraging her. Whenever a ~~to~~ doubt would attack her mind, she would read those scriptures, and be encouraged in the Lord. Her reliance on the Word of God made such an impact on me! I went home and did the same thing! I picked out scriptures that had meant a lot to me, put them on cards, and put them where I could see them at all times.

Kerry was a Godly person, and a wonderful example.

God Bless You All.

Sally Talbert
Jan. 12, 1999

Personal Memories of Kerry Trotter -

I have so many precious memories of my dear sister in Christ, Kerry Trotter. My number one memory is her outstanding steadfast love of our Lord. She displayed this dedication in the way she lived her daily life, the choices she made in raising her precious children, and most of all her obedience to the scriptures.

Jonathan and Kathryn, you are both living examples of her love and compassion of raising her children in the knowledge of the Lord. There is no greater honor to a Mother than seeing her children following God's will. The honor you display to your Mother in requesting these memories for the siblings shows knowledge beyond your years.

Corrie, you are an image of your Mother. I see her countenance in you.

Anna, you are the love that binds your family and loved ones together. Your Mother has shared with me the love you bring to the family.

Jamie and Sarah, your Mother longed to have twins. You are a special gift from God.

Audrey and Andrew, you are such a blessing. You will know your Mother in a very special way through the gift of sharing her memories from your Father, and brother and sisters.

During a very hard time in my life, when I was experiencing struggles with suffering through six miscarriages, Kerry took time to talk about these struggles with me and the mysterious ways God moves. She loaned me a book, "A Path Through Suffering" by Elisabeth Elliot. This book opened my eyes to the mysterious ways of the Lord. I learned more than I ever would have, had I not walked this path. Elisabeth Elliot became a very dear author to me. Kerry later bought this book for me as a gift. Although her book with all her notes in it was the dearest to me.

Another special conversation Kerry and I had was about the "worlds" view of how many children we should all *decide* to have. Kerry shared the pressure she received from the world of having too many children. And I at the same time was receiving ridicule for the *decision* to only have one child. What they thought we had control of, we knew was in God's control. We together in this conversation found God's awesome control and will for our lives. This sharing of experiences brought a new meaning to the hymn, "God Moves in a Mysterious Way." And we both gained joy in renewing God's will in our lives.

I'm thankful to Mark and you, her family for allowing Kerry the time to lead our ladies bible class on "Experiencing God". Kerry was awesome in facilitating these lessons. I am so thankful for the time spent with her in this class. She called me after the class of "God's Will and the Church". My answer to one of the questions touched her deeply. We were discussing the new members God had added to the church. I spoke up and said it seems God keeps adding BABIES to our church and God has revealed to me the need to train our children.

I was always encouraged by Kerry not being afraid to speak out with confidence in her Lord. She displayed knowledge, confidence, and obedience to God. Her legacy will be passed on for she believed Psalm 100. The Lord is good; His loving kindness is everlasting, and His faithfulness to all generations.

She was obedient in the simple things of life and I know God has given her much now.
Keep looking up for His Kingdom is Forever.

May God Bless each of you this Christmas!

In Christian Love,
Marcia Pendleton

In 1981, a few weeks after my husband died from a heart attack, I went to Camp Tahkodah with my Aunt Miekie Bell and her husband, Everett, to heal from the bottom dropping out of my world.

There I met a lovely young wife and mother, Kerry Trotter, with her son, Jonathan, and husband, Mark. She had never been around babies growing up and welcomed my help and encouragement because I love babies. She loved him dearly but was a little fearful of doing the wrong thing.

Kerry was slender and tall enough to be elegant; blond with very fair skin and rivid, laughing, blue eyes. She loved Camp Tahkodah and all the people there. She was relaxed and happy all the time, making friends easily.

The next year I spent the entire summer at Camp and was so glad to find Kerry there. We enjoyed the talks and time together. We were kindred spirits. She looked upon me as a substitute mother as Lois wasn't there. I had known Lois at Harding where my uncle, Leonard Kirk, was head of the music department.

Through the years Kerry and I exchanged letters and Christmas cards. Yearly I received letters of the children and notes catching me up on happenings with them and I could tell her faith grew year by year. She was a strong, spiritual woman, loved God and family. I listened to her talk about the angels and told her I too had an angel touch me one night when I went to sleep driving. It was a hard touch on my shoulder that awoke me. I believe God uses angels to comfort and help his children.

When her Cancer was diagnosed I set her the verses I had spoken over an eight month period before Wayne died.

She wrote me how much these words helped her.

"Hold your peace; for the Lord your God shall fight for you."

"Though you walk in the midst of trouble, I will deliver you."

"If you suffer with Me you shall also reign with Him."

"I will keep in perfect peace him whose heart is staid on me."

"Do not be afraid, for I am with you"

"...and is ever-night" (to the broken hearted)
I found later

ever-Present (in time of trouble)

"Your God shall supply every need."

I love each one of you because I loved Kerry. Heaven is a dearer place because she is there. We'll sing His praises forever and ever where there will be time no more.

Doris Ball Romeis