

Dear Gram,

I'm sorry it has taken me this long to write, but I have been busy getting back into the business of school work. I will treasure your gifts for many years, and I greatly appreciate your check, as it helps me make ends meet, and allows me to do some fun things I normally can't afford. However, I want this note to convey something more. I want you to understand something of the impression you have made on my life. You are one of the major reasons for my thinking that I am a very fortunate human being. You have been a foundation for one of the best families that it has been my pleasure to know.

It is not possible for you to know how many times I have taken comfort in memories of my time with you, or to know how many dozens of people in the world have told me, they wish they had a grandmother like mine. Your sense of humor, your perserverance, your understanding, and the love you have fostered, and freely given to your family and friends, are things I will never forget, and constantly try to immitate.

I wish you could know of the times that I receive a compliment, and then realize that what I had done was something I learned from you. A smile, a kind word, a humorous remark that lightens a difficult situation, a favor done for someone when none was asked. These are all things I have learned from you, and things that remind me of you whenever and where ever I see them.

I am only thirty-one years old, and I have already spent many hours of many days wondering whether my life has been useful. I wonder if the things I do have made or will make a difference. I constantly hope that the way I choose to live my life will somehow make this world a better place to live. Based on the hunch that you have had similar thoughts and concerns, I want this note to express, and document the fact that your life has made a difference, and has made this world a better place for me to live.

As a human being, I am constantly troubled by how to repay you. There is something about human nature that doesn't like to be in debt. Yet, I am constantly faced with the conclusion that I cannot possibly repay you for all you have given me. My only option is to continue to use what you have given me to the best of my ability, and to live in the hope that my life will somehow make this world a better place to live. In this way, I would hope to multiply your efforts to spread joy, comfort, and love to the world around you.

I will certainly miss you when you die, but I will remember you life and what you have given me, as long as I live.

Lovingly In Your Debt,  
Your Grandson,