

From: "Shirley Mogerman" <imsam47@embarqmail.com>
Subject: **Thank You**
Date: January 18, 2009 9:48:20 PM EST
To: "Lillian Hartley" <lkh@sssnet.com>

Hi Lillian & Bob,

Thank you so much for your message. I understand you taking time to respond. Everyone deals differently with things and I would never have any bad feelings because of that.

I remember Lou talking about how he would stay with you and Bob in Ft. Wainwright. That time meant a lot to him. Guess what! I still have that retractable key chain with a lot of keys on it! I have no idea what the keys are for. I guess nothing important anymore.

Lou was a good husband and father and I would take care of him all over again if I had to. It was difficult to see him go down hill with each passing year. Guess I didn't realize it until I would see pictures from one year to the next. I know the doctors said he would never get any better, only worse. But, I am a positive person and looked at each day as he might improve. I could **never** bring myself to put him in a nursing home as long as God gave me the strength and good health to care for him in his own home.

The past year he was unable to stand at all and spent most times in a hospital bed that I kept in the TV room so he could be around everyone. I was able to lift him from the bed to his wheelchair and get him into the van and take him for a ride or to appointments at the VA. I tried to treat him as normal as possible. Some people probably thought I was nuts! But, I couldn't stand seeing Lou just lying in bed day in and day out.

Although he spoke very little, he did understand what was being said. Everytime after I shaved Lou and would get him all slicked up, I would say to him, "honey, you are so good looking and how did you get so cute"! He would get this big beautiful smile on his face, like yea, I am good looking aren't I. I appreciated every little expression or word that Lou could convey. It's amazing the things we take for granted and under other circumstances those things become something special.

Thanks for letting me ramble on. I miss Lou so much! But, know he doesn't have to suffer any longer. Sammy is living at home again, so I'm not here alone. He never got married, but did live with a girl for quite awhile. Whenever that came to an end, back home he came. He did help care for his dad and I was grateful. It gave me a chance to run errands and just get out a little while.

Tami is a registered nurse, but lives about 40 miles away. Although, I did call her all the time for medical advice on Lou. It is always good to have a nurse in the family. My oldest son Tom is in the computer field and is the only child that has given me grandchildren, two girls, that are now 19 and 14. Do you have grandchildren and how many.

With Lou's five children, ten grandchildren, and nine great grandchildren, he has quite the family! What a lovely bunch of kids! We all keep in touch.

Anytime you want pictures, let me know. I had quite the house full during Lou's funeral. There were family from Jersey (nieces and nephews) and all of Lou's children, except Jack who couldn't be here. So we have lots of pictures of everyone. Also, Sammy showed me a very young picture of your mother and Lou's dad, Sam. He said Elaine had it on her Facebook site. You may already have that picture. If not, let me

know and I will have it sent to you.

I hope you and Bob are in good health and are doing well. I'm still working and may continue to do so since I have nothing else to do with my time. I have 30 years in at the School District. I only work about 1/2 mile from the house and that made it great to get home quickly to get Lou lunch or in case of emergency. My cousin and sister-in-law took turns staying with Lou while I worked. That made it easier for me and I knew Lou was in good care.

OK! I am going to close! Would be glad to chat with you whenever you can.

Love,

Shirley