



M.W. Story 20

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Bonnie Rasmussen (L)



*Youngest of 3 girls,
Mother, and Nana.*

*Written for her sister,
Lynn (R).*

My Special Matriarch

My sister gave me a card today ...a Mother's Day card. It was so touching and sweet and such a surprise since she is my sister. Who knew they even made sister mother's day cards? I didn't, but I have never been good at picking out cards. I am an indecisive person so card buying can take forever, if I truly try to find the right card. So instead I look at a couple and choose one quickly or make a homemade card.

Her card to me reminded me of a Mama Wins story. It was so uplifting and reminded me that I wanted to write a story about her. My story is her card...a mother's day tribute to her.

My sister, Lynn, is the matriarch of our family since our mother died over a decade ago. She immediately assumed the role, and I was so thankful. As her card said to me, "She's as much like me as she is different." Thankfully, she is a leader and organized and was comfortable with handling all the estate issues and funeral plans. She kept our middle sister and I included in decisions and guided us through a difficult time with such ease.

I appreciated her then, and I also really appreciate what she did in the years following. She wanted to keep the "three sisters" close after our parents died. So every year she



planned a “sisters week” at her lake place. Additionally, she encouraged us to do a spiritual retreat together each year. When I wanted to do genealogy and asked her to help me, she jumped right in and now is as passionate about genealogy as I am. We take sister trips for our genealogy research and keep our parents memories alive as well as our ancestors from generations ago. I am so thankful for her support in my passion for genealogy.

Family is very important to Lynn. The values our parents and grandparents instilled in us, she reflects. She always seems to prioritize family first, whether it is her children, grandchildren or her sisters. Her many love languages nurture me and inspire me. We are similar but different and at my age I have come to appreciate the differences. One way she expresses love is food. She is an amazing cook and I love being treated to her delicious meals! She also has been a great role model for all the time she volunteers in hopes of making a difference. I am very proud of all of her career and volunteer accomplishments and so thankful for all she has taught me. She encourages me daily and like her card said to me:

“She’s a great mother, grandmother and a great friend and one of my favorite people in the world. AND I HOPE SHE KNOWS IT.”