

A Eulogy for Kathleen De Martini - May 29, 2007

First, from my dad, my brother and I, we would like to thank you for coming to my mom's service. Many of you have come a long distance and we really appreciate your effort to be here. For those friends from nearby be assured your presence is no less appreciated. Thank you all.

Some special guests are here today which I would like to acknowledge. Kate Malone whom my mom met at Harrah's in Lake Tahoe is here; Bill and Linda Klein - my mom shared a Luau with them at their wedding party in Hawaii are here; Nurse Leslie Williams, who attended to my mom after a car accident in 1967 is with us; We have law enforcement officers here - Police Officer Phillips who came across my mom on Wolfe Grade in San Rafael one Christmas Eve is here. Also here is a California Highway patrolman. I regret I do not know his name but he did a great deed for my mom years ago and I am happy he is here with us today.

If you had the pleasure of attending my mom's 75th birthday party three years ago you know who these people are. They are people from events that typified my mom's life. They are here in memory and spirit as we think about my mom. These distinguished guests are but a handful of the people that shared memorable, often special and sometimes outrageous moments with our mom. I am sure you have your own treasured memories of events that you shared with her and those memories are with us now as we honor her.

My dad has always described my mom as "living life with gusto" and my cousin Barbara described my mom as being a "force of nature". I believe that there is no better testament to a good life lived than knowing that others are better for knowing you. As for her family, for my brother and I we must thank our mom for who

we are because of her hard work and relentless effort to instill in us the values that we hold. For our dad, he was so fortunate to find his soul mate in our mom and somehow was brave enough to join his life to hers some fifty-four years ago. I am certain that all of your lives are also better for knowing our mom. I am sure that when you think about her it will bring a smile to your face or maybe still even make you laugh out loud. My mom will always have a special place in our hearts.

When my mom was in the hospital over the last weeks I asked her how long she had been fighting cancer. She responded through a fog of Dilodid and Ativan “13 years”. My mom was a person of strong faith. God gave my mom a gift of surviving, and more importantly, living with cancer for 13 years. God gave my mom the gift of her husband Del, our dad, who was with her throughout every moment of her struggle to the end. God gave my mom the gift of friends and family who prayed for her and wished her well throughout the course of her illness. I know that God has now given my mom the gift of rejoining her mom, her dad and her entire family who meant so much to her.

My mom embraced one Commandment more than all others. It is from John, Chapter 13: Verse 34. It set the mode for her relationships with others – family, friends and acquaintances. The commandment was not given to Moses but was from Jesus when He rejoined his disciples after His resurrection. Jesus said to his disciples: “A new commandment I give to you, love one another”. [John 13:34](#))

My mom loved gatherings of friends and family. She loved to be with people and she mostly loved being the catalyst of a good time for everyone. I know that my mom is so pleased to have you here. I am sure she wants you to know that she loves each and everyone of you and hopes that her life brought joy and happiness to yours.