

May 2015

Dear Daddy,

I'm lying here in bed with Jerry, trying to explain to him the feeling that I have about God. I know why he struggles and I hate to see it. He has not been able to get past that "feeling", the one that God is there, but distant. I asked him to imagine a REALLY good friend, one who would give up his life to be devoted totally to him, one who would follow him around all day long. If Jerry were driving, he'd tell him to scoot over and he would drive, if he was hiking, he'd take his backpack for him, if he was working at the office and came across a problem he'd tell him to move out of the way and rest while he figured it out for him. I told him that the God I "felt" was like that, always sitting right next to me. Then it hit me and I added, almost without thinking, "He would be like my dad!"

I then told him how anytime you saw I was struggling you would pull me into the bedroom and you would just listen. If I had anything that broke, I would NEVER feel bad, I would just put it on your desk. It was rare that you did not fix it that evening.....something that, over the years, I do find as being very rare!! I remember, particularly after my accident, having difficulty with my homework. You would help me through it.

Later on, in high school, it was math and physics. You would stay up, sometimes very, very late, which you don't normally like to do, and help me understand it. I probably owe most of my positions of "Honor Roll Student" to you! One night I believe it was one o'clock in the morning before I FINALLY understood one Physics problem. It had to do with figuring the arc of a projectile and I couldn't, for the life of me, understand how it was figured out. I remember telling you it was OK, just to go on to bed. But, Daddy, you NEVER, EVER, EVER gave up, nor did you EVER, EVER, EVER get the least bit angry or frustrated, then or ever. You simply told me that was OK, that you wanted me to understand it, and you stayed up until I did! I remember feeling panicky one time, thinking what if I never do? My poor dad, will he ever just give up? But you didn't.

One day, hopefully a LONG, LONG time from now, I won't have you anymore. I wanted you to know this before that time happens!

I love you **SO** very much!

Judy

He 15.87 years old
Judy 15.65 years old