

## **My Tribute to Cathy – January 10, 2005**

Today is for celebration and remembrance – Cathy’s earthly time, though short in years, was so magnificent and lasting to all she came in contact with that there is no way anyone could really do justice with words as to what she meant to each one of us, how she impacted our lives or how very much we miss her in the here and now - MOST OF ALL ME.

I spent a good portion of last night – awake – reliving all the years and my many different relationships with Cathy = the years totaled 32 and covered the decades of the 60’s, 70’s, 80’s & 90’s and the relationships started in the form of silly high school girls looking for dates and continued through each segment of our lives to the ultimate joy of being grandmothers. We shared the highest of highs and the lowest of lows. Cathy was and always will be my Best Friend and more – you could say she was a soul mate.

I am a better person, definitely have a better life and am truly blessed by her presence in my life.

But most important of all is not that she has passed through our lives but that she is still a part of our lives and most very certainly LIVES ON – in each and every one of us with our unique memories of her hugs, the beauty of her smile, and of that LAUGH and of course her voice. I have yet to have seen or heard another who sings with the plain joy and abandonment that Cathy did – whether it was next to her in church, watching her with the choir or even performing on top of a turned over trash can.

Now the best part of my Tribute is not what she left us as memories, but the special joy in being with and knowing the remarkable girls and grandchildren that are hers:

DANA – BRANDY – JORDAN – ERICCA – MAYAH – SYDNEY

You cannot spend any time with her girls and grandchildren and not instantly know you are still with part of Cathy. Each one is different and unique and all represent her very special presence and multitude of talents in their own way and personalities – Just look into their eyes, get a hug, hear a laugh, watch an attitude, pout or stance and enjoy ONE OF THE BEST GIFTS GOD GAVE TO US – FOR HOWEVER A SHORT OF TIME – YOUR CONNECTION WITH CATHY.

I loved her – here –

I love her comforting memories, and

I love her girls and grandchildren, and YES

I very much miss her ---

BUT OH I WOULD NOT GIVE UP ANYTHING TO HAVE HAD CATHY AS SUCH A SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT PART OF MY LIFE = I AM SO GLAD I DIDN’T MISS THE DANCE – PAIN AND ALL. – love ya Cath – Sandy

(My PS to Cathy – Don’t worry you did good girl and you can be very proud of your girls and grandchildren – they are in fact the very best tribute to your life!!)