

To my amazing, intelligent, and handsome boys, Landon and Logan;

I've always dreamt of being a father. Growing up, I could not wait to experience the joys of sharing what I know and what I have learned with children of my own. I was always excited about watching my precious children take in the world and experience so many different things for the very first time. Nothing had ever prepared me for the true experience of being a father.

Watching your births was the most remarkable miracle I have ever seen. Holding you for the first time was like holding my own heart; my own life and everything precious that God has blessed this world with; in a small, fragile little newborn. It was as if my life was now a distant second to the well-being and safety of my children; of my sons. I cannot explain the experience, you have to see it for yourself. The way you two take care of each other already, I have no doubt in the kind of men, husbands, and fathers you will be later in life. You have so much going for you.

Your intelligence and zest for life are unparalleled. You are both very unique and yet you get along so very well. Your personalities are seeming so different; yet when you smile, you both light up my world, my heart, and my soul. Your tears are my tears; your pain is my pain; your worries are my worries; and your triumphs are my triumphs. The love I have for you is like none other I have ever experienced. Do not misconstrue my love for your mother; I will lay down my life for her. She is my everything, my best friend, and my soul mate. My heart is just big enough to spread my love for all three of you.

It has been my greatest blessing to watch you two grow into your own. I may or may not be around as long as I had imagined, but please know my life and my purpose were complete the day I married your mother and the day you two were born. Life can never get better than those days. It can stay at the same level of joy, love and happiness, but never get better. You need to know that you will ALWAYS be taken care of. You are loved by so many people that would do anything for you. Your lives are truly blessed, and the world is at your fingertips. You both have the potential and zest to do whatever you want in life. Just please do what makes you happy. Please enjoy what you are doing and live each day for the gift that it is.

There is so much I had planned on teaching you, and I still may be able to. Unfortunately, a father's job is never done. It is never complete, even after we move on to be with The Lord. I hope and pray my advice, blessings, and lessons will be remembered, cherished, and honored.

A few things I am still planning on teaching you, but just in case: the cardinal rule is righty tighty lefty loosey (this will make a lot of things easier for you); always wear your seat belt; do not play music loudly but enjoy it; to mow the grass properly I will just have to teach you, it is too hard to explain just ask your mother and the neighbors; always respect and be courteous to those around you - you never know what kind of day another person is having; always, and I mean always, help, respect, take care of, and honor your mother - she is THE most important person in your life - she loves you more than I could ever imagine - she will always be your guardian angel as she is mine; clean up your rooms and help out around the house; school always comes first; do not curse or use foul language; take care of all of your things in life, they are privileges, not rights - respect them as such - your lives are very blessed; always be humble; your first day of school will be very intimidating, but remember, all of the other kids will be going through the same thing - it will get easier and you will learn to love it one day; it is almost a certainty a girl will break your heart more than once - do not hold sadness and hatred in your heart, but learn from each experience you encounter in life; put God at the center of your life, center of your relationships, and the center of your mind - through Him, all things are possible; activities I hope you get to know - camping, fishing, skiing, playing soccer, flying, working, swimming, waterskiing, sledding, mowing the grass, any and all sports, musicals, fine dining, vacations and traveling; it is okay to cry - cry if you are sad, happy, or mad; do not hold in any emotions - talk through your feelings. I have so much I want to share with you. I pray God's plan is my vision too. I hope my life with you two goes on for a very long time.

This is the hardest and easiest letter I have ever had to write. I love you both so very much. As I plan to fully recover from this surgery, it is still important for you to know my life and your lives are forever together; that you are my world. Your mother and I love you so very much, and nothing will ever change that. The world has new meaning, and the world has new purpose with you in it. We are all so blessed to have you, hold you, love you, and care for you.

I want nothing more than to watch you grow up in to the men I know you can be. I would love nothing more than to hold your children and tell them great stories about their dads. Life will throw you curveballs, but you have to learn how to roll with the punches. It is not always going to be easy, but I thank God every day this disease chose me and not your mother or yourselves. I just could not bear it. I am strong, but not when the ones I love so near and dear to my heart suffer.

My sons, your dad loves you with all his heart, mind, and soul. No matter what happens today, tomorrow, or years down the road, nothing in this world can change that. My love for you is the strongest bond between two things. I love you my sweet Landon and Logan. Take care of each other and your mother. I will see you soon.

Love Always and Forever,

Your Daddy