

Mom and Dennis,

I just wanted to write yall' a little letter to let you both know how thankful I am to have you both as my parents and my friends. You have both taught me so much about life, love and happiness. You both have helped me to accomplish those things in my life. You both have amazed me so much with your ability to be understanding through the hardest of times. You both always had a way of turning something that seemed negative into something that was positive. I can only hope that I will be able to be that understanding with my children. Mom, you have taught me through out the years how to be an independent and strong woman in this crazy world we live in. Throughout the years you have sacrificed so much for me and I just want you to know that it did not go unnoticed. Now that I am a mother myself I truly see how much you did for me as a child and you did most of it alone. I thank you so much for the way you raised me. Even though we had our fair share of hard times, I feel that going through those hard times has made me a stronger person. Dennis, I don't even know where to begin with thanking you for all that you have done for me. From day one you have always made me feel as though I was your own. Throughout my life I had a lot of hard times in the father department that was until you came along. Before you I wasn't really sure what having a father all was about. You have taught me so much about responsibility and respect. Seeing you with my mom over the years has really shown me what love and marriage really means. Evan and I have a wonderful marriage and I feel as though I owe a lot of that you yall'. If it weren't for you two, I'm not sure I would've known what true love really was. I can only hope and pray that all of these things I'm talking about Evan and I can pass on to Alexis. Well I could probably go on for hours, but I won't do that. I hope that you both never forget how much I love you and appreciate everything yall' have done for me and my family.

"It's not only children who grow. Parents do too. As much as we watch to see what our children do with their lives, they are watching us to see what we do with ours. I can't tell my children to reach for the sun. All I can do is reach for it, myself."

Love Always,

Ashley