



My Precious Boy,

Well son, it's your 18th birthday. Where has the time gone? Watching you grow into the kind, loving, thoughtful, intelligent young man, has been my life's greatest accomplishment. The day you were born, my entire life changed. I didn't know it was possible to have so much love in my heart and I was so incredibly blessed that you chose me to be your Mom.

You were a bit of a challenging toddler, only because you didn't like sleep very much, but man did that change into the teen years! I remember one time, you were about 14 months old, I was asleep in my bed and at around 6am, I could feel someone's presence. You had climbed out of your crib and walked into my bedroom to look for me. Well, you found me, and scared the living daylights out of me. You stood there staring at me with your innocent blue eyes, patiently waiting for me to wake up.

That is how you have lived your entire life, so thoughtful and kind, always thinking about everyone and ensuring that everyone's needs are met. Though sometimes you struggled with lending a hand, you always felt better and had a sense of pride for a job well done, knowing you helped the ones you love.

One of my favourite memories of you was in Disneyland, you were 6 or 7 years old, and so incredibly brave. You *barely* met the height requirements for the bigger rides, but you did, and I was honestly so terrified. I tried to play it cool and encourage you to go on the rides that I was too afraid to go on, because I knew it would be a once in a lifetime experience for you and I never wanted to let you miss out on an adventure. So, here you are about to embark on the biggest, most thrilling adventure in all of Disneyland Park, the California Scream roller coaster, without a single ounce of fear, nothing but pure excitement and joy, pure joy...