

SOPHIE MEINHARDT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP 2012

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD?

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OUR LADY OF VISITATION

Imagine having someone so close to you ever since you can remember, not remembering who you are.

As long as I can remember, my Grandma has been there for me. When I was in kindergarten my Grandma would pick me up from school and I would go back to her house. Sometimes we would stop at Don Hattings and buy little pizzas for me. When I got back to her house, she would make the pizzas for me and they would be gone in five minutes! Usually everyday we would play card games; like Old Maid, Rummy and even Go Fish!

The best part of going to my Grandma's had to do with food. My Grandma was the best cook and baker ever. The best thing she would make was her cookies. At Christmas time she would make 8 to 10 different types of cookies. These were not break 'n bake, but were made from scratch. It took weeks to make them, but it was worth it. She always let me help her on the days I was there. She also would make pies and the crusts were from scratch too.

When I started at Visitation, I took the bus or carpooled with the neighbors. I missed those days with my Grandma. My Grandma had eight children, and those children have produced 27 grandchildren, and now those grandchildren have produced great grandchildren. Not many of the grandchildren had the opportunity to be babysat by my Grandma. I must have been very special to her.

My Grandma is very important to me. When she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's three years ago, our lives changed forever. She doesn't remember some of the people in my family.

My Grandma is one of those people who do for others before herself. She is so important and with that she has made me realize how great our God is. God creates everybody and everything and for a reason, I thank Him so much for creating her. Not only is she important to me, but she has changed my life forever.

Before she had Alzheimer's, she always took care of us, but now it is our turn to take care of her. Our family now takes turns taking dinners to her, taking her to dinner, or having her to our house for dinner. Sometimes, when I go with my Mom to my Grandma's, things need to be done at her house (i.e. when I go over, sometimes, I need to dust her house for my Mom so she can do other things to help her). I have come to realize that life is a circle. It is now our turn to care for her.

My Grandma is very religious and always puts God first. She may not remember people, but she always remembers God. We try to go to Mass on the weekends with my Grandma. By seeing her pray, she reminds me, of what really is important, and that is the presence of God and Him in your life.

With my Grandma in my life, I have learned and experienced how great God is and how he puts people in your life for a reason. My parents needed my Grandma to help with me, and now my Grandma needs the help of my parents and me. That is why I believe the word "family" stands for Forget About Me I Love You. He can do wonderful things and make wonderful people. Those people can have such an impact on your life. Our God can make anything possible, if you just believe.