

7/3/04

Dear Mom—

My hope is that this birthday card contains magical powers to keep joy and happiness in your life. I want it to be a constant reminder to you of how rich and wonderful your life is and how you continue to enrich and bring wonder to the lives of those who know you. As a mother you've brought magic and humor to the whole of my life. As a wife I see the support, affection, sustenance, companionship, caring, interest and love you give dad. As an artist you have made the world more beautiful, and found a way to mirror and reflect the psyches, souls and characters of your subjects. As a friend I have seen how you support, care for, and enjoy

them. And I've observed you as a person in the world who brings a laugh, a smile, and a kind word with you wherever you go.

Most people need life's imperfections and negatives to help them appreciate their blessings — you are one of the rare ones who don't. I wish I could ensure that you were protected against them, but that's not in my power. What is in my power is to constantly remind you of the good fortune you enjoy and deserve and to try and keep it always in the forefront.

May this birthday and every day find you counting blessings of good health and happiness with your family and friends, and always feeling my love!

Happy, happy, happy Birthday!

Love,
Mark