

The Cheryl Project

www.thecherylproject.com

The Cheryl Project is a kindness movement, a love project, a make-the-world-a-better-place idea. Our goal is to spread joy and happiness and to let people know how much their lives matter to others before it is too late

The Cheryl Project began when a dear friend of mine was diagnosed with terminal metastatic cancer. She had a huge impact on my life and though we had lost touch briefly, when we reconnected it was like not a day had passed. It was soon after she we got back in touch that she was diagnosed with cancer. My first thoughts were that her life meant so much in mine and I needed her to know all the ways she'd made me a better person. So I wrote her a letter and told her. It sounds easy, but it wasn't, and it took me weeks to put into words. And I thought why do we always wait until it's too late to let people know what they mean to us and how they have impacted our lives? I was determined to make sure her the importance of her life mattered, and thus The Cheryl Project was born. The focus is on giving people some tools and ideas and encouragement to let the people in their lives know how much they matter before it's too late. To tell them specifically how much they mean and all the ways they have changed someone else's life. The Cheryl Project is a kindness movement, a love project, a make-the-world-a-better-place idea. Our goal is to spread joy and happiness and to let people know how much their lives matter.

Step Parents are sometimes the hardest people to thank and to tell how much they mean to you. We forget that they took on a family that wasn't theirs -essentially strangers- and did all they could to make them their own. They stepped in and stepped up when they didn't have to. They took on often uncomfortable and unpleasant extended family situations out of love for their spouse and, by extension, his/her children. Step parents are amazing people that hardly ever get any recognition- even less than actual parents do. We want to help change that.

This letter is from _____, and he/she doesn't want to wait until it's too late to let you know how cherished you are. This is their Cheryl Project.

I don't even know where to begin in telling you how grateful I am that I got you for a step parent. It's a scary new situation and all the fairy tales don't make step parents look like a good idea! But you stepped into our family and stuck out the hard times and rejoiced in the good times and made our lives better in so many ways.

Remember when we met? I remember:

I remember when you and my mom/dad got married. I was feeling so:

The Cheryl Project

www.thecherylproject.com

The Cheryl Project is a kindness movement, a love project, a make-the-world-a-better-place idea. Our goal is to spread joy and happiness and to let people know how much their lives matter to others before it is too late

As a grownup I can now see how hard that situation must have been, and how many times you must have hurt without us knowing simply because of the logistics of our situation. And I want to thank you for all of that. For staying and loving us and doing your best, even when you felt like your best wasn't nearly enough. I know that no matter how hard things were when I was growing up you were always going to be there for me. That was truly the best thing you could have given me.

There aren't enough words in the world to explain how much you mean to me and how grateful I am to have you as a part of my family. No matter our ups and downs, or hard times in this life, I know that you are always there for me. And I can only do my very best to pass along all the amazing things you have been to me along to my own children and family. Love is your legacy, and I hope you know how very amazing that has been.