

20 April 2013 - Your Eternal Dream

Steve Heller, letter to nagypapa

Dear *Nagypapa*,

Recently I wrote to you, but not to say goodbye. This letter, however, is to say goodbye. However, I hope it is not our last contact. I hope to continue to reach you on the phone or on Skype. On the one hand, there is nothing left to say, and on the other hand, there is everything left to say.

My recent wish for you has been that you recover, regain strength, and climb the rock wall on your 90th birthday. One day, I will also reach the top of the wall to continue your example. You set many examples worth following. I will make apple strudel again; I still know the recipe by heart. I will continue to count in binary on my fingers. I will tell stories. I will live my life with determination.

Many of your examples have already been shared with the next generation. Ilana climbs the wall at MIT. You taught both Debbie and Becca to make apple strudel. All of us count on our fingers in binary. We all tell stories. And, we live our lives with determination; you should have seen Shari's determination at her recent final gymnastics meet. *L'dor v'dor*.

My wish for you now is that you understand how many people you have inspired, you have helped, and who love you. I love you with all my heart. My wife Debbie loves you. My children love you. There are so many others, but I will not speak for them.

Tonight I will open a bottle of your favorite wine and also my favorite wine, *Tokaji Aszu*, and I will think of you as you prepare to rest in eternal peace, your eternal dream.

[Notes from Debbie and the girls are elided as they are not mine to publish.]

With all our hearts,
Steve, Debbie, Becca, Shari, and Ilana