

Forever Young



Forever Young

*An unexpected chill of winter engulfs the night air as
The first fire of the season warms the humble home and awakens the soul.
On a white wooden mantle above a flickering fireplace stands
A fading photograph, a distant memory, a symbol of their youth.
Over five decades of devotion have passed since they proudly posed together on a
Special day when two joined to become one and innocently began their life together...*

*His rugged jaw, dimpled chin, and black wavy hair
Surround a slight smirk of a nervous smile while
His broad, athletic shoulders appear ready and eager to be leaned on.
His dark brown eyes and steely stare
Seemed to plead for challenge,
To embrace all that his journey through life will reveal to him...*

*The young girl stands by his side, as she will for a lifetime.
Her beauty is ageless, captured in a treasured moment of time.
Her hypnotic emerald eyes exude a blossoming promise of love and compassion.
Her youthful angelic face is framed by curly brown hair
And crowned by flowers that christen their day and
Illuminates the coronation of these newlyweds.*

*In a small town in the shadow of the city,
The idealism of youth gave way to the responsibilities of their new life.
Barely through their teens, reality hit hard as games, dances and roller skating
Were abruptly replaced by work, sacrifice, and caring for their growing family.
The days and nights and weeks and months of their youth flew by so swiftly
As their children became the focus of their life together.*

*Years later, the invincibility of youth faltered as time presented a glimpse of his mortality.
Shoulders accustomed to carrying the burden of others, now had to carry his own.
Throughout his illness and recovery, he proudly provided an example of strength, faith and love.
In the shadows of uncertainty, he accepted the challenge.
Family and friends, to whom he had selflessly ministered throughout his journey emerged to return his love,
Cherishing the opportunity to give back to a man who had given so much to them.*

*Throughout his adversity, she, again by his side, displayed her love in her actions...
Months later, at her birthday milestone, loved ones finally gathered to honor her.
The boys, now men, the legacy of her life, gazed into the reflective eyes of their mother and
Spoke proudly of her intense devotion, the essence of whom the young girl has become.
How the shining example of a lifetime of putting herself second
And striving to serve others continued to be the magic of her life.*

*The fading photograph, a snapshot in time from another era, speaks of the true values of Christmas;
The idealistic dreams of youth, the celebration of love, the support of family;
A time to remember and honor those who give and those who receive.
Christmas trees and colorful packages will fade in the fickle fleeting moments of time.
The visions of the past, the blessings of family, the gift of friendship still
Remain to kindle and stoke the fires of love and keep us forever young.*

*May this Christmas Season, a time of reflection and memories,
Remind us to appreciate the loved ones in our lives,
To cherish and treasure the true gifts of family and friends that enrich our lives forever.*