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A Letter To My Daughter Jamie on Her 44th Birthday

Happy Heavenly Birthday my sweet sweet angel. I know that you will be celebrating with all those who are in Heaven with you and love you. We will be celebrating you today and your life well lived on Earth. You fought the good fight and now are rewarded with eternity with Jesus.

I continue to think about you each and every day from the first minute I wake up until I sleep at night. In between I talk about you every chance that I get and say your name to all those I come in contact with. It's amazing how many people have stories about you. They usually make me laugh and sometimes cry at the same time. All of this helps me keep you alive and remind everyone that your short life on this earth was a blessing to so many people in so many ways and especially me since God let me be your Dad and spend 38 years with you watching you live a very special Christian life. When in doubt we are still guided by WWJD "What Would Jamie Do."

It's hard to believe that another year has passed us by. Your beautiful kids are thriving and actually becoming very good athletes. They are so beautiful and look a lot like you! Cody is five already and all boy, full of energy. He is very interested in Jesus and asks some questions that are really hard to answer about you and Jesus in Heaven. He amazes me sometimes. Chloe is going to be nine very soon and she looks exactly like you did at that age. She acts like you too and has the same attitude. Spending time with them helps me and your Mom feel closer to you. We are watching over them for you and hope you are watching over them from above when we can't be there.

So many of your friends and your family miss you and are finding it very difficult without you as part of their lives. I'm not sure if you knew it here on earth but you really have a lot of friends who love you very much. Being without you challenges every part of my being, heart, mind, and soul and some days the pain comes back in waves and is unbearable. Every cell in my body cries out to be with you again. All I do is pray just to feel your presence around us and to have some contact. I do see you in the world when I see the smiles on the faces of the kids that your Foundation has helped in many ways. Also when I see random acts of kindness, you are the first person I think about.

As I try to work up enough strength to get through the day, I promise I will keep working hard for your kids, your Foundation, and to keep your memory alive until the day that I die. Then I hope to join you in Heaven for a very big celebration.

In closing, I want you to know that because of your sacrifice, I come into contact with beautiful kids and families that have lost their mother to childbirth or dad to tragedy. It absolutely rips my heart out as I work with them through your Foundation to try and help them manage their grief, assist them financially or in any way that they need. It tears me up inside because I know how their life is going to change and my heart breaks for them. But, in a way that I can't describe, it helps me heal because I can see you in this process. I know how happy you would be to help these people and you are helping them and they are so grateful.

Happy Birthday my sweet girl. I am so proud to be your Dad. Enjoy your Heavenly Birthday. May God continue to bless your sweet soul. I love you with all of my broken heart.

Xoxo
Dad