

Spoken by Susie Adelson, Anne Goodman's Daughter, August 12, 2013

So I thought I would talk about my mom as a mom, as a friend and as a granne.

As a mom she was incredible. I often felt like it didn't make sense that I got her as a mom, I felt like I had won the mom lottery. She would and did everything for us. I am a unique and somewhat odd person and she understood me and accepted me. Here is just one example... After watching silence of the lambs I was terrified and had a lot I trouble sleeping. She put a sleeping bag on the shelf in the walk in closet in her room. She told me if I couldn't sleep I could grab the sleeping bag and sleep on the ground beside her. Night after night I would have scary dreams and go in, step on my tippy toes and grab the sleeping bag. It became like clockwork. Looking back Im not sure I was even having bad dreams, I think I just enjoyed the ritual.

Then one night I went in and reached up for the sleeping bag. It wasn't there my dad had decided it was enough and I had to stop with this nonsense. My mom told me she didn't care if it had been 3 weeks of this, if I was scared she wanted to help me. So that night she came with me and slept in my tiny single bed and held me until I fell asleep.

That is just one example of how no matter what she had my back, time and time again when others doubted me she stuck up for me. She never gave up on me.

When she got sick, before we knew it was cancer I went over to her house. On the way out in grabbed her face in my hands and said "mom I cannot do this whole life thing without you, I really don't know how to so much so can you do me a favor? Can you get better for me, I need you, we need you"

She laughed and said you can do anything you want and you'll be fine. Then she teared up and promised to try to get better.

In her amazing email updates that she shared with all of you, she often referenced that conversation. I sort of was just being a brat but she took it to heart. She knew that we needed her and in part that is why she fought so unbelievably hard. Even in her darkest days she always put others first.

So that was my mom as a mom.

She also was my friend. Little known susie fact after having Hudson I became a lot less social, the things that used to interest me now annoyed me and I really didn't feel like socializing. Life was different now and my priorities shifted. In that time I spend many many hours at my moms house. I would just go there to hang out with her. The days she took Hudson so I could have a break I often stuck around just to spend time with her. I would work on my laptop and she would be doing the crossword, it was just easy. I spent so much time with her not as her daughter but truly as her friend. We talked about everything, she was always interested in all my work events, anything Hudson related and anything else that was on my mind. I am serious when I say we were friends. That ease, that comfort, that feeling I only ever felt with her I will miss.

Now onto her as her newest role in my life, Hudson's granne.

To watch her with Hudson was incredible. She was so into him, she took him on long walks, they went to the library and they spent countless hours in her garden. She and I had a Pinterest board of crafts to do with him. We were so excited to get to that phase where we could do puppet shows and make volcanos that erupted.

I was excited to see their relationship grow. He loved her so much and even up until the last weeks of her struggle against cancer when speaking was so much work, she still read to him.

I really want to thank her for all she did for Hudson, he is so lucky to have met her and been able to spent time with her- I am so grateful for that.

On the subject of gratitude I would like to say thank you to everyone who supported us during this journey. All my friends and colleges thank you for supporting me so i could support her.

Kala who has stepped in countless times, often in the middle of the night to watch Hudson so I could go to the hospital during one of many scares we encountered. She eased my mind that Hudson was taken care of and for that I am grateful.

To my dad and Paula who have been incredible to all of us but specifically to Hudson- thank you for showing strength during a time I know was also very emotional for you. You made countless sacrifices to support us and for that I am grateful.

To Nathan who stuck by my side through this entire journey. Thank you for giving me the time I needed to spend with my mom. Night after night, weekend after weekend I left you with the dogs and the cat and all the household chores, I stepped away from the role of "active participant" in our lives and you supported that choice.

You were amazing to my mom building her website and teaching her how to check google analytics (which she did religiously) you supported me so I could support her, thank you.

Mauricio and Richard. Watching you love and support my sisters has been such an amazing joy to watch.

Throughout my moms journey but specifically in the last 3 weeks. Your love and devotion to my sisters has been incredible to watch. You both have been an incredibly important part of "team Anne" and as an adelsister I am so grateful to know my sisters have support and love because there have been days I felt too sad and too weak to support them.

Sandy and Vicki. Wow we really made a great team. You have both been amazing, allowing me to grieve in my own way and supporting the choices I made throughout this journey. We each dealt with the situation very differently, thank you both for loving, supporting and most of all protecting me.

The last person I want to acknowledge is michael. Yes it's true while he tinkered with medical equipment and stockpiled ice cream at the hospital there were many times I declared, he's not my

dad! He may not have been my dad but he was my mothers husband. He was the definition of devoted and refused to leave her side. The love you have for my mom is a beautiful thing to watch and we thank you for all you did for her. I promised her I would take care of "the big lug" and I will, you are family and we are here for you. Thank you for loving her.

So it started with love and it ends with love.

Mom I love you so much and I so grateful that I got to have you as my mom. Thank you for all that you did for me and for Hudson and thank you for fighting so hard to stay with us. It was too hard and you deserve peace, I know you found it now.