

More than anyone has loved me

This article is from the "Among Friends" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's Web site, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of June 12–13, 2010.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—One of the greatest blessings in my life is the number of people who truly love me. My wife has faithfully loved me during the 36 years of our marriage. Our two sons have consistently demonstrated their love toward me during the 29 and 26 years of their lives.

The list of people who regularly express their love toward me is lengthy—including my father, brother, two sisters, in-laws and countless friends. You can see why I consider myself well blessed.

And, as I comprehend the depth of those blessings, I have to acknowledge that there was one person who loved me more than anyone else has loved me. Did you notice that I expressed that person's love in the past tense?

My mother, Camilla Gill, died unexpectedly in a hospital in eastern Pennsylvania on Sunday, June 6, 2010. We had a memorial service on Thursday, June 10.

It was satisfying to hear the eulogies and to see how my 88-year-old mother had positively affected the lives of so many people.

Some of the qualities attributed to her included the following: her intelligence (her love of books, crossword puzzles and Scrabble), her determination, her dedication, her honest communication, her sense of humor and her loyalty.

But, from my point of view, her greatest attribute was being a mother to me, my brother and my two sisters.

It could be said that she occasionally wore rose-colored glasses when looking at her four children. However, I don't think that was regularly the case. From my point of view, I believe that she often saw our negative attributes very clearly—and she loved us anyway.

I hope to continue to appreciate all the people in my life who consistently demonstrate love toward me. I will miss the lady who loved me more than anyone has loved me. I look forward to seeing her in the resurrection.