

A letter in song...

From Lisa B. to Lisa C.



In loving memory of Lisa Carol Sandler Spaeth

From Lisa B. to Lisa C.

*Oh, Lisa, I miss you, how I miss your laugh!
So many things I long to tell you, so many mem'ries from our past.
How can it be that you're not here to share with me the rest of my life?*

*Oh, Lis, I miss you, your smile, your bright blue eyes,
The way you knew what I was thinking, the way you shared your heart with mine,
The way you always knew just what to say to make my day brighter than before!*

*Oh, Lisa, I miss you each and every day;
After a lifetime spent together losing you is losing me in many ways.
You knew the girl I used to be; I thought we had much, much more time!*

*Oh, Lis, I miss you, I miss us – Lisa B. and C.
A friendship spanning nearly four decades,
You were supposed to grow old with me!
My cherished friend, you'll always be
Here in my heart the rest of my life!*

I'll hold you close to me...

*How can it be that you're not here?
I'll love you, Lis, the rest of my life!*



It was 1969, a hot summer day at Seven Locks Swimming Pool. My family had recently moved to Bethesda, MD, and my mother was anxious for me to make a friend. She saw a cute little girl, guessed that she was my age, and dragged shy 7-year-old me forward to introduce us. “My name is Lisa,” she said. And so began a special friendship that sustained and nurtured us until her untimely death at the age of 44.

I have wonderful memories of a lifetime shared with Lisa. Though we didn’t go to school together, we were best friends just the same. We shared magical summers at Camp Seafarer, and religious school, retreats and WHECTY at WHC. We were at one another’s Bat Mitzvahs; we were at one another’s first dates! She was with me when I sprained my ankle on the tennis court; I was with her when she attempted to ski down an expert slope as a beginner skier (my fault entirely, but that’s another story). We were bridesmaids in one another’s weddings; we celebrated the births of our sons only 10 months apart.

One of my favorite memories is of the many trips I took with her family to Ocean City. It was on one of those trips that Lisa’s mother gave us the nicknames that ended up staying with me all my life. Lisa and I were in the bedroom; Aunt Froma was in the kitchen. “Lisa!” she called. “Yes?” we called in unison. “My Lisa,” she amended indulgently. “Yes?” we both called, giggling (clearly I felt part of the family). “Lisa C.!” she specified, laughing as we both came running. With Aunt Froma, we were Lisa B. (Lisa Beth) and Lisa C. (Lisa Carol).

I loved being able to make Lisa laugh. With Lisa, I was the stand-up comic and she was an amazingly receptive audience. She alone of all of our bunkmates in Cabin 20 at Seafarer understood the humor in “the first shower’s free, but the second’s \$2,” and countless other punny witticisms of mine over the years.

There is nothing like a friend who has known you all your life. She is a sister, a part of who you are and who you become. Lisa was my confidant, my side-kick, my swim buddy, my best friend. I was so lucky to have met Lisa that day at the pool. Her friendship has enriched my life in ways too numerous to count, and I miss her deeply.

Shortly after Lisa’s death, I received a note from a friend who offered the following advice – “Sing with the joy of Lisa’s love in your heart!” And so I offer this song to you, with love. ~*Lisa Baydush*

2002

Lisa -
Hard to believe we've been
friends for 33 years!
I treasure our friendship
and marvel at the similar
paths our lives have taken:
from Seven Locks Pool to
Seafarer, WTC, PENN and back,
the times we've shared and
those yet to come are truly
special. Not to mention our names.
All my love on this BIG
BIRTHDAY! Love, Lisa



Lisa wrote this note to me on the occasion of my 40th birthday, and the one on the back of the CD case for my 19th. Not surprisingly, our letters to one another express the same thought – how much we always have and always will treasure our friendship.

Lisa

From Lisa B. to Lisa C.

is a letter in song from Lisa Beth Ackerman Baydush to Lisa Carol Sandler Spaeth, celebrating a life-long friendship and grieving the loss of a cherished friend.

*Lisa -
Thanks for being
my friend always.
Love you,
Lisa*



I'd like to express my enormous gratitude to Chuck Mitchell who so graciously and beautifully arranged and recorded the instrumentals for this song and to Audrey Katz and Barry Astrow for their loving assistance with the editing and mixing process. Thank you, Mom, for opening the door to a friendship that I have always treasured!

As for you, Lis, my beloved friend, I'll carry you in my heart the rest of my life! ❤️

Music and Lyrics by Lisa Baydush © 2008