

From Manouchehr

Dear Butch and Aileen,

While I am sorry to learn about Nana's passing, I am happy to know that her soul has been relieved from the pains and infirmities of this mortal life! I feel that her soul is rejoiced in its reunion with those she had had loving associations with -- those who had passed on to the next world before her.

I know, however, that Nana's death is a great loss to those who were close to her, especially the two of you. For that, I offer my sympathy and condolences to both of you, to her son-in-law, to her grandchildren and their loved ones, and to her nephew and his family! Naturally, I share her loss with all of you!

As you know, I loved Nana and Gramps dearly, and I have many fond memories of my association with them -- some of those memories revolve around card games! I never forget the first time I was introduced to most the "family" by Karen. As I recall, it was at Nana and Gramps home in Salem, NH, where we had a great feast prepared by Nana, Marion, Mum, and Karen. After dinner, many of us indulged in a game of "O' Hell," a game which I was playing for the first time. In that occasion, the beginner's luck struck and, to everyone's surprise, I won the round! The consequence was that Nana got mad at me and called me a cheat, creating a roar of laughter -- that is how I was initiated into the "family!"

In closing, I would like to offer the following Baha'i prayer in Nana's memory -- a prayer which may be shared at the party for celebrating her life:

"O my God! O Thou forgiver of sins, bestower of gifts, dispeller of afflictions! Verily, I beseech Thee to forgive the sins of such as have abandoned the physical garment and have ascended to the spiritual world. O my Lord! Purify them from trespasses, dispel their sorrows, and change their darkness into light. Cause them to enter the garden of happiness, cleanse them with the most pure water, and grant them to behold Thy splendors on the loftiest mount."

With much love,

Manouchehr