

# 'I Love You, Mom'

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Edith Smeltzer at her quilting frame.

Edith Smeltzer thinks it's a great life to sit at her quilting frame because she loves sewing. She quilts from three to four quilts every year for people that bring quilts to her. This is her winter past-time. She would rather sew than anything else. She also sews for neighbors who bring coats to her to shorten or put in new zip-pers.

No matter how much she sews, she takes time out to cook three meals a day and bake bread, cakes, and pies. When her children come home, they know where to go for some cake or a piece of pie. She

"A sunbeam, a sunbeam, Jesus wants me for a sunbeam. A sunbeam, a sunbeam, I'll be a sunbeam for Him."

The words to this song must have been written for my mother. Her kind, gentle face has been shining for everyone around her all her life. I'm sure she was not always happy with what I was doing, but as a child I could always count on her to be there for me and gently guide me toward the proper pathway. As a foster mother for many children, and a day care pro-

vider, she touched many young lives, all with her gentle, smiling way. Now, fighting leukemia, she has been in and out of the hospital six times in a year. Her disease has taken her hair and a lot of her weight, but not her spunk. She is still a sun beam. Her smile is always present and her faith in God is as strong as ever. Sarah Seibert (Linglestown, my mother, my sunbeam.

will occasionally bake a pie or a loaf of bread for her children. Nothing pleases her more than to help someone else. When her children have some torn clothes, she sews it for them. Although she had a hip operation two years ago, it did not slow her down. Occasionally she will use a cane, but she still sews and bakes as usual. She is supposed to be retired but I do not think you can call this retired. She has been married for 52 years but does not slow down.

### Her husband, Merle Smeltzer

Submitted by daughter Judy Stuckey Annville

Our grandma is Kathleen Brandt, wife of Roy L. Brandt. She has been married 46 years and has nine children and 15 grandchildren. She lives on a farm near Millersville.

Our grandma was raised on a farm so she has worked hard all her life. We help her a lot in the garden. We help pick vegetables and go with her to Root's Market to sell the vegetables. Some of the vegetables we pick are canned to make chow chow in the fall. We like to make chow chow with grandma, she makes it fun. We make it in big tubs and only she knows how many handfuls of spices it needs. She gets it perfect every time.

Grandma is also a very good cook. We love holidays because we get to go to her house and everyone comes home. She makes each of us feel special. She knows what each of us likes and never forgets our birthdays.

We feel especially lucky because we live close to Grandma. She comes to visit us a lot on Sundays. It's nice to have her come to our house for supper because she doesn't have to cook. We like to see her relax, which she doesn't do very often.

As busy as Grandma is, she always has time for us when we need her. She loves us, she helps to take care of us, and teaches us. She listens when we talk and scolds us when we are wrong. And though there are many of us, we are all made to feel very special in Grandma's eyes. And, of course, we love Grandma very, very much.

Bradley and Jenifer Brandt Millersville

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish a Happy Mother's Day to my wonderful mother, Eva G. Burkholder. She resides at 290 Reading Road, East Earl, where she loves working in the yard and flower beds and keeping her little corner of the world beautiful. She works at Good's Store in the yard goods department where her love and knowledge of sewing come in handy. She attends Weaverland Mennonite Church, where she is Sunday school teacher to 11 three- and four-year-olds.

I want to praise my mother for the many times she sacrificed her own desires to do things for us when we were growing up. She was a working mom, but she still spent hours in the kitchen making good things to eat and hours at the sewing machine making dresses and flannel nightgowns for us girls. We looked forward to coming home from school on her day off to find her busy at one project or another. Sometimes it was freshly baked cookies, other times, something new for us to wear.

Mom's children are grown, and she's now a grandma. She is still busy in the kitchen. Now she sets the table for 19 on holidays and special occasions. She hasn't given up sewing either. Now her projects include sheets, pillowcases, and quilts for her grandchildren's beds.

Happy Mother's Day, Mom! We all love you!  
Frank, Harold, Thelma, Chad, Eric, Duane, Staci, Jane, Wanda, Bruce, Justin, Drew, Shane, Harry, Sue, Sheldon, Trent, and Kara.

Dear Readers,

I want to express my appreciation about my mother. She's 46 and still going. She's such a wonderful person and I don't feel worthy having a mother like her. She is a caring and concerned mother to her children. I can come to her anytime and find her willing and ready to listen to whatever is on my mind. I owe my thanks to her for all she does for me — sewing, cooking, and much more. I can say I have a very dear mother and I thank God for her. Her name is Sadie. She teaches me about God and she is a very fine Christian.

Norma Stoltzfus McVeytown



Eva G. Burkholder

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## A Gift of Genuine Slate

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