



As a kid, I vividly remember playing Super Mario World for Super Nintendo in front of my mom. As excited as I was, I couldn't get past the third level at ALL. Multiple lives and continues later, I thought it would be best to just turn the console off. Just before I selected Save and Quit, my mom stood in front of the TV (which all moms know you NEVER are supposed to do mid-game), looked me in the eye, and said "Milo, I know this is just a video game, but you have never been, are not, and will NEVER be a quitter. I love you, and I will always believe in you. Now go show those flying turtles who's BOSS!"

It used to be just you and me. That was the norm, and I never felt like anything was missing.

As Family has changed over the years, giving us a new norm, your Love has remained the same: Unconditional, Omnipresent, and Unapologetic.

The greatest gift you have given me has been belief in myself. Not because I'm better than anyone else, but because we ALL deserve to embrace our Greatness.

Giving birth was only the beginning. Being a Mother is so much more. Because not only did you give me life, but you taught me what it meant to open my heart and LIVE.

I can live a thousand lives and never repay you. All I can do is hope to God that I am a walking reflection of your Love.

"I'll love you forever,
I'll like you for always,
As long as I'm living
my Mommy you'll be."

I Love you, Madre.

