

SOMETHING IS MISSING, SOMETHING IS GONE.



Dear Uline Customers,

Chicago at the end of May is usually a very beautiful time. On such a day last year we received a call that Steve and Dick's dad suddenly died. The very next week we had a family wedding, which involved a party at our house and a very young granddaughter being the flower girl. Two weeks later, again suddenly, my mother died in Florida.

To say we were in shock and reeling was an understatement. I think back and wonder how we got through it all. Like all families at times, you get through it because you have to. Later you sort it all out.

As time passes, we reflect on just what our parents left us – these two strong Midwesterners. My mom loved people and parties. She would often say I was too serious and to “lighten up”. Her philosophy was to work hard each day but to reserve part of it for relaxation and fun. Most definitely that's the way she was.

My father-in-law was a deeply concerned American who fretted about “statesmen” vs. politicians. Statesmen do what is right for the country and not themselves. “All we have are politicians,” he used to say. You could argue endlessly with him about the Clintons, Mayor Daley, Ted Kennedy, Tom DeLay and the “whole bunch”.

Both lived life on their terms to the fullest and well into their 80's. What's gone is their very strong presence in this very strong family. Now I feel myself thinking as I never, ever did before, what do we leave our children? What moral compass, what standard, what's really important?

It's perfectly clear that it's our turn now.

Liz Uihlein



THE "BIG BLACK BOMBER"

On a happier note....

My car and I celebrate its 10th anniversary this year. It's just been a great car. That's why I still have it. Built by Americans working for an American company. It's big and comfortable. The leather is in great shape. The controls are easy to understand. The heater blasts heat out.

I think I have one of the oldest cars in the Uline parking lot, but I truly haven't seen one yet that I feel like trading in for my “big black bomber”.

– Liz Uihlein