

JUNE

As June roles around some important events role around in my family that I want to touch on.

First my Mom was born June 15th. I am not going to fib and say that it's all been rosy. Moms and daughters don't always see eye to eye and when you look at family history there are time's you would think my Mom and I couldn't be anymore different. But as you grow and mature, you realize that Mom's do know a lot. Mine is great and I think I began to realize this when she and I became friends. What a wonderful friend she is. She is strong, independent, and loving. How she treats her mother is an example for all of us. We are so different (I have been trying to corrupt her for years) but I have learned so much from her. Love ya Mom and Happy Birthday.

June 13th is my brother in laws birthday. First off I am so glad he is older than me. Just kidding. Jimmy might be older, but he's wiser. I always tell people I was lucky enough to pick my brother in law. I don't know how he and my sister Deb ever finally started going out but I tried darn hard. He is a true friend and a Dad any kid would be lucky to have. Happy Birthday and Father's Day, Jim.

June is also Miss Kara's birthday. Kara is Mike's sister Carries daughter. Kara is the first Popella grandchild and a little spitfire. She was blessed to know her grandma Theresa and this year in confirmation took the name of Theresa and made us all very proud. Happy 8th birthday Kara.

And finally there is another event in June that is close to my heart. Father's Day. I want to start first with my Father in law. Mike, Sr. (I don't think he knows I call him this but I do). The more I know my father in law the more I see my future. My husband was influenced greatly by both his parents. I am so happy his Mom taught him to cook, but his dad gave him his quirky personality. Those Popella boys can tease and taunt like

the best of them. Yet the funny thing is they've got some really big hearts. They are loving and fun. Happy Father's Day Mike Sr., Dad in law!!

And then there's my Dad. Tom Snyder. No, not the TV personality (for anyone under 50 there was someone on TV named this) but my Daddy. I thank God daily for being blessed with the man who made such a huge impact on my life. He taught me to be myself, no matter what. He taught me it was okay to make mistakes. He taught me to be independent. He taught me to be me, always. I don't think I have ever met anyone that valued his family more and did all he could to be the best Dad he could be. I so remember when my friends would talk and not truly know their Dad because of work or other obligations, I just couldn't relate. My dad woke me up for school and a few years drove me. My dad spent summers with us. My dad owned his own business during the summer but we all worked at the business. I remember when we owned the Ice Cream stand I loved working Sunday mornings because that meant Dad and I would go to Girard Giant Eagle and buy our groceries and then have breakfast at McDonalds and just talk. Did my Dad and I have the normal relationship? No. I put my parents through some pretty tough times in high school, but I always knew they would be there for me. I hope not to embarrass him but once you see your Dad cry and know you caused those tears, it changes how you look at things. My Dad had so many people depending on him that his time was strained but I never felt it. I just want everyone to know that I feel like the lucky person in the world because I did have the best Daddy in the world. (And Mom too). Thank you for making me the person I am today. Happy Father's Day.

So to all have a happy June, this is truly one of my best months!!