





Good morning, boys and girls! Let's lighten up the mood, shall we?

If you could teleport to the past on three different occasions, which moments would you choose, and why? Go ahead, put on your thinking cap. And remember, we're trying to lighten up the mood here.

Me? I'd be tempted to jump back to fix something, God knows I've gotten a lot of things wrong. But, no. That would most likely change my present, and despite all of the tough times, I really don't want to mess with the blessings that have come along the way. And not that I don't think they were precious moments, but I think I'll pass on both kids' births...ouch, if you know what I mean.  $\square$ 

Instead, I'll teleport back to this:

- (1) Our wedding ceremony. It was special, it was funny (three priests and a church full of our craziest friends made it so), plus everyone in the family was still alive. That alone makes that night golden.
- (2) My book signing. Sooo much fun, and for a semi-shy person like me, quite the accomplishment to share some of my writing in front of an audience. We had a packed house "full of love" as the Books and Books manager told me that night, and I still thank those who came out to support me.
- (3) Any one of the many moments Ray, Lauren, Danny and I coincidentally convened in some part of our home, typically the hallway (or anywhere else, for that matter), and launched into a group hug just for the hell of it. Actually, make this my number one. Especially now that we are empty-nesters, I would enjoy this moment the most.

Of course, we know we can't teleport, but fortunately we have memories and, with any luck and the grace of God, we'll have them forever.

Until next Thursday's post, boys and girls...si Dios quiere.

[Note: In case you're not Spanglish-speaking, "si Dios quiere" means God-willing. Mom finished most of her sentences with that phrase. I added it to my sendoff in her honor after her passing].

"Know that love is truly timeless."

-M. Ricksen

The people of quality that were meant to be in your life won't need you to explain the beauty of your heart. They already understand what being human is—a roller coaster ride of emotions during rainstorms and sunshine, sprinkled with moments when you can almost reach the stars."

S.L. Alder





A roadtrip. Never pass up an opportunity for a mirror hug selfie.  $\ \ \ \ \$ 

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