

## Pennies From My Mom in Heaven

I lost my lovely mom at the age of 93 and miss her everyday. It has been over 5 years since she went to be with our Lord. We lived together for over 15 years and traveled and had a wonderful life. However, the past 5 years were rough on her and me, when her memory and eyesight started to fail and was wheelchair bound as well. I took care of her in the small townhouse we shared in Miami and she loved to go for walks every day to see the lovely gardens, palm trees and blooming flowers.

Early in the morning when the sunlight was streaming down, she would often put her hand out to feel the warmth of the sun and know God was reaching out to her and smiling too. Since she was in the chair and beginning to slouch over, many times she was looking at the road and would tell me to stop every once in a while...and then ask, **“what is that shiny thing on the ground?”** ...and it was a penny. A shiny penny and I picked it up and she put it in her pocket and smiled. “Don’t forget to pick up the pennies,” she would tell me, and I just laughed.

Well, after she departed from this world, I was alone and lonely for a long time. I prayed to God for a sign. I continued my long walks and this helped with my depression and I felt like I could commune with God outside in nature. One day, my friend Melanie decided to cheer me up and take me on a weekend trip to St. Petersburg, Florida to see the Dali Museum exhibit as she knew I enjoyed art. She did not want me to be alone on mom’s birthday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, so hesitantly I went. While we were touring inside the museum on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, we stopped to listen to a guide. As I looked down, and much to my shock and amazement, there was a shiny penny just sparkling, waiting to be picked up. Quietly I picked it up and put it in my pocket and smiled and thanked mom.

When I returned home it was a warm in July and I often went to our community pool, which was across from my house in the early morning. I enjoyed it as I was the only one there and the water was calm and sparkling blue. She used to love to swim and I have many fond memories of taking mom there too. I took a few steps down into the pool and before I started to swim I saw another bright shiny object! When I bent down to pick it up, I found that it was another new shiny penny! Well, that made my day for sure and that was not the last time I found pennies in the pool or around it.

In the fall of that year I took a trip by airplane and of course had to go through all the security at the airport. A nervous flyer to begin with, I forgot I had left my small cranberry juice boxes in my carry-on bag and was pulled over off the line. I was embarrassed and felt silly for forgetting that it was not allowed. I was alone and holding back tears and looked down and there was a penny at my feet! I picked it up and immediately felt better...and said a silent **“thank you”** and proceeded to have a pleasant flight.

In October of that year I was lying in bed one morning just daydreaming when I got a phone call that my niece in New York had a baby boy! I looked at the calendar and realized the date was the 13<sup>th</sup>, my mom's lucky number and the date she was born on. When I proceeded to get up, I stepped on something cold, and yes, it was a penny! **She was there in spirit for sure! I was so happy!**

The pennies still come and at unexpected times....sometimes when I am pumping gas at the gas station, (in Miami) or at church getting into my car there were a couple, and even when I am shopping in a store! They always seem to appear when I need a little comfort, or when I think of her. So, I know she is there watching over me. Even now, with my move to New Jersey, which was quite traumatic at first, I still received the pennies!

So now, when I am feeling a little lost and alone, I look down and always am thrilled when I see a penny! I talk to her and tell her to keep sending the signs...and she hears me, I know.

**Then I look up to the heavens and thank my mom, the angels and most of all my Divine Maker, God.**