

10th Grade through 12th Grade

(1)

Submitted by: Nicolle Clary

My mother is a hard working individual who is not in the best situation. She tries her best to do things for the family, but sadly, is disabled. Over years of working, her hand has become permanently damaged and now, she is always in pain and cannot work. Also, I worry about my mom daily because she has the disease called Lupus and just want to give her the best I can before anything tragic happens to her because I love her so much. She doesn't have much money but she takes care of the family with what little she has, often putting others before herself. She is always there for me and looks out for my best interests. She has a lot of stress in her life and I feel that she is very deserving of the prize. The spa treatment would greatly reduce her stress level and the clothing is something she really needs. She has pants with holes and has not gotten new shoes in years. I just want to give back to my mom who has always done the best she could for me. She also has done the best for my friend, taking her off the streets and feeding her, taking her to school, and providing shelter. She gives so much to us, now it's our turn to give to her.

(2)

Title: Mother of the Year!

Submitted by: Taylor Sullivan

My mother deserves to be Mother of the Year because throughout all the hardships that she has faced and conquered, she still has the strength to get up each day and tackle them again full on. My mom was diagnosed with breast cancer last year and she survived. All the emotional stress and physical fatigue has certainly had its toll on her, but she still rises to meet the challenges of life through all and always loves me unconditionally. I believe she is an extraordinary candidate for this contest because she is a single mother of one (me), and runs a horse ranch of five acres single-handedly. She has my help of course, but she has never had to depend on any man. She is also a fifth grade school teacher at John Burroughs (13 years and still going). Our life is not lavished by material items, but instead by the love and homely story that my mother has worked so hard to continue for of family and horses. She has taught me many important things among which are the values of family, friendship and of a dollar. The most important thing that she has engraved in my mind is that whenever you get bucked off a horse, you always get back on. This teaches the horse and your that you are not surrendering to the challenge, and gives you the strength to rise after you fall and keep going. This lesson applies in real life all the time. My mother is my role-model, now and forever. She is driven and there is no one in this world that I could ever love or look up to more. She has created the best life for me I could ever want. She is truly Mother of the Year material.

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(3)

Title: Lifesaving Grandma

Submitted by: Samantha K. Robinson

I was born to two parents that didn't want nor care for children. My mother was a drug addict, my father was an alcoholic. At the age of 6 months, my grandmother wouldn't see of it any longer. My Grandma Mary fought for my custody. She traveled from California to Iowa to take me away from what was killing me slowly.

She says when she got there, only asparagus and vodka were in the fridge. I slept in a closet. And you could see the people living underneath us (we lived in an apartment) through the bathroom floor.

I can honestly say that without my grandma stepping in and taking me away from the hell that was my home, I would not be alive today.

Mary is a volunteer at the local elementary school (13 years), a grandmother to 7 grand kids, and a loving wife and friend. If anyone deserves to be rewarded for her service as a mother, it is her. In all my 17 years of life, I haven't met a more deserving grandmother.