



Graduation Celebration

Susan Brown B.Ed Hons 2:1

July 2020

§ Gillian Welcome

§ Susan My Learning - My Life Learning, My University Learning

§ Susan's Mum Congratulations, Susan!

§ Gillian **'To Susan'** ... in the words of your family and friends

§ Messages from your family and friends

§ Susan Thanks to all my special folks

§ Gillian Presentation of Celebration Gift

§ Closing Words



Introductory Music **'Best Day of My Life'**

Gillian *Welcome – 'A warm welcome to you all. We're here together to celebrate a very special occasion - after 4 years of hard work, Susan has been awarded a Bachelor of Education Degree, with Honours. She officially graduated on the 15th of July. Together, we will spend time with Susan at the centre of our hearts and give words and thoughts to her wonderful achievement.'*

Reading – e.g. 'Walking Away' by C. Day Lewis

'Children' by Khalil Gibran

'The Voice' by Shel Silverstein

Susan *My Learning – 'I can't believe that my four years at University are over and I'm now ready to start work. I'm really proud of myself, I've worked so hard and now I have my Degree in Teaching Primary School Children, and a job at 'Kenmore Primary School'. So, what have I learned?*

I learned that I will always have more to learn! And that's great! I learned to drive, to cook, to keep a flat clean and tidy (yes, Mum, really!). I learned who my best friends are, and when I need to be careful about making new friends. I learned how to play chess and volleyball, and I learned how to wake up when my alarm goes off (most times!).

At Uni, I learned all about child development, how to teach, how to be more patient, how to use a smartboard. I learned how to write reports and how to project my voice. I learned lots of new songs, including 'Baby Shark', and lots of new poems, including 'The Sair Finger'.

Most of all, I learned that I will always have more to learn.'

Susan's Mum *'Congratulations, Susan! We are all so proud of you – Your Dad, me, Paul and Daniel. We missed you so much when you left home to go to University. We missed your cheery smile, your chats and hugs, your untidy bedroom and the hours you spent in the loo! We loved when you came home with all your stories of halls, flats, friends, parties and the fun that you were having. I loved to hear stories of your placements in schools and how much you enjoyed being with the children there. And now you've graduated, you've got a job to go to and you'll be leaving us again, going to a new place and meeting new people. You've worked so hard, and you deserve this amazing Honours Degree – well done!'*

Gillian *Susan, as you know, we asked your family and friends to tell us why you are special to them. I have used their words, and here is your poem:*

'To Susan'

*The sunshine in your smile,
Your true friendship and your caring,
Your laughter and the joy that you bring.
Your humour and your honesty,
Your love of animals, your charm,
And the fun that you bring.
Your hard work and your kindness,
Your perseverance and your quiet sense of justice,
Your uniqueness and
The love that you bring.*

Susan, I have here some cards and messages from other members of your family and some of your friends:

From Gran and Grandad – so proud of you, our Susan. Congratulations! All the hard work paid off.

From Aunt Pat and Uncle David – Well Done, Susan. Fantastic achievement! We knew you could do it!

From Carol and Rhona – Congratulations, Susan. You're a star!

From Fiona, Craig, Gary and Alex – Well done, clever-clogs! Drinks are on you!

And now, Susan is going to say some 'thank yous' to her special folks.

Susan *'Mum and Dad – you are always there for me, and you've helped me all the way through my time at Uni. I couldn't have done it without you and I'm so grateful for everything, from your shoulders to cry on, to your generous gifts. Paul and Daniel – I know you've missed me, and loved having me back home. You've enjoyed having more space in the house, more time in the loo and more of Mum and Dad's attention. It's been great sharing my stories with you, and thank you for putting up with my loud music! Gran and Grandad – I love you so much, and your support is always there. Thank you for the food parcels, especially the tablet! Fiona, Craig, Alex and Gary – you're the best friends anyone could have! Thank you for always being there, always ready to party and always ready to listen when I needed you. Thank you to all my family and friends, you are the very best and I love you all!'*

Sample Script

Gillian *'Thank you, Susan. And so this brings us to the end of our Graduation Celebration for Susan. But before we finish, I would like to say some closing words:*

Susan:

Open the gifts of love and friendship,

Accept the invitations of opportunity and adventure.

Follow the paths that unfold in front of you,

Choose your directions,

Listen to advice.

Live fully and safely.

Sit quietly, dance wildly, sing loudly.

Become YOU.

And, on behalf of everyone here, to celebrate your hard work, your commitment to studying, your hours of learning and your achievement of your degree: Bachelor of Education, with Honours, please accept this Graduation Gift.

Thank you all – enjoy your Graduation party!'

Closing Music *'I Hope You Dance'*.