

LAURA ON LIFE

Who's Her Mom?

I don't remember the exact day. It crept up on me quite insidiously. But it happened just like I always knew it would. My mother became the child and

I became my mother. Although the metamorphosis has been taking place for some time, I only just realized it last week when my mother came to my

house to have lunch.

She walked in the door and immediately made a beeline for the bathroom. She said four words to me – "I have to pee!" – and left me standing there, hoping she made it to the bathroom in time. I didn't have any spare underwear for her and we've been out of diapers for 5 years.

She came out shaking her wet hands, flinging water hither and yon, and announced that there wasn't a towel in the bathroom. I



Laura Snyder

found myself thinking, "Well, at least she remembered to wash her hands."

I shook my head. Of course she washed her hands! This is my mother; the woman who said, "Wash your hands!" a bazillion times a day when I was a child.

Because it was nearly noon, I asked her if she was hungry and she answered just as my 8-year old would: "Yeah! What are we having?"

"Well, I have ham

and salami and cheese and hard rolls..." as I emptied my refrigerator onto the kitchen table.

"Salami?" she said, excited. "I haven't had salami in forever!"

She grabbed the Ziploc baggie that held the salami and worked at it until she had mutilated the zipper. Then she handed it to me with a hopeful look in her eyes. "I can't get it open."

I managed to open it with a grapefruit knife. I had to caution her not to cut herself as she sliced her hard roll toward her hand instead of away, as she had taught me years ago. She proceeded to pile salami and cheese on to her hard roll. I raised an eyebrow at the amount of salami and cheese she had on it because she's supposed to be

watching her cholesterol.

"It's just one time," she said. "I don't get salami and Muenster cheese very often."

"All right, but you're only getting one sandwich," I admonished, "and you have to eat some cantaloupe with it."

When it came time to clear the table, she swiped another piece of Muenster cheese while I was bagging the remainder of the lettuce and tomato. She decided to make up for the purloined cheese by bringing things from the table for me to place in the refrigerator. The problem was that she'd brought a handful of ham in one fist; the baggie and her purloined piece of cheese in the other.

I looked at her as if she'd lost her mind. I took the ham and the baggie, put one inside the other and placed the package in my meat bin.

Everything she brought me from that point on had Muenster cheese slime on it. I had to wash the mayonnaise jar and the iced tea pitcher before I could put them away. The cheese baggie was the last item she brought. Before she left, I asked her if she needed to use the bathroom again. She did. I told her to drive safely and stood in the doorway making sure she got out of my driveway without running over my cat.

I closed the door and wondered, once again, how this came to be... and when it will happen to my daughter.

Laura Snyder is a nationally syndicated columnist, author & speaker. You can reach Laura at lsnyder@lauraonline.com Or visit her website www.lauraonline.com for more info.

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RETIREMENT AUCTION
SATURDAY, JUNE 5TH, 2010
"Rain Date" Next Day, Same Time
12:00 NOON "We Start On Time"
SPORTING GOODS-FURNITURE-TOOLS

LOCATION: 7 miles west of Crofton on Hwy. 12 and 3 miles North, 1/8 mile West on South side of road.
Watch for auction sign.

SPORTING GOODS
8 hole glass front gun cabinet "very nice"; 4 boxes of 1981 Ducks Unlimited shotgun shells w/presentation cases; 2 cases 1983 Ducks Unlimited shotgun shells w/presentation cases; 3-220 Connibare traps w/box; 11-220 Connibare traps; 2-110 Connibare traps; 2-#1 Foul Hold traps; 2 snagging rods; minnow traps; minnow nets; minnow buckets; landing nets; various fishing rods & reels; ice fishing gear; large dog kennels; small animal cages; 2-1 burner propane stoves; 1-3 burner propane stove; dog waterer; various shotgun and rifle shells; tackle boxes; stainless steel fish fat dryer.

FURNITURE-APPLIANCES-HOUSEHOLD
2-deep freezers; 2-110 air conditioners; refrigerator; sofa; 3 pc. bedroom set; 3 computer desks; coffee table; end tables; 2 bed frames for air mattress; chest of drawers; night stands; dresser and hutch "very nice"; corner cupboard; 3 kitchen tables; wood desk; school desk; storage bench; 3 tier heart shaped stand; book cases; microwave cabinet; 2 kitchen chairs; wall shelves; white bathroom cabinets; large white mirror; 5 tier plastic shelves; many pictures & frames; 4 drawer filing cabinet; wall decorations; new pizza bakes; electric roaster; onion machine; bread machine; food processor; blue Tupperware canister set; 4 green plastic chairs and green end table; Air Mist vaporizer; stainless steel turkey cooler and stand; light fixture for ceiling fan; wooden chest; lamps; potato bin; French fry maker; stainless steel pots & pans; 3 fans; vases; canister set; pressure canner; Santa cookie jar; pig cookie jar; candle holders; 2 Sony speakers; 2 Bose speakers; trailer coupler for 2" ball; large area rugs; rug runners.

MISCELLANEOUS & TOOLS
Walnut lumber and logs; 4x4 post; car ramps; swim fins; large coolers; 35 mm camera; strobe lights; motorcyle helmet; metal lawn chair; wine & beer making equipment; camera; Christmas tree; assorted dishes; board games; small Bar-B-Que grill; yard edging; yard ornaments; bowling ball.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES
Glazed glass mirrors; Fire King items; Corvette 1957 1:18 scale die cast car; Ford Thunderbird 1955 1:18 scale die cast car; blue quart jars; old beer & wine bottles; ruby red bowls; several old crocks; Christmas angels; Jack Daniels presentation box; some picture frames; pecan wood goose; Indian war club (replica); Indian hammer (replica).

Auctioneers comment: Ross has retired from the Nebraska Game Commission after working for 37 years as a game warden. Ross and Paulette are moving to Wisconsin. Let's attend this auction and wish them good-bye and good luck.

OWNERS: ROSS & PAULETTE OESTMANN

For more information: Ross 605-660-9676 or Paulette 605-660-9672
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'03 Buick Regal LS, FWD, 3.8L V6, sedan 4-dr., leather, automatic, A/C, tilt, cruise, p. windows-locks-seats, AM-FM/CD, 84500 miles, silver, Clear Title.....**\$6,000**
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