

## *From Beverly's Heart*

Dedicated to Carolyn Porter, whose love and spiritual teaching allowed me to discover my passion and experience true happiness of being Barrett and Bradley's mom. Also, I thank Marc for the gift of our sons and the true love we shared.



**A** BEAUTIFUL LIGHT SHINES SO VERY bright in Beverly's heart—that light is her nine year old twin boys, Barrett and Bradley. Nothing gives her greater joy than to see those two smiling faces with their “Bogus Eyes” (big eyes) grins, a mischievous twin partnership of “Guess what we've been up to Mom?” Motherhood is her life and it is all she had hoped it would be and more. She waited a long time, a very long time, until she was forty-five for these boys to show up in her life.

Every day is an adventure, that's for sure, for as parents who are reading this know, kids can create the unpredictable. And what do moms lack the most? Time. Time for themselves that is. After struggling with this for the past seven years, Beverly has learned to balance her life as much as this is possible. In between throwing baseballs, going on kid-focused outings, helping with the children's homework, and reading her twins their favorite stories, she now allows a little time for herself. That is not an easy task as a do-it-all-by-yourself mother, but Beverly is happier than she's ever been!

Her boys have learned that if they want more of mom's attention they need to help her in the kitchen and with various tasks around the house. "It's working well!" Beverly told me. They often ask her how they can help and their assistance has substantially lifted the weighted feeling of not enough time. Or maybe it's really because she feels they are a team working together for the good of all!

In this way, Beverly has created a happy environment for herself and her boys, who are her greatest gifts on this earth. Her life is rich and full with these two gifts, and she has moved way beyond material acquisitions and career accolades. She has learned what is most important for her life and is now allowing it to unfold for the good of herself and her boys. Her passion is to raise self-confident, respectful and responsible boys who will be able to give a lot to our world.

Raleigh, North Carolina, is where her story began. Beverly was born and raised there until she left for college. Her father was Greek and her mother from England. They met during the war, got married in England, then came to the states and were married again according to the Greek tradition. Finding acceptance by the family was difficult for her mom since Greek parents usually select a wife for their sons. Over time however, she became part of the family.

Beverly's parents took over the grandfather's restaurant and remained in the restaurant business their entire life. In addition to Beverly, there was an older sister Patricia, born 18 months before Beverly. Beverly does not recall much of her early childhood. She seemed to create her own little world and was oblivious to much that went on around her. The