

## My Will and Wishes

*By Sharon Buchan*

My Will states that I leave all my worldly goods and financial assets to my daughter Karri Ann and my son Todd Wayne. My children have little or no interest in my worldly goods. Having been a military wife I still have all the dishes, crystal and stuff to entertain with. It is a little sad that now it is just stuff and yet I can very much appreciate placing so little value on stuff and things. I loved setting a beautiful table for the holidays. But what was really important was family and friends, and of course, good food.

I remember one of our best holidays was when we were stationed in Florida. We packed up the kids, the dog and the pregnant cat along with our Boston Whaler and of course the water skis and left for the Keys. Key West I believe. We went diving for and caught enough lobster for everyone. At a yard sale I picked up some lovely fluted dishes, perfect for the camper with chips and cracks. The Children decorated the table with pine cones and shells. We sat around and old picnic table in our bathing suits. What fun.

When my husband announced we were going to the Keys I at first thought, *No I have to get out my Grandmother's Wedgewood and polish the silver.* I quickly saw how foolish I was being and how much work I was going to do.

Wow! Did I get off track. Perhaps because what is more important than worldly goods and financial assets are the good memories and values that I hope I have left my loved ones.

I recently sent six photo albums to my son. He is the sentimental one in our family. How sad we have gone digital. Those albums represented a lifetime of memories. From birth and beyond college when they could get away to come home for a bit.

Of course they weren't all good times. But we made it through those hard times together. I hope they forgive me for my many mistakes. They were careful not to repeat my mistakes and I watched them make their own with my grandchildren.

Now I am alone and living in Windsor Gardens or 'Elder Ville' as I call my home. I have a home full of beautiful things and way too much stuff and what I cherish are those memories of the people I love and hold dear.

So, who really cares what happens to the antiques, art, dishes and silver? Oh, I still do because they hold such beautiful memories.