

A Life Loved

Poems and Humor from a Lifetime



Begonia Blooming
Canvas painting, large scale
Worcester, MA - 2010
Laura DeDonato Wiatt

Arthur DeDonato

DEDICATION



For Jackie, Forever and For Eternity

I dedicate this book to you, my dear Jackie. I always thank God for our chance meeting on a summer's evening in 1946.

For sixty-seven glorious years of marriage, you gave me, without hesitation, your whole self.

You kept me happy, raising me up when I was struggling and rejoicing with me in glorious moments we shared.

You proved your kindness in both word and deed over and over again.

There aren't enough words to describe my constant, undying love for you.

Your devoted husband,

Arthur

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Self portrait

By: Laura DeDonato Wiatt

PREFACE



My beloved wife Jackie was the inspiration for writing my first poem. In my first volume, I mentioned that the poem was written to commemorate her 80th birthday.

Since then, I have composed several more of her since she always inspires me.

This volume also includes stories ranging from WW II and American heroes, including my dear brother Otto (Doc) who perished during that war, to poems about family, friends, values, angels, heaven and others, e.g., Mother Nature's fury.

As a native Bostonian, I was motivated to write about sports including baseball and the legends (Jackie Robinson and Ted Williams).

"...They say that humor and laughter are the best medicine..."
Hopefully you will find both in these pages.

Arthur DeDonato
March, 2023

NOTE: This project is a true family affair. It is my son Michael's concept; I am grateful for all his devoted effort. Of course, my appreciation for my granddaughter Laura's beautiful illustrations is beyond measure,

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MEMORIES

Local Bank Clerk Weds Accountant



—Central Camera Shop

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur (Jacqueline Laura) DeDonato

At 3:30 o'clock of Sunday afternoon, September 4th, Miss Jacqueline Laura, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Domenic (Emma Maurano) Laura of 145 Lexington Street, and Mr. Anthony DeDonato, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph DeDonato of Somerville, were united in marriage at the Sacred Heart Church with the Rev. Father Walter O'Donnell officiating at the double ring ceremony.

The bride, gowned in white satin with two rows of Chantilly lace at the neckline, long sleeves, and draped skirt with bordered edge of lace and long lace-trimmed train, fingertip veil caught into a beaded crown, and carrying a prayerbook with an orchid, was given in marriage by her father.

Miss Elinor Gavagan of 141 Lexington Street, cousin of the bride, who wore yellow taffeta and carried orchid shade of gladioli was the maid of honor, and the best man was Mr. George DeDonato, brother of the groom.

The three maids were Miss Mary DeDonato, the groom's sister; Miss Pignotti of 162 Lexington Street; and Miss Pauline Fiore of Dor-

chester. Each was gowned in lime taffeta and carried a cascade of yellow gladioli.

As ushers were Messrs. Alfred Laura, brother of the bride; Paul Gavagan, cousin of the bride, and Anthony Cavotta of Worcester.

The reception, attended by over a hundred guests, followed at the Paul Roger House. Mrs. Laura wore blue satin with brown accessories and an orchid corsage, and the senior Mrs. DeDonato wore a dark green dress and a yellow corsage.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur DeDonato, together with another couple, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Miller, left for a two week motor trip to Canada, and they will make their home at 192 Bremen Street.

Mrs. DeDonato, a native of East Boston and graduate of the East Boston High School, has been employed at the First National Bank of Boston for six years. Mr. DeDonato, a former East Bostonian and graduate of the East Boston High School and the Bentley School of Accounting served the Army Air Force for several years and is now accountant in the England Medical Center in

HAPPINESS

February 17, 2023

Seeing my family and friends

Using Iphone to talk to family and friends

Writing limericks that make them laugh
Example "My One Eye Dog"

My poems that readers recall with happy memories

There are poems that are a joy to compose

These are some of those
Awesome, Jackie, Beauty,
Dance Emails I receive with funny jokes



MEMORY BOOK

February 24, 2020

If asked what memory is the best
That would put me to the test

I would dig through my past
And ask was "Was it the first or the last"?

There are so many in between
Most could not have been
foreseen

You can give me suggestions
But I have no answer to this question

Smiling, laughing and having
fun It's tough to pick just one

I keep thinking "Which one can it be"?

I've dug deep inside my brain
The memories fly by like a bullet train

The book is almost complete
Ninety plus years are covered in those sheets

How many more years will it
hold? Only time will unfold.

MY VAULT

November 24, 2021

I have a vault
In it are items that cannot be bought

No one is allowed to go within
The combination only I know

It contains items placed therein many
years ago
These items I cherish are priceless

No monetary value can be placed on
them
All are gems

Periodically, I will take out one or two
And remember you and you and you

What are they you may ask?
As I walked through life

And walking from place to place
I saw many faces

I picked up all these things
Summer, winter, fall and spring

Many times, they made me
happy

And some brought me
sorrow
There's always tomorrow

They made me smile,
laugh, and have fun

So many many years have
gone by

It's easy to recall the days
I placed them in there
They are irreplaceable

The vault is inside my
MEMORY BANK



THERE WAS A TIME

November 7, 2021

There was a time
Before computers
When there were tutors

There was a time
When keys were found only on
typewriters and pianos
Now they are on a board
When struck they do record



There was a time
When screens were placed in windows
That would open and close
Today they are placed in TVs

There was a time
Photos were placed in albums
Today they are placed in computers, pads, phones and
laptops Pads, phones and laptops
May break if dropped

There was a time
When mail was placed in a box
That had a key and a lock
Now it is called snail
Because today there is email



There was a time
When there were only bathtubs
Step in, relax and scrub
Today showers are the style
Step in, turn on the water
Look up and smile

MY COMPANION

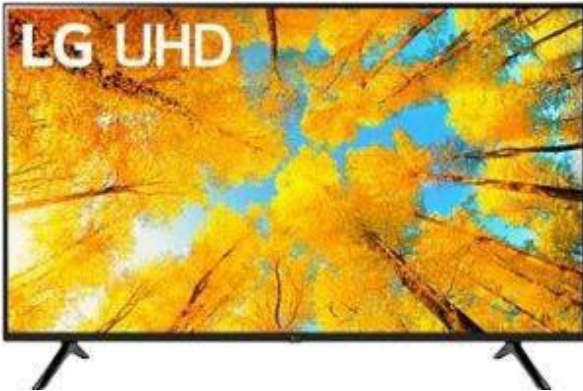
November 19, 2017

It's waiting for me around the
corner I find a television
A friend I never envision

I recall Jackie calling it a boob
tube Its' shape was that of a
cube

The sun and the
moon Shining into an
empty room Is my
friend

Silence



SYMPHONY

February 11, 2020

There are the musicians
Seated in their positions

The oboists.
The violinists
The flutists

All the instruments are now in tune
The conductor walks out to the podium

The audience claps
The audience then becomes silent

The baton is in her left hand
She slowly lowers the baton

The music is Claude Debussy's Clair de Lunes



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