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**Subject:** The happiest birthday ever!

**From:** "Doris L. Sassower" <sassylawyr@aol.com>

**Date:** Mon, October 1, 2007 12:41 am

**To:** "Karmel, Carey Adina" <CCK@Corcoran.com>

**Cc:** elena@cql.com ([less](#))  
bethavery1@aol.com

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Dearest Children,

Please excuse this belated thank you note, but as you know, time moves faster than I do.

You gave me so much birthday pleasure that it was worth getting to be a year older to have such joy. I want you to know that I am so proud of each of you that your tangible gifts were just frosting on the cake of maternal pride.

Thanks especially to Carey whose gift of a facial at Elizabeth Arden's Red Door helped me start off my Jubilee 75th year and New Year 5768 not only with a clean slate, but a clean face, dayenu,

Whose organizing of our first family trip since our 1980 unforgettable nine-cities in 10 days tour de force, to the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, and Fraunces Tavern, Dayenu, who gave me Grace Glueck's wonderful book on Brooklyn, dayenu,

Thanks too to Elena who paid for the ferry tickets as well as all charges, including the most edifying audio guides) at Ellis Island, who wisely encouraged us to take the time to visit Lady Liberty, rather than just stay on the boat going straight to Ellis island, dayenu

And for those most poignant moments-when for the first time, we saw with our own eyes the photo of zeide Isaac and baba Leah's steamship that brought them to America, and the manifest showing their names on the passenger list, and learned the information imparted by our tour guide that those two aged and frail souls would have been sent back to Europe after making that long, hard journey, but for my papa, your grandpa Abe's being there to meet them and take responsibility for them, once they were discharged into his care, all presented to me in tangible certificated as authentic gift by you and

Carey, dayenu,

And for the fascinating and fun research on the internet with both of you, searching still for the same info as to my father and mother, hopefully, yet to be found working remotely from home with the access card you purchased, dayenu,

And finally to Beth, who came up from Florida on September 13th to celebrate Erev Rosh Hashana (my Hebrew birthday) with me, who remembered my September 25 birthday with an exquisitely beautiful and loving birthday e-mail received early birthday morning, just in time before my departure to the City with Eli, dayenu, and for the surprise package received from her afterward of my favorite Cleo perfume and lotion to match, dayenu.

For all the above, I thank all three of you for the happy memories your collective efforts gave me as I look back on my 75th birthday, not the least of which was the sunshiny day you arranged to celebrate the occasion. Bless you all, my darlings, Let's look forward to the next trip in honor of Carey's upcoming red-letter birthday Monday October 29th - Circle the date now for Valkyl and the nearby Culinary Institute Restaurant's Escoffier Room, as discussed!

In the words of my college motto, "ad astra per aspera." Here's to lots more birthdays for all of us!!!

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Your loving mother

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