

The Lily Pad



"I am a rose of Sharon, a lily of the valleys." Solomon 2:1



Martin - Turning 60! A Celebration Unlike Any Other!

IT'S A BOY BORN TO MR & MRS JACK MARTINELLI ON SEPT. 13th

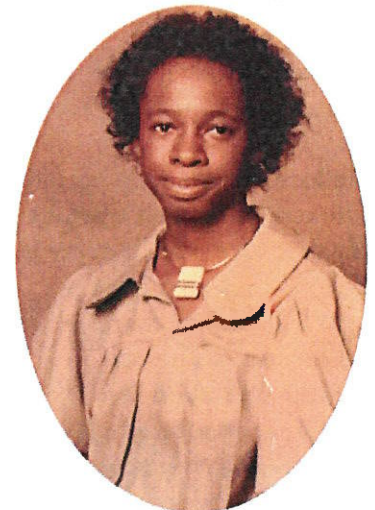
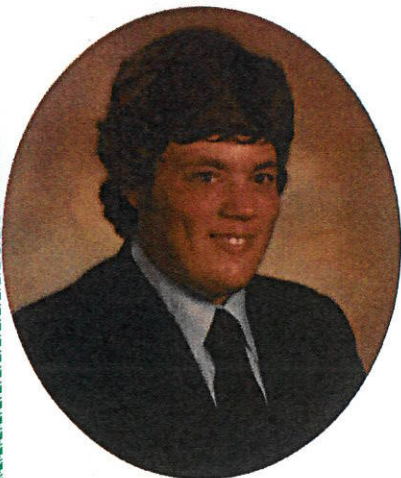
Tuesday, September 13, 1960, a baby boy was born to Jack and Betty Martinelli. He was welcomed to his new family by two older sisters, Cindy and Kim. Born in San Mateo, California – a suburb of San Francisco – he was born into a large Italian and Irish family. The patriarch and matriarch, Papa Dominic (Domenico) and Nanny (Jenny) Martinelli owned a large ranch in which Martin and his sisters spent their early childhood. When he recalls this joyous time in his life, memories of walking through the fields with Papa - picking fruits and vegetables, riding the tractor, and just being a happy kid! The only aspect of his visit to the ranch that surpassed his fun time was Nanny in the kitchen cooking something scrumptious! Those homegrown fruits and vegetables became mouthwatering fresh pasta covered with slow simmered tomato sauce, gnocchi, fried zucchini, homemade sourdough bread, and various fruit desserts. Yes, those precious memories of his grandparents still linger vividly in his heart and mind.



As life happened, Jack and Betty divorced. Jack moved the family to Pendleton, Oregon for a fresh start. Papa Dominic had passed away, so Nanny moved with Jack to care for Martin and his sisters – providing nurturing, compassion, and Italian cuisine.

The Wild West comes alive in Pendleton, Oregon. Nationally famous for its annual Roundup, Pendleton is an old cow town set in between the steep hills along the Umatilla River in the center of a large ranching and farming area. Settlers passed by here in the 1840s when traveling on the Oregon Trail.

Held at the Pendleton Round-Up Stadium during the second full week of September (most years on Martin's birthday weekend) each year since 1910, the rodeo brings roughly 50,000+ people every year to the city. It was at the Pendleton Round up that Martin cultivated his love for all genera of music – especially Rock n Roll. *Note: 2020 Pendleton Round-Up can't overcome coronavirus pandemic, canceled for first time since World War II.* Many up and coming singers and bands got their humble start singing and playing at the Roundup.



Martin's life in Pendleton was filled with love and sports. With Jack as his coach, he excelled in – wrestling, football, volleyball, and especially baseball (starting off in tee ball). After high school graduation, he took the Navy enlistment oath to “support and defend the

Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.” This is where our happily ever after begins.

After boot camp in San Diego, California, Hospital Corpsmen Martin, was assigned to Naval Branch Health Clinic, NAF El Centro, located in the heart of Southern California's Imperial Valley. He excelled in his profession at El Centro and after four year, he headed north to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. On Interstate 5, Martin life would change forever. Riding his motorcycle to his new assignment, a drunk driver of a tractor trailer, cut him off – wearing his safety gear saved his life.

After months in a civilian hospital in Oregon, Martin was transferred to Naval Regional Medical Center Bremerton for continued rehabilitation. Little did either of us imagine or dream that 2 years later in this huge naval hospital we would meet our best friend.

Yes, it was on my first day of checking in to the naval hospital that this astonishingly handsome sailor not only gained my respect and friendship, but also my heart. The journey began with Martin sharing with me his love of the many sounds of music:

I've been waiting for a girl like you to come into my life
I've been waiting for a girl like you, your loving will survive
I've been waiting for someone new to make me feel alive
Yeah, waiting for a girl like you to come into my life –
Foreigner - Waiting for a Girl Like You

Martin engaged me in many fun activities – video arcades, putt putt golf, bowling, and *just being together*.

When I wake up in the morning, love
And the sunlight hurts my eyes
And something without warning, love
Bears heavy on my mind
Then I look at you
And the world's alright with me
Just one look at you
And I know it's gonna be
A Lovely Day - Bill Withers

As time quickly passed, friendship blossomed into an endless love and a committed relationship. It was then that Martin share his R&B soulful side:

My love, there's only you in my life
The only thing that's bright
My first love, you're every breath that I take
You're every step I make
And I, I want to share
All my love with you
No one else will do
And your eyes, your eyes, your eyes
They tell me how much you care
You will always be, my endless love
Two hearts
Two hearts that beat as one
Our lives have just begun;

Forever (oh)
I'll hold you close in my arms
I can't resist your charms
And love, oh love
I'll be a fool, for you I'm sure
You know I don't mind
You know I don't mind
'Cause you
You mean the world to me
I know I know
I've found, I've found in you
My endless love.
Endless Love – Diana Ross/Lionel Richie



For over 39 amazingly blessed years, Martin, you have been my endless love, my joy, my strength, my confidant, my best-best friend. Through the most tragic of losses, (*Dad, Mother, Daddy, and Marissa*) you have been my steady beacon of light and faith that guides me always to a safe and replenishing harbor. Words are and will never be sufficient to tell you or the world how God's bless of bringing you into me the day you came into my life.

I've had my share of life's ups and
downs
But fate's been kind, the downs
have been few
I guess you could say that I've
been lucky
Well, I guess you could say that
it's all because of you

If anyone should ever write my
life story
For whatever reason there might
be

Oh, you'll be there between
each line of pain and glory
Cause you're the best thing
that ever happened to me
Ah, you're the best thing that
ever happened to me

Oh, there have been times
when times were hard
But always somehow, I made
it, I made it through
Cause for every moment that I've
spent hurting

You're the Best Thing That Ever Happened to Me -- Gladys Knight & The Pips

Martin, you're undeniably the best thing, that ever happened to me. And you have never shied away from your many roles and responsibilities you've had to assume so I could soar; soar higher than I never thought possible. I am so grateful, Honey, for your support and encouragement to be all that God has called me to be. I give you a standing ovation and my eternal devotion.

It must have been cold there in my shadow
To never have sunlight on your face
You were content to let me shine, that's your way
You always walked a step behind

So, I was the one with all the glory
While you were the one with all the strength
A beautiful face without a name for so long
A beautiful smile to hide the pain

Did you ever know that you're my hero
And everything I would like to be?
I can fly higher than an eagle

Wind Beneath My Wings - Bette Midler

I thank you for your quiet personal relationship with God. Over the years, I have witnessed the growing intimacy between God and you. At times when I get tired and cynical about being a servant-leader, with astounding wisdom, you speak words that remind me that God is with us, God is able, and God will never leave us. A relationship that last is one with Christ in the center. Two people putting God first, seeking him in every way possible in order to be as good a spouse as



There was a moment that I spent,
ah, just loving you

You are the wind beneath my wings

It might have appeared to go unnoticed
But I've got it all here in my heart
I want you to know I know the truth, of course
I know it
I would be nothing without you

Fly, fly, fly high against the sky
So high I almost touch the sky
Thank you, thank you
Thank God for you, the wind beneath my wings

one can be. It's about trusting in one another and trusting God plan that he will build your relationship into one that will last for eternity.

I've had many tears and sorrows,
I've had questions for tomorrow,
there's been times I didn't know right from wrong.
But in every situation,
God gave me blessed consolation,
that my trials come to only make me strong.

Through it all,
through it all,
I've learned to trust in Jesus,
I've learned to trust in God.
Through it all,
through it all,
I've learned to depend upon His Word.

I've been to lots of places,
I've seen a lot of faces,
there's been times I felt so all alone.

Through It All - Andrae Crouch

You opened my ears and heart to your love of music – from Ozzy to Metallica; Def Leppard to Kiss; Pattie Labelle to Air Supply; Bob Marley to Jimi Hendrix. We even love country and those mushy love songs! But it is the Gospels and has kept us hungry for the Word of God and in love with Jesus. As you and I enter into our incredible new roles of Pop and Nonna, I thank you for being the utmost astonishingly loving, patient, humble, tenderhearted, soft touch, god-fearing, Dad, Uncle, Cousin, Friend, Husband and Christian Man! *I'm going to love and need you always, Honey!*

If a man could be two places at one time,
I'd be with you.
Tomorrow and today, beside you all the way.
If the world should stop revolving spinning slowly down to die,
I'd spend the end with you.
And when the world was through,
Then one by one the stars would all go out,
Then you and I would simply fly away

If - Bread

Happy 60th Birthday My Wonderful Husband ~ Lots of Love to the Bestest Husband & Dad

*Pastor Clarissa (Clair), Marissa, Bianca, Robert, Sophia, Nicolas, Cookie, Hachi, Sadie
& Baby Broadwell-Martinelli*

But in my lonely hours,
yes, those precious lonely hours,
Jesus lets me know that I was His own

Through it all,
through it all,
I've learned to trust in Jesus,
I've learned to trust in God.
Through it all,
through it all,

I've learned to depend upon His Word.
I thank God for the mountains,
and I thank Him for the valleys,
I thank Him for the storms He brought me through.
For if I'd never had a problem,
I wouldn't know God could solve them,
I'd never know what faith in God could do.

