

Tributes to Carl R. Hewitt

By Bonnie C. Hollis

Unfortunately, my parents are both hospitalized in New Jersey. My father is improving and will go to rehab today. My mother has some serious issues which is what is preventing me from being here today. My heart is in Connecticut where I wish I could be at this time. There is so much that I wish I could say, and I'm going to ask Sidney Schwartz to read these words on behalf of the Hollis family and especially myself, Bonnie Hollis. (I should point out that I am the Bonnie that set out to prove that Carl was a fraud. What I instead proved was that Carl was a wonderful medium who became our cherished, life-long friend.) The following words are actually for Carl, as if I were standing here talking directly to him, but I invite you all to listen in:

To Carl, my dear, dear friend of so many years – It has occurred to me Carl, that I've known you for over half of my lifetime so far, almost 30 years in fact. You have been not only such a close friend and confidante, you also have been my teacher, and someone I have looked up to so very, very much. You have guided me through most of the trials and tribulations of my life and have also shared numerous joyous times. When I look back upon my life, the good and the bad, I can see how profoundly you impacted me, and members of my family as well.

In my heart I know you would never want us to grieve, but to celebrate your life and to recognize that you are now just as "alive" as before, but in a different dimension. I remember a wonderful analogy you gave me for my children when they were small, many years ago. You said I should tell them these words:

“ I want you to pretend that we are in our house. I have turned on the radio. If the radio is turned on and it is playing music, of course you can hear it. Now we are going to leave the house and go on vacation, **We forgot to turn off the radio!** We have driven a distance away. Is the radio still turned on? Yes, of course it is. Can we hear it? No, because we are too far away. Yet, it still exists. Just because you can't see or hear something, it doesn't mean that it doesn't exist. It is just that you don't have the capability to tune

into it. So, too, with Spirit - just because you can't see or hear anything, like that radio playing, Spirit is all around us. However, not all of us have the ability to see Spirit or hear Spirit, but Spirit is still there."

Those words, that clear simple teaching analogy, have always stayed with me. And in my heart I know, Carl, that you are still with me and a part of me always. I have so much love and admiration for you, my dear friend Carl, more than printed words on a paper can possibly impart.

Recently I hear this song while driving in my car. It so moved me, I broke down and cried, because it reminded me of you and so many of the feelings that I hold in my heart for you. The song is titled *There You'll Be*. It is sung by Faith Hill. This is for you, Carl, with all of my love, admiration and appreciation:

(Play song or read the following words)

Faith Hill - There You'll Be

When I think back
On these times
And the dreams
We left behind
I'll be glad 'cause
I was blessed to get
To have you in my life
When I look back
On these days
I'll look and see your face
You were right there for me

[Chorus:]
In my dreams
I'll always see you soar
Above the sky
In my heart
There will always be a place
For you for all my life
I'll keep a part
Of you with me
And everywhere I am
There you'll be

Well you showed me
How it feels
To feel the sky
Within my reach
And I always
Will remember all
The strength you
Gave to me
Your love made me
Make it through
Oh, I owe so much to you
You were right there for me

[Repeat chorus]

'Cause I always saw in you
My light, my strength
And I want to thank you
Now for all the ways
You were right there for me
You were right there for me
For always

[Repeat chorus]

Carl, on behalf of all of us, Dana, Michael, Jennifer and myself, Bonnie, thank you for all that you have taught us through the years. Thank you for always being there for all of us. Thank you for all of the love and special times we shared. And thank you for pulling me out of some of life's hard bumps in the road. I will remember your messages, your words, your laughter, your kind face and most of all those incredible eyes of yours that showed so many emotions. They could also light up an entire room at times, as you lit up our world. Thank you, Carl, for all that you are and for all that you stand for. We give you our deepest love and gratitude forever and always...

Bonnie C. Hollis