A SONG WRITTEN FOR LOU

Shining Through the Years

Birthday



Your father's friend hid you away
Blond hair and blue eyes let you pass
For nearly three years, day by day
A distant Scheltema cousin at last
In winter '44, food ran low
Air packages brought Hershey Bars below

> *Lou, thank you for your grace each day*
> *Your charm and wisdom are a light*
> *We celebrate your birthday today*
> *We love you—keep on shining bright*

In '48, your brother went with you
Maybe fifteen English words you knew
Dutch knickers, everything was new
New York City opened into view
At school, you studied physics and math
Then law and work became your path
To support your wife and two sons
You kept on rising with the sun

> *Lou, thank you for your grace each day*
> *Your charm and wisdom are a light*
> *We celebrate your birthday today*
> *We love you—keep on shining bright*

At Yale, astronomy lit your way
Your post-doc was earned along the way
From law, you chose to step away
Pickleball still fills your day
Ninety-three years have brought you here
You greet each day with steady cheer
Your charm and wisdom light our days
We love you in so many ways

You can't stand still in life, you say
May Bridge fill your days with play
With Jean, keep traveling as you do
May life keep opening up for you

> *Lou, thank you for your grace each day*
> *Your charm and wisdom are a light*
> *We celebrate your birthday today*
> *We love you—keep on shining bright*

Air packages against the blue
May every day keep shining through

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