

2024 Adult Honorable Mention: Judy Griffin

The Kindness of Absence: An Ode to Ruth

As I ponder over the years gone by mama,
My vision of you in the midst of all things good,
all things kind, linger on my mind.

Sweet and gentle, your spirit is still a blessing to me: Your legacy to be kind
Has found its way to the hearts of mine:

They are so many mama.

As I journey through my hurried life mama,
I carry your legacy to be kind that I
may be mindful to “slow” down and to “show” kindness to others-
even my brothers (smile).

In my anticipation to be all that I can be mama,
I am mindful that being kind will be a part of who I am,
the part of you that lingers close to my heart,
and the heart of “mine”.

As your legacy of kindness is my gift from you,
I repeat to my “grandbabies” your words to us –
“the deepest part of any worth is always brought to the top with
A kind word; A kind act; A kind hug!”

“For kindness is an addiction that should be in “overuse” worldwide!

Thank you Mama for your Legacy of Kindness. I miss you!