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Best wishes regarding the Non-Emergency Patient Transfer work

William Finnerty <williamfinnertygalway@gmail.com>

Mon, Apr 27, 2020 at 5:35 PM

To: Siobhan Tara Finnerty and Family <siobhan510@bigpond.com>

Bcc: William Finnerty Yahoo Account <newinngalway@yahoo.co.uk>

Dear Siobhan,

Thank you for your April 18th 2020 email.

It did me a lot of good to hear from you: as in **"You Raise Me Up"** (please see below).

I don't think the people of the world have ever experienced anything quite like the COVID-19 virus before, which seems to me to make it very difficult to predict just how much damage it is likely to cause in the weeks and months ahead: particularly for those living in overcrowded parts of the world where the bulk of the people are relatively very poor. I fear there might yet be some major outbreaks of civil unrest in such places.

You asked about Marjorie and Gerald. During the past few years they have both been hospitalised a number of times for what I tend to think of as age-related medical problems. Marjorie was 87 last July, and Gerald had his 80th birthday last September. I've spoken to both of them on the phone in recent weeks, and they both seem to be holding their own. I was 75 last month. I've got some health problems also, which I find difficult to cope with at times. Nevertheless, I do appreciate the fact that there are plenty of people in far worse health situations than I am in just now, and consequently I feel I do really have a lot to be grateful for overall. I have been living in Belfast (Northern Ireland) for the past five years or so, which is a completely different jurisdiction to that of the Republic of Ireland.

It was mostly because of my own age that I wrote to you a few years ago regarding some "assurances" I felt it might be helpful to let you know about. At the time, it appeared to me that through my GP (Dr David Cheyne) and others, I might have been able to get the medical and legal help I needed in order to be able to return safely to my own home in the Republic of Ireland. However, the arrangements that Dr Cheyne tried to initiate never "got off the ground" properly, and consequently the business of the "assurances" went onto the "back-burner".

If I had been able to return safely to my own home in the Republic of Ireland, it was my intention to try and organise a trip to Australia shortly afterwards, mainly for the purpose of meeting Connor and Grace. However, I felt that there might be certain invisible, and difficult to discuss, type obstacles that could get in the way of such a trip, relating to events that happened in 1980 and 1981. The main "assurance" I wished you to know about was that I would not have any intention of discussing any of the events, connected with my 1980 visit to Melbourne, with Connor and Grace. In the unlikely event (as I see it) that either of them might have raised the subject with me (assuming they knew anything about it), I had decided that I would very gently decline discussing it with them, and instead refer them to you, on account of the fact that I only ever had second-hand knowledge of the core difficulties in question: and then leave it entirely at that, as far as I personally was concerned. Similarly with anybody else who might have raised the subject with me. Another "assurance" I wished you to know of is that I do not blame your Mum for the difficulties that arose between myself and Mum after my 1980 visit to Melbourne. Sometimes, and without invitation, very difficult to deal with situations can arise in life (it seems to me), and I believe we both tried our best, to do the best we could regarding them, albeit that our individual approaches for dealing with the problems in question were considerably different in certain respects.

Despite my ongoing inability to be able to return safely to my home in the Republic of Ireland, I have never given up on the hope that I somehow will yet manage to get to meet Connor and Grace.

One of the very, very few good things (as I see it) about the COVID-19 business is that I think **"humanity as a whole"** is possibly going to get something of a right good shake-up perhaps, which I feel it very badly needs in some ways. It might not do any harm at all (in my opinion) if COVID-19 eventually **"kicks the chessboard high up into the air"** for those who have been "up to no good" in high places for so long: particularly those connected with the growing number of wars, regime-change efforts, all of the associated skulduggery, and so on, that are at present in progress. Among such hopes of mine is the wish that the COVID-19 problem might cause military spending to be severely reduced, and that the money thus saved will instead be spent on helping people to live happily, instead of injuring and killing them for no good reason that I know of, or can think of.

I was very pleased to learn that you seem to be well on your way to finding work you really enjoy. You have reminded me of something a man I knew many years ago, who used to sometimes remark that the people who are deeply happy doing what they do during their waking hours, are very likely to sleep much better than those who aren't.

I have a feeling that the Non-Emergency Patient Transfer work might well be just right for you at this particular time in

your life; and, thoughts connected with the following piece of text (written by a man named Bill Wilson, who was one of the two Co-founders of AA in 1935) have crossed my mind in connection with the choice of work you have decided on:

"In my view, we of this world are pupils in a great school of life. It is intended that we try to grow, and that we try to help our fellow travellers to grow in the kind of love that knows no demands."

Needless to say I have no way of knowing for sure if the personal beliefs of Bill Wilson expressed just above are definitely true. Nevertheless, I like to think, and to hope, that somehow they just might be.

I'd very much like to see some more of the family photos you mentioned.

Love,

Dad.

xxx..

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"Celtic Woman - You Raise Me Up":

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yfwlj0gba_k

"You Raise Me Up" is a song originally composed by the Norwegian-Irish duo Secret Garden. The music was written by Secret Garden's Rolf Løvland, and the lyrics by Brendan Graham.:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/You_Raise_Me_Up

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