

PASTOR MARLON LOCK

Letter to My Personal Angels

Hey y'all, it's me, Old "Tone Cat." Man I miss y'all so much. Although the years have passed, I can't get you out of my head, and I don't want to. I still feel your presence with me every day. I guess I'm writing this letter to you, to let you know how thankful I am that you took a chance on a little boy at the age of 15 months, to take me in and raise me. You always believed in me even when I didn't believe in myself. Grandma, I thank you for nurturing me and being the example of a virtuous woman. With you around, I knew that everything was going to be alright. Remember the time, I was in middle school, and the dog on the way to John Muir would get loose? I ran home crying. You said: "what's wrong"? I replied: "a dog chased me and I'm scared to walk to school now." You told me don't worry and you would walk to school with me. The moment you said those words, I wasn't afraid anymore. What's funny is when we got close to the school, I would say: "ok grandma, I'm good" only because I didn't want the other kids to know that my grandma was walking me to school, LBVS. You were cool with it, you just smiled and said, okay son, I'll see you after school. You made the best cornbread too, and you ALWAYS gave me a middle piece. I don't care how many of the other grands were around; I always got the middle piece of cornbread. And your banana puddings and 7- up cake with frosting- Will never be duplicated. I must admit though, my sister KIM.....she be doing her thang on the banana pudding.

You always told me that there was a brighter day ahead. No matter how bad I would fall, YOU were always there to pick me up, REGARDLESS! The family as a whole is doing well, but we could be a lot closer, because I know that's what you always wanted. But don't give up on us. I think it'll happen in time (sooner than later). My kids are doing great! Tone'y in college, India doing well in piano and school (nerd like her mom), and Asia is doing well also, in school and karate. She's getting better at the drums. One thing though....SHE WANNA BE JUST LIKE TONE'Y! Lawd help! Sydney- she was your buddy. She loved sleeping with grandma. She got a lot of your ways, but she looks JUST LIKE ME. Now, bro bro aka Marlon Jr... he is something else. I still remember when you held him in your arms before you passed, and how he would just look at you. Too bad he won't experience what I did, with having the BEST GRANDMA IN THE WORLD! He has grandmas, but they're not Naomi Lock. Also Mike is doing well. He talks about you all the time. He was really hurt that he couldn't do more for you because of his situation, but ALL he talks about is how you were ALWAYS there for him. He sends his love. We all miss you grandma, we all truly miss you.

What's up Pa? Wow, what do I say to the greatest man besides The Lord that I'll ever know? You were my dude. You still my dude. Remember you taught me how to wash up? I finally got it. Remember I was shoveling and was throwing the snow into the wind? You



came out and said: “son, don’t do double work; don’t fight against the wind, but work with it.” Well sir, I’m no longer fighting the Spirit, I’m working with it. You like that don’t you.

You always taught me life skills and how to be a Pastor even as a child. Wow, the Lord always has a plan, don’t He? Like the one time you told me that if I fall and hurt myself you were going to whoop me...SMH. Guess what it taught me? A hard head makes a soft butt! Remember, we went to the Bahamas; you, grandma and I? We played tunk every day, and I beat you EVERYDAY. I beat you so bad you asked me: “are you cheating?” I remember when you would cut the watermelon and give me a piece before grandma would see. That was good looking out ROTF. Oh yeah, and I remember when we were in Arkansas looking for a white suit for me to preach my first message at 10 years old. Guess what? I still gotta white suit. Pa...Pa...I KNOW you remember we went to OLD COUNTRY BUFFET for an entire year? WHY WE GO TO OLD COUNTRY BUFFET FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR, EVERY DAY, 365 AND ¼ DAYS STRAIGHT? AHHH ha ha ha

I remember in high school you would come to my games and watch me play. You weren’t really into basketball, but you knew when I was playing good. I remember one game you came to and my team was up by a lot of points and I stopped playing hard. After the game everybody told me how well I did except you. You said: “son, whenever you play or whatever you do, ALWAYS GIVE YOUR BEST!” Thank you sir, I’m still giving my best. There’s so much more, but I guess I should be wrapping it up. Oh another thing, remember the time you pointed out the DADDY LONG LEG spider to me and I ran in the street and almost got hit by a car? Well guess what? I still don’t like DADDY LONG LEG spiders. I just wanted to say thank you sir. You believed in me, motivated me, trained me and mentored me. Everything I am, I owe to GOD and to YOU.

Guess what I did? I got our church motto officially registered as a trademark and I’m using it as my production company. Yes- OGHBYRG: “Obey God and He’ll Bless You Real Good.” I used a picture of the two of you, the one you like grandma, when your hair reminded you of Sedan’s.

I know y’all looking down on me every day. I feel you, I sense you. Yeah I know I can never repay y’all, but I can continue to obey GOD and help His kingdom grow and prosper as you two did. This album is dedicated to the both of you. You raised me, believed in me, and told me: “Son, one day you are going to be a good seed and serve The Lord!” Sir – I am doing just that.

Love beyond words, TONE CAT

