

Dear W.C.,

It has been a rough year for my husband and I. We are both in our 60's and have been married for 40 years. We could not even celebrate our anniversary as my mother was so sick and I cared for her at the time. My husband's brother was diagnosed with cancer around the same time, so I gave up my job to care for both of them. They both passed away over the past two months and were destitute at the time of their passing. At the end we provided all their food and helped pay my brother-in-law's rent and other expenses. My brother-in-law was two months away from finally collecting disability when he passed. We paid for my mother's cremation as she had not been able to leave any funds for that. Now we find ourselves in a predicament as I look for a job and my husband is recovering from a heart procedure. His missed work combined with the added expenses put on my credit card, and my inability to work for the past year has put us in a very bad position. We were just trying to be good caring people to our loved ones during their time of need. Now we find ourselves in need and there is no one here that can help us.

Dear Readers,

We have all heard the phrase, "No good deed goes unpunished." This would be a good example of what this woman was feeling when we first spoke. She was not only grieving the loss of her loved ones, her mother and brother-in-law that she had cared for every day for nearly a year, but also the financial backlash from helping these loved ones during their time of need.

We had a very detailed conversation as she shared with me everything that had happened over the past year that led up to their present predicament. She and her husband had been employed and able to make ends meet. Those plans were completely changed when her mother needed a modest funeral, and her brother-in-law did not have any more funds for rent, food and other expenses. They had felt it was the right thing to do in helping him pay these expenses until his disability began. Some of these expenses had been put on their credit card, thinking he would be able to pay them back once his disability began. Now they would never recover those funds and were struggling to make the minimum payment on their high interest credit card.

Since writing the letter the woman had begun a new job but her modest income did not go far in paying off their debts and overdue rent. The husband was nearly recovered and would return to work in several weeks, but not soon enough to prevent their own hunger or possible eviction. We together would be able to prevent those.

Both the wife and husband were emotional over the recent loss of their loved ones. It had taken a toll on them not only financially. With all they had been through I wanted to be sure

they could continue to improve after our initial helping hand-up. After our long conversation, and some modifications to their budget, I was assured they could continue to improve.

We would pay three months' rent, their overdue utility bill, and provide gift cards for food and gas. This assistance would allow them to pay off their credit card debt and reset their budget. The wife and husband both cried tears of relief that the generosity they shared with their loved ones during their time of need no longer felt like a good deed they were being punished for. Thanks to all of "You" it now felt like a blessing being paid forward.

We hope you will take advantage of the Family Foundation 2025 \$40,000 Matching Grant as your donations will be matched dollar for dollar, doubling your donation and the assistance we will be able to provide. Thank you!

Health & Happiness, Love & God Bless Everyone, Sal

Please Help: There are many coming to us in desperation. Our good fellow creations need our compassion. Together we make a big difference. Make checks payable to: The Time Is Now to Help, P.O. Box 1, Lake Geneva, WI 53147. The Time Is Now to Help is a federally recognized 501(c)3 charitable organization. You will receive a tax deductible, itemized thank you receipt showing how 100% of your donation was used for providing poverty relief.

Please visit our website to read more of our past and current columns and/or to make a donation: www.timeisnowtohelp.org Please go to the home page, follow the yellow highlighted link that says WC Letters to see current and past columns.

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Honoraries: Gregory and Monica Prairie in honor of Gary Dunham. David and Deborah Dorgan in honor of dear friend Eileen Harris' Birthday.

Prayer Chain: The power of prayer and positive thoughts comes from the true healer, our Lord answering our prayers. Please pray for healing for the following people: Bill, Brian, Mike, Sylvia, Megan, Kayla, Maria C., Judy, Scott, Annie, Marilyn, Brandon, Helen, Dennis, Mary, Joseph, Jordan, Jean, Tom L., Dr. Peter, Matthew, Pam E., Jenene B., John S., Patricia H., Wendy, Eric, Anthony, Mary, Charlie, Tom P., Christina, Billy, Mike, Cheryl, Bryan E., Betty, Ellie, Concetta, Cheryl, Kirubel M., Wanda L., Joan, Bruce and Andy.

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