

# KATIE CAMARATA, DO



Dear Katie,  
I feel so many different emotions as I write this letter to you. Joy for you certainly as you cross the finish line of your educational marathon...well at least this marathon. The next one starts the day you begin working at the Cascade clinic in Idaho. Basically you will be running on the path of learning for the rest of your life. There will be rest though; 5 minutes for coffee in the break room, lunch, when you shower. You've got that going for you-sweet, right?

What I feel as I write this letter comes from deep within me though and rises up past the humor. It is multifaceted. The composition of this letter is an opportunity to reflect; not about the calamity that currently engulfs us all, how the future is irrevocably changed or what the future will bring. I have spent many an hour exploring these thoughts. But it is a chance, a given moment to focus on you Katie and what a privilege it has been for me to call you daughter.

As the image of your smile appears in my mind, I am aware of my heart. It swells with pride as I see who you are and know what you have done. I have seen you work so hard for this day. You have done so undaunted though at times exhaustion has weighed down upon you, self doubt threatened from within and frustration beset you. You dug deep with courage and resolve to find your place of resilience. You never gave up when so many others did.

My heart feels a deep sense of gratitude for the passion that resides within you. You have chosen to make your life's work one that will benefit others, especially those who have not had the resources that you have been given. I have heard you say you have a responsibility to give back. You understand what it is to have privilege and your care for others demonstrates a suspension of judgement especially towards those who have had health and socioeconomic equity

pass them by. When one tries to use their life to make a difference in the lives of others for the better, I am grateful. This endeavor is twice blessed for both the server and recipient are touched by grace.

Finally my heart is filled with love for you. I love your kindness to others, your compassion as you listen generously to their stories. I love the smile on your face when you are with children, people of age and animals. I love your appreciation of nature, home cooked meals and your family. I love your thoughtfulness regarding others and your mindful deliberation before proceeding with work but also your spontaneous bursts into dance. I love that you are fierce as a warrior with loyalty and protection when you care for your patients and simultaneously your touch is gentle like a mother's. I love how hard you work to hone the keenness of your mind. I love how you cut your hair, the choice in your glasses and the way you laugh as we drink beer together. I love that you love so deeply. I love that as I write about you tears leave their salty trail upon my face. I think that you are close to perfect though I know you always ponder ways to improve.

So, there aren't proper words to say how proud of you I am today, how grateful I am for who you are and how deeply I love you.

Congratulations to you Katie,  
**Your Dad-Babbo**

Dearest Katie.

Many people in our family said they would follow in the footsteps of Dr. Sam but only you accomplished that goal. You have sacrificed your time and your treasure to dedicate yourself to study and service and I couldn't be more proud. I wish I was there to hug you for real but virtual hugs and kisses.

I love you.  
**Penny**

Dear Sister a.k.a Nugget a.k.a Doc,  
To overcome life's challenges and become something great, is a great feat alone. But you've done much more than that... from immense exterior challenges and difficulties that you faced from an early age, to pressing forward through all of your courses and different stages of medicine, all while losing our mother to a wild drug addiction. You've become something great while enduring life's deep cuts, and that something great is a dedication of your life to aid those in the greatest of need. I respect you to the greatest height, and I love you deeper than the deepest sea.

Congratulations!!! I wish I could be there to show you how proud I am of you, but its okay because you already know in your heart.

All the Love and Respect,  
**Sam**

Katie

To start off, you are a beautiful, amazing and driven person! I admire your ability to get up early, work long days, deal with the massive ups and downs your job throws at you and still have the drive to go for an after work adventure.

I haven't been around for all the steps you have taken to get to where you are today, but I am glad/honored to have been there for what I have. I look forward to helping you achieve your goals in the future.

You have a great support system of family and friends, lean on them when you are in need. You are going to do so much good in the future, your patients are lucky to have you!

Love  
**Matt**

