

# ***REFLECTIONS***

June 3, 2007

**'For this reason a man will leave his  
father and mother and be united to his  
wife, and the two will become one flesh.'  
So they are no longer two, but one.**

*Matthew 19:5-6*

## **Joined as One**

They walked up the narrow aisle as husband and wife. Big smiles broadened the faces of these high school sweethearts as the aisle they walked widened into the road of life. And the journey began for them—joined as one.

The journey was full of joy, excitement and success. Charlie completed a college athletic career and went on to become a successful high school coach. But he did not do it alone. Jeanene was alongside him, joined as one.

She shared his triumphs with eyes that sparkled with joy, and with an assuring smile, she encouraged him when times were not so good. Even troubles could not break the bond between them. In fact when things were tough, they grew even closer—joined as one.

Charlie assumed the role of cheerleader as Jeanene faced her 20-year battle with cancer. Together they prominently displayed their zeal for life and their faith in Jesus Christ. In the face of it all, Jeanene lived life to the fullest standing as an inspiration to learn from, a profile in courage, and a model of faith in our Lord. She was a loving wife, a caring mother, and a trusted friend. And through good times and bad the one thing that was always present was the joy for life displayed in the sparkle of her eyes and the message of love that filled the room through the warmth of her smile.

Together their blessings include two wonderful children and three cherished grandchildren. The road of life they chose to follow was fruitful and filled with joy and love; but as with us all, the road they walked together began to narrow into an aisle again. And Charlie walked his loving wife and best friend down it and handed her into the loving arms of God and into our memories. Today Jeanene rests in the presence of our Lord, her eyes still sparkling with joy and her smile still filling the rooms of her eternal home with the message of love.

And God has said, “Well done.” The journey was walked just as He intended—joined as one.

And we have all been blessed by it.

*“You are the light of the world,”*

*Richard +*

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