

## Dare

**Dare to be the best you can be. Dare to be strong. Dare to change.**

**How often do you think or say, "I wouldn't dare....". If someone else did it, why can't you?**

**Recently I spoke at my son's funeral. It wasn't that I dared to speak, it was that I had to speak. I had to speak for him, he deserved it. It was about him. I also had to speak for the family, his, ours, and all the friends. I did what I had to do.**

**How often do you do what you have to do? How often do you get out of your comfort zone, stretch yourself, and dare to do something new, different, and challenging? What did you dare to do in 2012? What do you regret not daring to do?**

**We are here to dare, to go, to do, and to be. That means stretching, doing the new, accepting and embracing challenges. Dare to grow. Dare to learn. Dare to do.**

**You are better than you think. You can do more than you think. You can and you should. Not daring and not doing is cheating yourself, your loved ones, and your community. You are here to do and to create. The status quo is not good enough. The status quo is not motivating or exciting.**

**Make a list of what you dared to do this year and how it turned out. I'll bet you succeeded more than you imagined, and those things that didn't work the first time did, with practice, (or would have, if you had practiced.) Remember, the first is the worst, and it is also the current best.**

**What did others dare to do that you admired, that you wished you could have done? Well, do it! Yes, if they did it, you can. Sure,**

**you have to pay the price and do the work. They did. You can. Do the work, make the effort, and enjoy the rewards of daring and doing.**

**Why limit yourself? Why not live now? You'll never be younger than you are today. Isn't today a gift to be lived, to be enjoyed, and to be remembered for something you did?**

**I am writing this in late November. It's the time of year to reflect on what we have accomplished, what we failed to accomplish, why, and what we intend to do in 2013. I dare you, I double dare you to look at yourself and what you have and have not done. Then, I dare you, and double dare you again, to look at what you need to do in 2013 to make it a year to remember.**

**2013 can be a year to remember. Let's dare to do that which we desire. Let's dare to do that which we've been afraid to but have always wanted to do. Let's dare to make it our best year ever.**