

Written by Arnold Kuiper - on son Ralph's graduation

[Note: figuring 1926 as marriage date plus 30 year (more or less) makes this writing in Arnold's own hand on the back of what appears to be a church service announcement. The church announcement indicates that the Corona High School will hold its annual Baccalaureate Service on June 8 indicating that possibly may have been written at a church service just prior to Ralph Kuiper's high school graduation.]

In long gone days of yesteryears I neither saw nor grasped the meaning of Dad's quiet smile and Mother's tears. My rebel spirit gradually weaning young manhood away from parent's care for silent praise, disdain returning, wounding Mother's heart beyond repair, memories but left, bitter burning.

May I never forget each day to thank the Almighty, ever-merciful, heavenly Father for the best and greatest gift he can bestow upon a totally undeserving man: the best of loving Christian parents for 40 years; more than 30 years the unselfish love, care and help of my wife, who many a time even unknown to anyone, has stood between me and disaster—even death, truly a guardian; [and] also as great a favor, the love and respect of all our children and grandchildren.

Even with only the barest necessities of life, Mama and I could not feel more happy and contented. With many thanks, also my prayer, if it please thee, Father, give every one of our children and grandchildren a long and happy life.

Arnold R. Kuiper.