

## **Wishing You Enough**

*Memorial to Richard (Dick) Staffler (R-3828)  
And his late son Richard Edward Staffler*

*Recently at an airport I overheard a father and daughter in their last moments together. They had announced her departure and standing near the security gate. They hugged and he said "I love you, I wish you enough." She turned and said "Daddy, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Daddy."*

*They kissed and she left. He walked over toward the windows where I was seated. Standing there I could see he wanted and needed to cry. I tried not to intrude on his privacy, but he welcomed me in by asking, "Did you ever say good-bye to someone knowing it would be forever?"*

*"Yes, I have", I replied, "forgive me for asking, but why is this a forever good-bye?" I asked.*

*"I am an old man and she lives much too far away. I have challenges ahead and the reality is, the next trip back would be for my funeral," he said.*

*"When you were saying good-bye I heard you say 'I wish you enough'. May I ask what that means?"*

*He began to smile. "That's a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents use to say it to everyone." He paused for a moment and looking as if trying to remember it in detail, he smiled even more. "When we said 'I wish you enough', we were wanting the other person to have a life filled with just enough good things to sustain them," he continued. And then turning toward me, he shared the following as if he were reciting from memory.*

*"I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright. I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun more. I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive. I wish you enough pain so that the smallest joys in life appear much bigger. I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting. I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess. I wish you enough 'Hello's' to get you through the final 'Good-bye.'"*

*Tears filled his eyes and walked away. My friend, I wish you enough!*