

**TO THE
GRANDCHILDREN
OF:**

JUAN HERNANDEZ

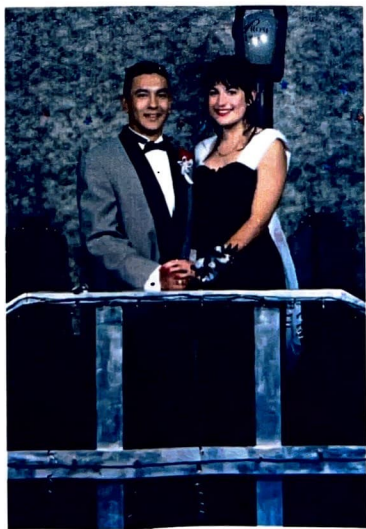
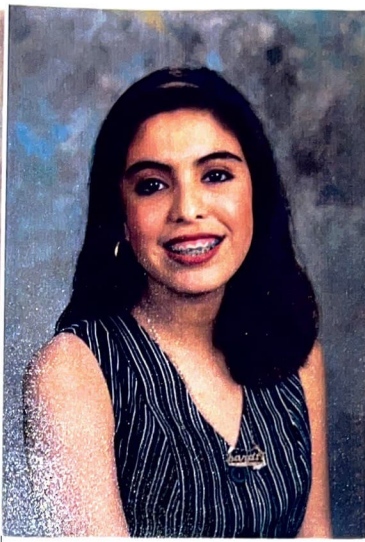
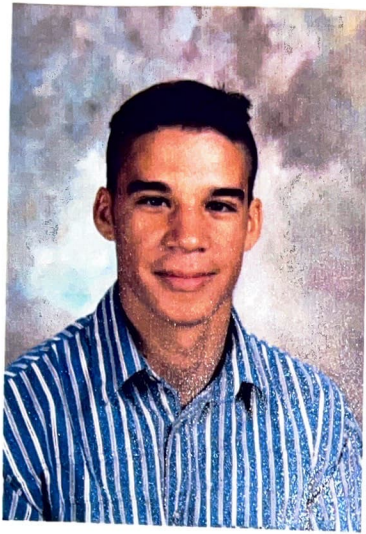
JOHN CANALES

JUAN GARCIA

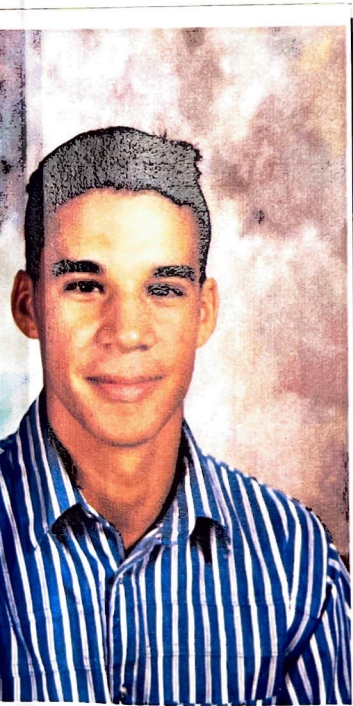
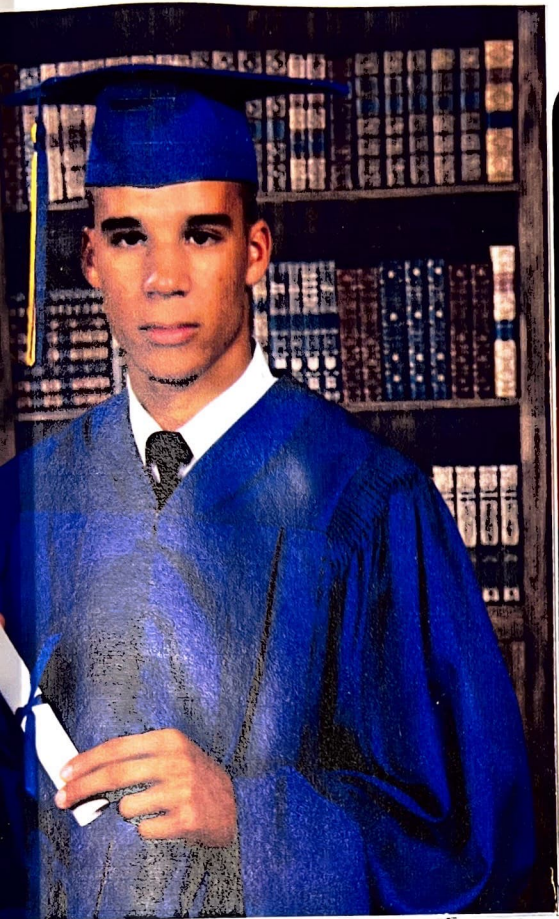


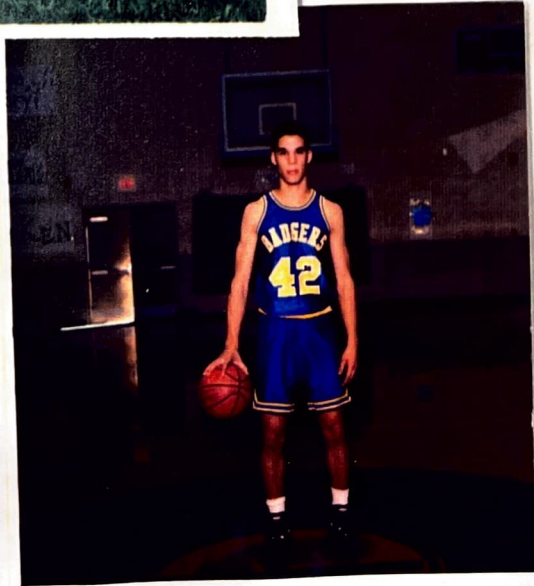
Ride the Wave of the Future





**Juan
Hernandez**





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Juan Hernandez
October 11, 1995
Composition 101

Dear Grandchildren,

My name is Juan Enrique Hernandez, and I am your grandfather. I am 18 years old and I am a freshman at Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi. The date is October 16, 1995. I wanted to inform you about who I am, the way I live, and other things you might want to know about my lifetime.

I come from a family of six people. I was born at Spohn Hospital in Corpus Christi, Texas. I have an older brother named David. He attends Texas A&M University - Kingsville. My younger brother and sister are twins. Their names are Andy and Andrea. They are both juniors at Bruni High School. My parents are both teachers. My dad teaches at Bruni High School and my mom teaches at Oilton Elementary. My father's name is Raul Hernandez and my mother's name is Amelia Hernandez. We used to live in Corpus up to my sixth-grade year, and then we moved to Mirando City. Mirando is a very small town located 32 miles west of Laredo. The town is so small that the school board ended up closing down the high school on May 24, 1995. The last senior class of Mirando High consisted of my two best friends, Sam Bowers and Valentine Esquivel.

All the high school kids now had to be bused to Bruni High School. Bruni is another small town located 12 miles west of Mirando. I played football, basketball, baseball, and track for Bruni. My favorite sport is baseball. We almost advanced to State my senior year, but we lost to D'Hanis in the first round. I was also in One-Act Plays for four years. Two of those plays were "Rest in Peace" and "Blood Wedding". I like to be on stage and act out different characters. I ended up graduating third out of my senior class. There were only 24 students but the competition was pretty tough. I'll never forget Magda Gutierrez for beating me by one single point for the Salutatorian title. I decided to attend Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi because of all the relatives I have here. I visit my grand-parents a lot because they only live 7 miles away. My grandfather's name is Jorge Chavararia and my grandmother's name is Amelia Chavararia. They live in the Molina neighborhood. That's around where West Oso High School is located. So far college is a lot different from high school. You are now on your own and you manage your own time. It's hard to live without my Mom's home cooked meals because I'm a big eater. I love hot and spicy Mexican food. I always eat a lot but I never gain weight. I weigh about 175 lbs., and I stand 6 feet - 1 inch tall. My hobbies are lifting weights and working on my truck. I own a 1991 Ford Ranger. You constantly have to be changing the motor oil every 3000 miles and keep maintaining the engine so it could run better and last longer.

An important event that just happened two weeks ago was the verdict of the O.J. Simpson case. The case was always on T.V. and after awhile it got really boring hearing them argue all the time. The jury finally found him not guilty. I think that he is innocent but he still had something to do with the murder of his wife. The killing of the Super Tejano Star-Selena just happened about 4 months ago. She was very beautiful and she sang beautifully. I've always enjoyed hearing her music. My

favorite baseball players are Nolan Ryan and Jeff Bagwell. I remember watching Nolan Ryan pitch in the Houston Astrodome. It was amazing to see him throw his 101 mph fast ball. He played for the Houston Astros but later finished his career with the Texas Rangers. He is truly one of the greatest pitchers. Jeff Bagwell is a big guy that plays first base for the Houston Astros. He has a lot of power in his swing. I'll never forget the times he broke his hand getting hit by pitches at the plate. The way he stands in the batters' box, is the same way I stand to hit. I like to get down low with my legs apart so you could get a better view of the ball. Your swing becomes quicker and the power of the swing is determined by the muscle in your arms.

I just wanted to write to my grandchildren to let you know at least a little about me. I'm sure by know the world is more advanced then the one I live in today. Advancement in technology is important but, I feel that being part of a family is more important. I hope you just remember me because if it wasn't for me you would have never existed. Take care and please visit me more often.

P.S. If you're wondering
about where grandma fits
in on my life, well sorry
I haven't found her yet.

Love Your Grandpa,

Juan Henandez '95

Juan Enrique Henandez



**John
Canales**





John Canales
Oct. 19, 1995
Composition 101
Final Draft

Dear Grandchildren,

I am writing this letter to inform you about the politics and the history in my lifetime as a college student in South Texas. In writing this letter, I hope to inform you of the life I lived forty years ago. If you want to know the past, the best way to learn is through first-hand experience not second-hand text books. There are some events you should know about that happened in my time. We had events such as the murder of Selena and the O.J. Simpson murder case. There were also technological advances and environmental issues during my college life.

The month is October, and I am 6 months away from turning 19 years old. It's a warm day in Corpus Christi and many South Texans and international fans are talking about the trial of Yolanda Saldivar who murdered Selena Quintanilla Perez. Selena was a native resident of Corpus Christi, who became a well known Tejano singer. Selena was murdered on March 31 in Room 158 of the local Days Inn Hotel. The death of Selena affected many Americans, mostly of Hispanic heritage. It was a tragedy to her husband, family, friends, and all those who followed her career. She was on her way to super stardom and she was only 23 years old.

Along with the Selena trial, there was another big trial in our country. This trial was the longest in U.S. history, lasting 9 months. It was the murder case of O.J. Simpson vs. the state of California and the families of Nicole Simpson and Ronald Goldman. This trial was as big as a three-ring circus. The defense and the prosecution each had four lawyers. All the evidence which included motive, DNA results, and the victims' blood all over his clothes. Even with this evidence, he was still proven not guilty. Most Americans were shocked about the verdict; others were happy to see that he was set free. They let him go because the prosecution was unable to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that O.J. was guilty.

Technology in my day was moving very fast and many people were excited with all the technological advances. Some of the more popular inventions of the 20th century were the C.D. ROM and cellular phone. These two inventions revolutionized the working man and women, and they also expanded the growth of the business.

Another major and very "cool" invention was Virtual Reality. With Virtual Reality, you are able to experience 3-D images by wearing a special helmet device. It was the latest invention that blew my mind. In forty years, all these inventions will be out-of-date, and you will probably laugh at all of these "old" inventions.

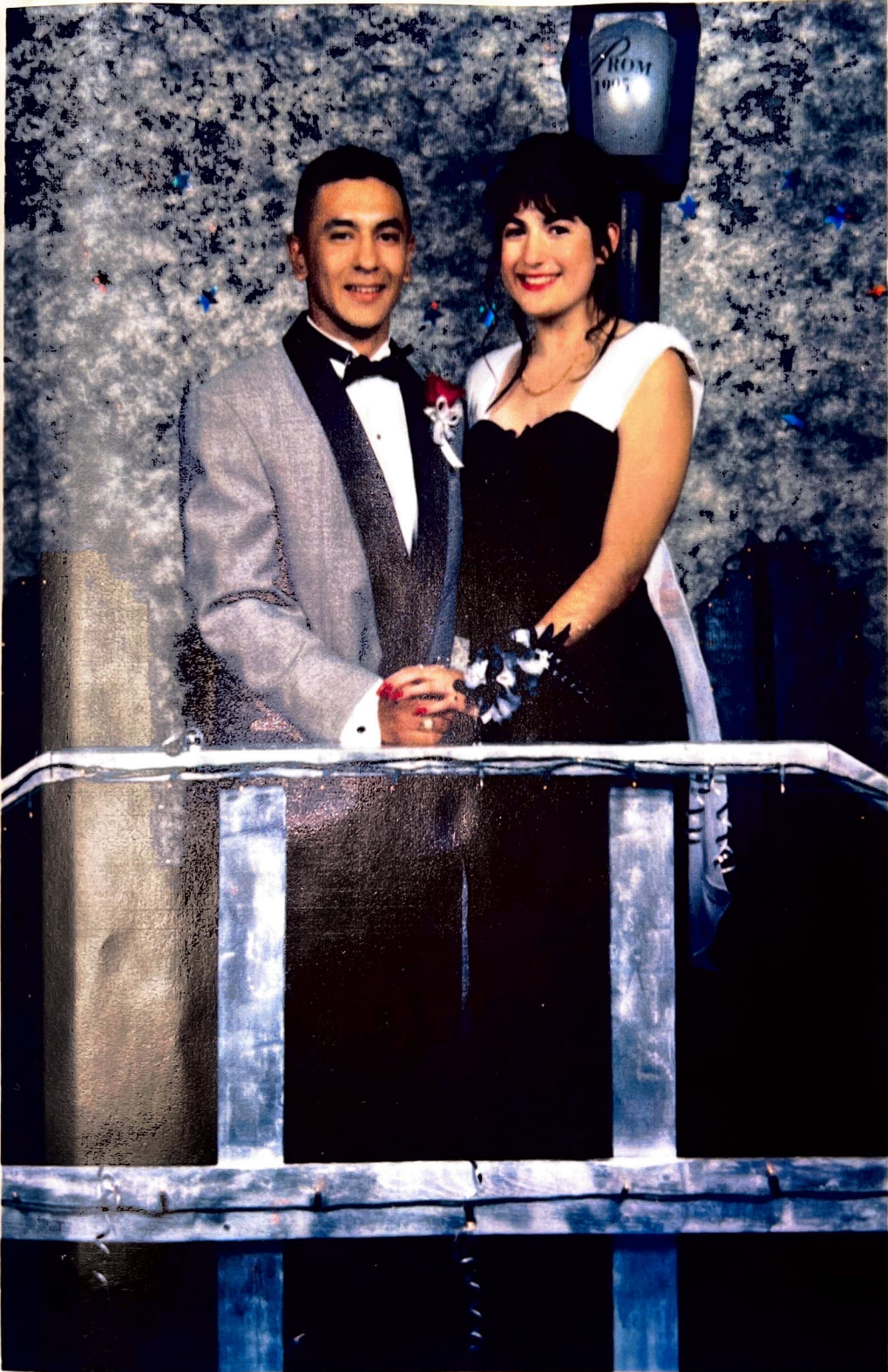
The environment during my day was going through ecological problems. A real problem was a deteriorating ozone layer. The deterioration was being caused by car fumes, factories, and aerosol. These fumes would eat away at the ozone layer, causing global warming. Living in Corpus Christi, there are always pollution problems on our beaches because of off-shore oil rigs and trash thrown. The oil from the rigs and trash being thrown led to dirty and sometimes toxic beaches.

I hope you can read this and understand how America was in the past. You'll probably read this and laugh, but please understand that the world changes. You too will probably write a letter to your grandchildren, and they will probably think that your politics and historical events were funny as well.

Your Grandfather,
John Canales



**Juan
Garcia**



11/07/95

Juan Garcia BD

Dear Grand kids,

Hopefully I will still be around to read this to you and tell you more in detail about how my life was back in my day. But if for some reason something is to happen to me I will let you know a little of what was going on in my prime during the ninety's. Hopefully it will help you understand a little of why things are happening to you and know a little more about history.

Some of the major issues in court that are going on right now are The trial of O.J. Simpson. And the murder of Tejano music star Selena. Just a few days before I wrote you this letter the verdict for O.J. was given. He was found not guilty on two counts of murder. However he is still pending on civil cases. Selena's case just started up two days ago and I will inform you later how that goes. To tell you the truth these cases are getting on peoples nerves. But when you read about this in your history books you can say, "My grandpa was there and he saw everything."

The most modern device we have today is the computer. Computers do wonders for us. We are able to do so many things like learn history, learn to read, have sex, cure diseases, deliver mail, meet companions and many, many more things of this nature. If it were not for the computer we would be so far behind in our technology. The computer is the backbone to our society.

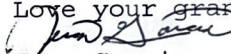
Hopefully by the time you read this letter your generation will have a cure for one of the most horrible diseases to ever have existed. This disease is called the AIDS virus. It is a sexually transmitted disease. There are a few other ways to get it however, like blood transfusion, or just mixing blood with the wrong people. Some of the biggest stars of my time have been infected with this virus, not including the millions of people who have died from it already. Or the millions of people who don't know they have it. It is one of the scariest things out there today. Some of the celebrities that I mentioned to you that have it are Magic Johnson, the father from the T.V show the Brady Bunch who has already died from it, and many more who just don't know that they have it.

We are faced with some other scary things besides disease. These other things are gangs and drugs. When you talk about one you practically talk about both of them. It is so bad in some places that you can't even walk outside and water the plants in peace after certain hours. It started in the big cities like Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, Houston, but now it is pretty common just about anywhere you look. With gangs, more than likely you are going to have drugs. This something I hope you never get involved in but it is something you are going to decide how to handle. Hopefully this will not be an issue for you. Or you and your peers might have a different way of handling it. This is not just a gang problem however. Regular people are either killing themselves doing this or getting people killed by handling it or selling it. There is a big drug war going on right now and I don't think we are doing to good. Hopefully in your time they will have a solution for this big problem we are faced with.

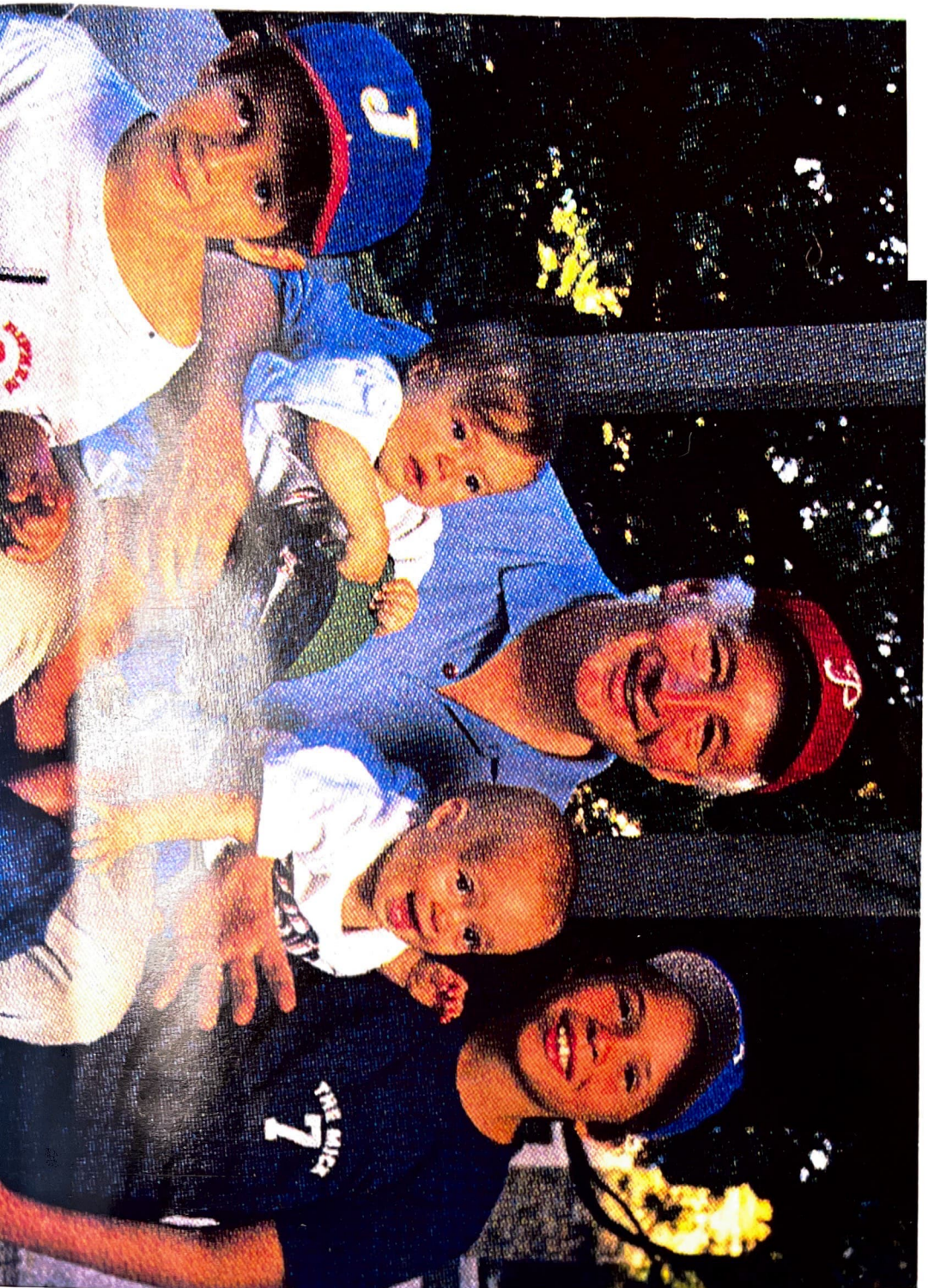
I also want to let you know a little about myself. I am

currently 19 years old and am attending Texas A&M - Corpus Christi. I have a girlfriend whose name is Margie Torres. She is great, and hopefully someday you will call her grandma. I was a pretty good athlete in high school and was a pretty big guy on campus. I was also faced with many of the decisions you are making or are about to make. I think I made some pretty good decisions, and if you need help never be afraid to ask, hopefully me or somebody around you. Your great grand parents were great as well. They helped me through a lot and I probably wouldn't be who I am today if were not for them. I owe them a lot of thanks. And thats all I have to say about that.

However everything we have is not bad. We have great people out there trying to make a difference, it is just that we need more of these people or your life will really be screwed up. It is up to my generation to try to fix things and make things better for you. Just remember no matter how things were or how they are going to be, you have to make the right choice in whatever you do. Just be smart. Hopefully you won't just have to read this letter, I hope I am here to talk to you about it and many more things when the time is right. Just remember that I love you and take care.

Love your grandpa,

Juan Garcia

Draft Two



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