

My Mum

My mum:

Bought me a cat when all my brothers and sisters left home. She was worried I would be lonely.

Became a dinner lady so I would stay for school lunches (it didn't last long)

Listened to what I had to say.

Listened to me talk about football, music, girls, everything and anything.

Was always interested in what I was doing.

My mum:

Celebrated my successes and felt my losses.

Prayed for my brothers & sisters and for me every day.

Was my nurse when I was ill.

Got cross when I broke windows with the football.

My mum:

Passed her driving test the same year as me.

Was always interested in what I was doing.

Had never been fell walking until her honeymoon.

Could sew, patch and label anything. Once this included replacing part of the fly sheet on our tent.

My mum:

Encouraged me to eat lettuce by sprinkling it with sugar.

Liked adventure and fun.

Made bread – sometimes it didn't work out and it was dense- too dense to eat.

Took me into her bed when I was scared at night.

My mum:

Let me climb trees and never thought I might fall.

Liked a full house -and I don't mean furniture or bingo.

Didn't like being on her own and was sad when we said goodbye.

Was mischievous.

My mum:

Followed the news and asked what I thought.

Was an artist, she could paint, draw, knit, sew and used to be able to play the piano.

Thought she had a growth when in fact she was pregnant with me.

Loved chocolate and always had a supply in her handbag and a secret stash in every room of the house.

My mum:

Loved much

Liked picking blackberries.

Prayed for me that I would lose weight and told my wife off for feeding me too well.

Wanted a tidy house and less clutter but that was never going to happen with five children in the house.

My mum:

Was all of this and more.

My mum:

Was Valerie Patricia Hooke

I love my mum