

## Life As It Should Be

18 years of life, 18 years of lessons, 18 years of faith.

Will I ever get to live my life for my own?

Life can be summed up in three life lessons

My great grandmother

Once told me when I was far too young to comprehend:

Trust in God,

Have faith,

Say your prayers.

It was through these lessons that

My grandfather and mother were raised.

It was through these lessons that

All the people in this room were raised.

Walking person to person, smiling face to face,

Crying eyes to eyes, she makes her way across the room.

With each person, a story is shared, a laugh shared,

And a flood of tears shared.

She stops at me.

Small hands grab my arms tightly;

Aged eyes full of wisdom lock with mine;

Her face wrinkles as she smiles, water filling in her eyes.

We embrace in a hug.

No words are muttered,

A story is still shared.

My story.

My story is shared through this simple exchange.

Her arms locked with mine is more than enough to

Show my great grandmother I am a result of her endless love.

90 years of life, 90 years of lessons, 90 years of faith.

I never want to live my life for my own.