



Noah,

It was one week, and thirteen years ago, when I was expecting the best Fathers Day gift ever. You know what that gift was? That gift was you. And as each year has gone by, your mother and I have marveled to watch you grow and mature. Early on we could tell that one of your best traits was your ability to love. You have a warm and generous heart. You worry more about how other people feel than you do about yourself, and you try to make them feel comfortable. You always do your best at whatever task your teachers or your parents give you, even when it is hard. And while you see the world as a little bit scary, you try and try and never give up. You also see the good in everyone, even your sister Dorie, and in turn everyone sees the good in you.

Every night when I put you to bed, I tell you how proud I am that you're my son. You make me very proud, particularly today, as you show us how well you have mastered the prayers and read from the Torah. Being Bar Mizvah is a big step in growing up, where you start to think for yourself about the big issues like God, the importance of doing Mizvot and of doing what you can to help the world become a better place. We love you very much and are so happy you came in to our lives around Fathers day, thirteen years ago.