



For Dan, my best friend...

It has been hard writing these lines, because I couldn't find the exact words to describe our relationship and all the feelings involved in it. Somehow, it was easier to just sit and cry in the dark than to do this at last.

How can I say good-bye to someone who has been an integral part of my life for over 50 years? How do I reconcile myself to the heartbreaking reality that my beloved Dan is no longer physically with us?

Dan and I shared a lot of memories from our childhood into the men we have come to be. Dan was my Best man on my wedding and I was, on his. We had no secrets, never lied to each other, and were always brutally honest and full of respect. He let me into his inner world and into his mind. So did I.

For months now, I have tried to prepare myself for this inevitability, but it was Dan himself, with his gentle and quiet good humor, with his courage and absolute lack of self-pity, who made me believe that we might still have more time, that the void I have in my heart today might be put off at least a little while longer.

Though we may have been physically distant, my wife Olivia and I kept in close contact with Dan through frequent phone calling. We knew when he was well or not, and he too knew the same about us.

Of all the people in the world, you picked me as your best friend. I wear that title with honor and gratitude. It was wonderful having you in my life. Thank you for being my partner on this grand adventure we call life.

...Simon Musisi

