Papa,

Since the last time you had a birthday, the world has gotten a lot stranger. CoVid Vaccines, the coldest winter in a century, the pullout of our troops in Afghanistan, a brand new president, an Olympic upset, and most of all you Grandson buying a House! Through all the turmoil, your home and your presence have been a steadfast rock. A shelter away from the storm of the outside world. If its advice on keeping my house warm in the winter time, or just sharing a cold beer on the gazeebo, you have provided more than I can ever repay this year, and so, I just want to say that not only am I thankful to be your grandson, but I’m ever appreciative of the role model you’ve been for me so far in my life. Thank you, and may God bless you with many more years. Because I don’t think I’m ready quite yet to do this without you.

Love you Old Man,

Jacob K Manka