



"DINNER OF CHAMPIONS"

"Dinner of Champions" Award
Acceptance Speech

by

LISA HORNE

September 25, 2016

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Dinner of
Champions

Lew and I are absolutely honored and humbled to accept this.

Throughout my life people have asked me, "Why I feel I need to go to church every Sunday? Why is faith such an important part of my daily life?"

And it seems almost every time I tell them the same thing ... I think of it like a bank.

You save up 'till you need it.

So I go to church. I say my prayers. I volunteer. I try to help others who have experienced great loss and suffering.



But it's like money you have in a savings account; you know it's there and you save it until you really, *really* need it.

When Christina was diagnosed with MS, I remember turning to God and saying, "Take *anything* I have saved up – and use it to help Christina."

And he *did*.



In so many, unexpected and inspiring ways...

He introduced our family to Dr. Amezcua and Dr. Pelletier– and to the absolutely extraordinary team at USC – including my dear, dear friend, Dr. Linda Larsen, who has attended every MRI and doctor’s appointment for the past three years.

He put *amazing* friends in our family’s lives that are so supportive and generous in every possible way. So many of whom are here tonight.

He put Christina on a career path with incredible mentors where she is *thriving* – and loves what she does.

And He’s watching over our family – and constantly reminding us of what’s truly important.

So right now, my bank may be empty but my *heart* is full of gifts! My faith is a gift! My incredible family is my gift. Seeing you all tonight. Feeling the love in this room....

You are my gift. My daughter’s gift. My husband’s gift. You’re a gift to every single person living with MS in this country.

Life is rich.

Life is unexpected.

Life is so inspiring and exciting.

I will be forever grateful, and hold this night in my heart – because you’ve made me feel all these beautiful things.



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