

A GIFT OF LOVE

By Verna Kwiatkowski. Sky View.

VERNA'S INTRODUCTION: For several years I was the editor of Sky View's literary magazine *Horizons*. In our 2013 Volume 1 we featured 19 Haiku poems written by a group of residents who met with a staff member over a period of time "to explore personal feelings through the creative process of Haiku – a Japanese form of poetry. In English, the Haiku is traditionally written as three lines in a 5 syllable, 7 syllable, 5 syllable format." (Quoted from *Horizons*.) As I was thinking about these things, a desire to try out the format blended with the sentimentality of the upcoming Mother's Day and Father's Day celebrations, and produced the following series of Haiku-style poems:

A gift of love comes
Down through the generations,
Wrapped up in God's love.

William and Florence
Were the names of my parents.
I am glad they met!

They gave birth to three –
Verna, Harold, and Robert.
Bob and I remain.

My mother and dad
Did the very best they could:
They raised us with love.

Leo and I had
Five children, both boys and girls.
We loved ev'ry one!

Now we watch how they
Love THEIR children, and rejoice!
Love is ev'rywhere!

Love is eternal.
People are born; people die,
But the love remains!