The following is a sample of a Kith and Kin book created for a retirement.

Designing books is hard. Designing books with a mix of photos and text is doubly hard. Designing books with varying lengths of text and types of photos feels impossible.

Some people have a lot to say, and others can sum it up in a few short sentences. Both are welcome and accommodated in a Kith and Kin book. Our software automatically generates the layout of each page to bring a balance of color and text. This means no pages become a wall of size 9 font, while others feel completely bare.

That means you can focus on the important part, which is ensuring that the people that love this person the most have a chance to offer their well wishes, thoughts, wisdom, stories, and advice so they can be flipped through for decades to come.

Questions? Email a real person at help@yourkithandkin.com.

Happy Retirement

Congratulations on a long and fruitful career. Each of us has been impacted by your example and guidance over the years. Thank you for your contributions, your friendship, and all the laughs. We look forward to following your next adventure. From all of us, happy retirement!

RACHEL ETON

My favorite memory with you.

I have some very clear and happy memories of summers in the Gales Ferry house with you in particular. Helping you in the garden, picking wild onions in the yard and bringing them to you to make a "salad", catching fireflies, afternoons in Sturbridge Village, falling asleep in the back of the Acura on the way home from the lake. I was always the envy of the kids we grew up with because you made summers so much fun, and I'm so thankful that I have so many of these memories to enjoy now, and recreate for my own kids.

One thing I've learned from you is...

That it's never too late to start over. I was worried it was too late for me to go back to school, and you told me it wasn't. It was what caused me to make this change and what I needed to hear to spur my idea into action!

I'm grateful for you because...

How much love you give everyone in this family. You are the sun to the family universe.

The thing I most admire about you is...

Your work ethic or your generosity. You are so willing to extend a hand, your heart, your time to others. People are always telling me how you've helped them.

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



RACHEL ETON

RACHEL ETON

In ten years, I expect to see you...

Sailing! Or writing a book! I can't imagine you in ten years without 2-3 new hobbies, and I can't wait to join you.

My favorite memory with you.

The day we met. Jo and Carol had snuck away and I was (luckily) left to entertain the new girl. I must have done an okay job, because you said yes to dinner the next day. I was so nervous, and you seemed so at ease. I was smitten.

One thing I've learned from you is...

How to build a community. Through every move, you've been able to connect with and build such a wonderful community of friends around us. It's taught me how to be a better friend, and how rich life can be when you give yourself and your time freely to others.

I'm grateful for you because...

You always gave us experiences that we would never have encountered in our daily lives. You broadened our horizons and enlarged our worlds. Thank you for that.

The thing I most admire about you is...

The thing I most admire about you is your love of learning. Tennis. Ballroom Dancing. Cooking. You are always looking to expand your mind and broaden your range of talents. I know I got my thirst for learning and my curiosity about the things I don’t know from you. You taught me how to grow.

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



DAVID HOOVER

In ten years, I expect to see you...

In Kuai, on a morning walk with the dogs and Dad, waving to your friends (everyone!) and planning the next family reunion.

DAVID HOOVER

JACK HOOVER

My favorite memory with you.

Hawaii 1990. You woke us up at 3 o'clock in the morning and dragged us out of bed. You decked us in orange rain gear and put us on bikes. We grumbled and protested and rolled our eyes. But when we got to the top of Haleakala Volcano in time to see the sunrise it sure was worth it. It was magical. Afterwards, in the early morning mist, we swept down the side of the mountain pedaling at top speed. I felt like I was soaring, I'll never forget it.

One thing I've learned from you is...

You taught me to have passion and drive for whatever I want to do and to push myself to be the best at it. Just as importantly, it reminded me that family will always be in my corner to help me along the way.

I'm grateful for you because...

Your tireless efforts to give us an interesting life - whether that's planning trips, family challenges, or bringing new people into our circle.

The thing I most admire about you is...

I admire your curiosity, always wanting to learn more and try different things. How you’re always practicing your guitar or learning about cooking.

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



JACK HOOVER

J A C K H O O V E R

In ten years, I expect to see you...

Hopefully visiting your grandkids, and introducing them to root beer floats and the wonder of Hawaii!

My favorite memory with you.

When the kids were young and we used to pop the lawn chairs out in the backyard in the morning, and talk all day in between feeding kids, setting up the sprinkler, and keeping the dog out of the snacks :). They were hard and long days with so many little kids, and we were so tired, but those deep conversations and that time spent together was such a gift.

One thing I've learned from you is...

How to feed 30+ hungry people with three hours notice, and a broken oven!

I'm grateful for you because...

You've been my village - it's been such a blessing to grow as a parent with you, and to see our kids grow together as friends. My life, and our life, is richer because you're in it.

The thing I most admire about you is...

You are extremely determined and hardworking. And you never give up.

MELISSA SULLIVAN

MELISSA SULLIVAN

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



In ten years, I expect to see you...

On vacation with me! We'll be old ladies traveling to Paris and the South of France eating all the carbs, and drinking all the wine.

MELISSA SULLIVAN

M E G A N

My favorite memory with you.

Sitting poolside at Carneros, drinking champagne, bonding over a similar upbringing and shared interests in design, art and fashion…that’s when I realized you would become a true friend.

One thing I've learned from you is...

How to make a home. No matter where you are, your home always feel so delightfully personal. I take notes every time I visit!

I'm grateful for you because...

You are a loyal friend, and an incredibly passionate and powerful spirit.

The thing I most admire about you is...

You never stop learning and are always striving to become a better person with every aspect of your life.

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



MEGAN

M E G A N

In ten years, I expect to see you...

Camping with our kiddos in Yosemite! Letting them run amok through the tents as we sit by the fire and chat.

My favorite memory with you.

So many great ones to choose from! First one came to mind was sailing in Cabo by the arches, and laughing with you over how great our life was in that moment. Cannot wait to many more gratitude moments with you!

One thing I've learned from you is...

How to pack for a trip I never would have survived our study abroad without those tips. Packing cubes for the win!

I'm grateful for you because...

Your way of showing love is deeply authentic. Our kids won’t remember all of our brilliant advice, but they’ll know that they are fully adored, and you will have no problem showing your sweet babe deep, authentic love.

The thing I most admire about you is...

I admire that you're always learning. No doubt this baby will grow with a big curiosity for the world, and a hunger to seek out what's new, and challenge themselves to develop new skills and hobbies.

W H I T N E Y

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



WHITNEY

In ten years, I expect to see you...

I can picture you plotting out the most fun summers for your family - maybe a big trip overseas, learning something new together...I know you will find adventure, and hopefully I can tag along to a few ;)

WHITNEY

ASHLEY

My favorite memory with you.

Endless nights sharing studio space, various bedrooms and boxes/bladders upon boxes/bladders of (bad) wine in college.

One thing I've learned from you is...

To always ask! Watching you get the best tables, the free dessert, the upgrade...

I'm grateful for you because...

You have an incredible ability to find joy, amusement, and-or something rewarding in any experience; the way you share that with people around you is how I know your child will have the greatest love and the greatest mom they could have.

The thing I most admire about you is...

You have the truest heart and a ninja-ability to fiercely defend the time and space required for its 200% deployment. Nothing gets in the way of your expressed love, not because the world doesn't place obstacles in its path, but because you brilliantly and tirelessly unblock any direction through which your heart leaps to connect. You are a powerful person in so many ways -- some requiring extreme toughness or grit -- but what will be magical about you as a parent is that all that power will be felt by your child as the most pure sense of love.

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



ASHLEY

ASHLEY

In ten years, I expect to see you...

On vacation with me! We'll continue our girls trip tradition, only it will be about spending quiet time together, slowing down, catching up, and taking some time for ourselves to remind us that we're still us :).

My favorite memory with you.

(Is this possible to answer? No, because there are too many.) The memories that make me feel how much more wonderful and fun you make my life include a lot of laughing out loud and premium burgers -- expansive feelings of DD warmth no matter how cold and slushy outside. But the memories that resonate for me when I think abstractly "Em!" are of early weekend mornings in Gund Hall before a deadline, when you were the first person there, walking down the aisle in your long purple and white scarf, and the way your hands and eyes moved together as you described your work.

One thing I've learned from you is...

How to exit gracefully. So many awkward situations, and you're always finding the wittiest responses, and most gentle excuses...it's an art!

C A I T L I N

C A I T L I N

I'm grateful for you because...

You have the truest heart and a ninja-ability to fiercely defend the time and space required for its 200% deployment. Nothing gets in the way of your expressed love, not because the world doesn't place obstacles in its path, but because you brilliantly and tirelessly unblock any direction through which your heart leaps to connect. You are a powerful person in so many ways -- some requiring extreme toughness or grit -- but what will be magical about you as a parent is that all that power will be felt by your child as the most pure sense of love.

The thing I most admire about you is...

You are so patient, kind and adventurous. Baby P is going to have quite the passport! You are always there for your friends for both the fun times and the tough times. You'll teach her how to be a generous and loyal friend.

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



CAITLIN

C A I T L I N

In ten years, I expect to see you...

I'll be coming over to your house to borrow something, and I'll stay for a while and we'll let our kids roam around and play while we talk about schools, or vacation planning..You are my village. It's the dream!

My favorite memory with you.

So many great ones to choose from! First one that came to mind was sailing in Greece. There was no schedule, we ate when we were hungry, swam when we were hot, slept when we were tired. A dream. I hope your retirement gives you more of the same :).

One thing I've learned from you is...

To focus on doing the hard and important things, and bring others with you.

I'm grateful for you because...

I have learned so much from working with you, especially how to manage through chaos and change. I strive to be as calm, cool, and collected.

The thing I most admire about you is...

The thing I most admire about you is your love of learning. You are always looking to expand your mind and broaden your range of talents.

HANNAH GOODMAN

HANNAH GOODMAN

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



In ten years, I expect to see you...

In Kuai, on a morning walk with the dogs and Robert, waving to your friends (everyone!) and planning the next family reunion.

HANNAH GOODMAN

ANDERS BECKER

My favorite memory with you.

When we finally settled the Carbon case, and we flopped, exhausted, into the first bar we saw. Spent all night there celebrating, and if I recall correctly, someone later got on a mechanical bull?

One thing I've learned from you is...

You taught me to have passion and drive for whatever I want to do and to push myself to be the best at it.

I'm grateful for you because...

Your mentorship has done more for my career than any class, event, or boss. I would not be where I was today if it wasn't for your thoughtful guidance and sometimes, kick in the...

The thing I most admire about you is...

Your resilience, and your integrity.

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



ANDERS BECKER

ANDERS BECKER

In ten years, I expect to see you...

Hopefully visiting your grandkids, and introducing them to root beer floats and the wonder of Hawaii!

My favorite memory with you.

Our summer in the RV, spent rock climbing, camping, and exploring the national parks together. It still feels like a dream. Those were the most simple, happy days I can remember.

One thing I've learned from you is...

That it's never too late to start over. I was worried it was too late for me to go back to school, and you told me it wasn't. It was what caused me to make this change and what I needed to hear to spur my idea into action!

I'm grateful for you because...

Your mentorship has done more for my career than any class, event, or boss. I would not be where I was today if it wasn't for your thoughtful guidance and sometimes, kick in the...

The thing I most admire about you is...

Your resilience, and your integrity.

HOLLY MITCHEL

HOLLY MITCHEL

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



In ten years, I expect to see you...

Sailing! Or writing a book! I can't imagine you in ten years without 2-3 new hobbies, and I can't wait to join you.

HOLLY MITCHEL

DAVE BOWER

My favorite memory with you.

The endless nights studying for the bar, and clerking together in Little Rock. Those were long days, but short years. I miss them!

One thing I've learned from you is...

You taught me to have passion and drive for whatever I want to do and to push myself to be the best at it.

I'm grateful for you because...

I'm grateful for your leadership. You have been a key figure in my career development, and I'll miss that day to day guidance and example.

The thing I most admire about you is...

You are extremely determined and hardworking. And you never give up.

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



DAVE BOWER

D A V E B O W E R

In ten years, I expect to see you...

Publishing a memoir. I'll be first in line to get it signed.

My favorite memory with you.

The first dinner we had all together in Hell's Kitchen. It was such great evening with friends. We could see how comfortable and relaxed you both were with each other, and we knew that this was it!

One thing I've learned from you is...

When I look at you both together, I'm reminded at how important it is to keep finding fun.

I'm grateful for you because...

How much love you give everyone in our family.

The thing I most admire about you is...

You never stop learning and are always striving to become a better person with every aspect of your life.

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



CHELSEA LIVELY

In ten years, I expect to see you...

Camping with our future kiddos in Yosemite! Letting them run amok through the tents as we sit by the fire and chat.

CHELSEA LIVELY

DEREK AND ANGELINA

My favorite memory with you.

Sailing with you both around the Cape when you came up to visit last summer. Watching you both stumble around the kitchen after a long day on the water and quite a few beers, you were both laughing so hard you ended up on the floor and we ended up eating dinner at 10pm. Too fun. We can't wait to make it a tradition!

One thing I've learned from you is...

How to move across the country three times in a year without losing your mind :).

I'm grateful for you because...

It's been such a blessing to spend my 20s growing with you. My life, and our life, is richer because you're in it.

The thing I most admire about you is...

I admire that you're always learning. You both have a big curiosity about the world.

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



DEREK AND ANGELINA

DEREK AND ANGELINA

In ten years, I expect to see you...

On vacation with us! We'll continue our Cape Cod tradition, and eventually it will grow with kids, and grand kids, and great grand kids...

My favorite memory with you.

Watching you both tear up the dance floor at our wedding last year. It's a shame no one got in on video!

One thing I've learned from you is...

What it means to build a village, I'm lucky to be a part of yours.

I'm grateful for you because...

You are loyal friends, and incredibly passionate and powerful spirits.

The thing I most admire about you is...

Your optimism! It's magnetic.

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



HENRY AND CARRIE

In ten years, I expect to see you...

I can picture you plotting out the most fun summers for your family - maybe a big trip overseas, learning something new together...I know you will find adventure, and hopefully I can tag along to a few ;)

HENRY AND CARRIE

CHARLIE SMITH

My favorite memory with you.

Any night you wandered over to my apartment with a bottle of wine and a deck of cards and knocked on the window. I was so thankful to have you both in a new city, and you never made me feel like I was imposing. Those nights are some that I treasure still!

One thing I've learned from you is...

Honestly, the thing I'm most thankful to have learned might just be how to make Jim's gumbo!

I'm grateful for you because...

Your way of showing love is deeply authentic.

The thing I most admire about you is...

You are both so patient, kind and adventurous. You are always there for your friends for both the fun times and the tough times.

MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US.



CHARLIE SMITH

C H A R L I E S M I T H

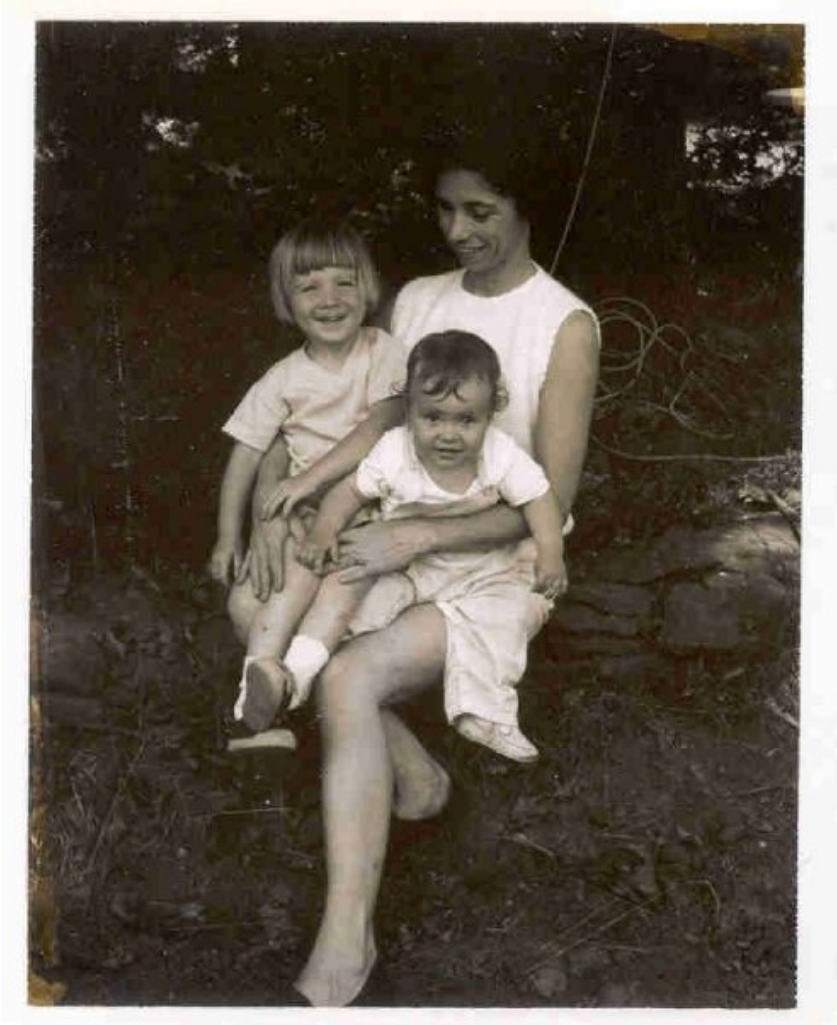
In ten years, I expect to see you...

I'll be coming over to your house to borrow something, and I'll stay for a while and we'll let our kids roam around and play while we talk about schools, or vacation planning..You are my village. It's the dream!

From all of us, with love...

“You will never be completely at home again, because part of your heart always will be elsewhere. That is the price you pay for the richness of loving and knowing people in more than one place.” - Miriam Adeney.

WHEN WE WERE LITTLE.



SPRING BREAK 1982



THE HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE



MY FAVORITE PICTURE OF US



Happy 50th Birthday

From all of us, we wish you the happiest of birthday. You are an amazing Daughter, Sister, Mom, and friend. Our lives are richer because you're in it. Wishing you health and joy in the next 50 years!