## A Mother's Garden

Sunday, of course, was Mother's Day, and I hope it was a time of love and sharing for everyone. Mothers deserve all the tributes they receive because of the tears they shed and the prayers they lift for their offspring as they bring them into the world and rear them to adulthood.

Someone shared a poem on this theme with me. Its author is unknown, and it is appropriate anytime, but certainly in the month that holds the special day dedicated to mothers. Here it is:

## MY MOTHER KEPT A GARDEN

My Mother kept a garden,
A garden of the heart;
She planted all the good things
That gave my life its start.

She turned me to the sunshine And encouraged me to dream, Fostering and nurturing The seeds of self-esteem.

And when the winds and rain came, She protected me enough ... But not too much because she knew I'd need to stand up strong and tough.

Her constant good example
Always taught me right from wrong ...
Markers for my pathway
That will last a lifetime long.

I am my Mother's garden ...
I am her legacy,
And I hope today she feels the love
Reflected back from me.

Hug your – or someone's – mother today, and thank her for making this world a better place to live.

--Beecher Hunter