

The Mysterious Valentine's Card

We are now three days past Valentine's Day, but it's never too late for a good Valentine story. One of my favorites was written by Drew Duke and published in *Guideposts* magazine.

Drew recalled from her childhood her second-grade Valentine's Day party. Several days earlier, a big, decorated box had been placed at the front of the room by the teacher. It had a slit in the top. Each student had been invited to bring Valentines addressed to friends and drop them into the box.

Then on Valentine's Day, one student would be designated by the teacher as the postman to distribute the cards.

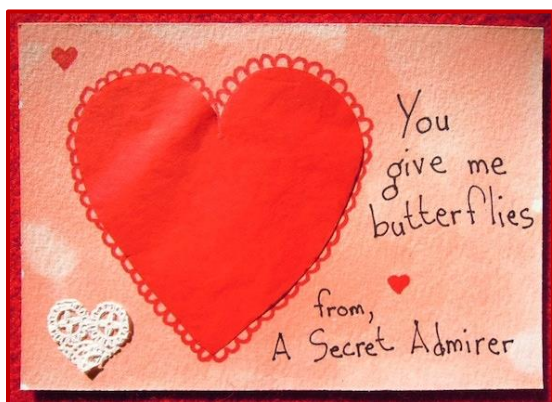
Earlier that week, Drew's mother had bought a package of 35 Valentine cards. Drew asked her, "Why did you buy so many?"

She replied, "So you can give one to each person in your class."

"No ma'am," Drew said. "We don't do it that way. We only give cards to our special friends. I only need four cards. I don't even like some of the people in my class."

Her mother said nothing else. Drew signed four cards and put the names on the front.

Everybody was excited when the Valentine's party began. The girl designated as postman began calling the names and handing out the cards. Some very popular children got bunches of cards. Drew heard her name called quite often and was having a wonderful time.



But then she became aware that the little girl sitting in front of her had received no cards. Her head was drooping lower and lower. Then suddenly, the postman called this little girl's name and delivered to her one Valentine. Her face lit up like morning sunshine.

She tore open that Valentine, hurrying to see who had cared enough to send it. Drew looked over her shoulder and saw that it was signed, *Your secret admirer.*

The little girl smiled and glanced around the room, wondering who it could be.

(more)

“But,” said Drew, “I knew who it was, but I didn’t tell. I recognized my mother’s handwriting.” Her mother had obtained a class roster and had sent a card to every child in the class.

Drew learned from her mother what her mother had learned from God – that God’s love reaches even the unlovely, and everybody is invited to God’s party.

It is a truth acknowledged every day in the facilities of Life Care and Century Park.

– Beecher Hunter