Happy Birthday to You

Your big day is here dearest Eddie and I want to celebrate it with you. To honour and express my gratitude for all the kind and wonderful things you do.

You bring us joy in so many ways and nothing is ever a bother to you.

You describe yourself as 'simple and honest' and you have a heart of gold that is loyal and true.

You showed bravery in your younger years that has stood you in good stead. **
And taught you resilience, perseverance and patience whilst lying in a hospital bed.

You bestow that gift onto others when you accompany them to Lourdes on their annual trip. The outing would not be the same for the pilgrims if they didn't have you to share it with.

You are well known and respected throughout your native county and town.

And when customers come into the shop for a browse and a chat, the craic, it knows no bounds!

Elizabeth, Dolly and Sheila know that they're all in it that day for the long haul! Sure, there's no such thing as having a quick visit in Cavan Gifts, especially when you know them all!

It's no different when you're out for a pint with your friends putting the world to rights in the Orchard Bar. The Black Horse is another favourite haunt at the weekend and we thank God for Fran and his taxi car.

For he brings you home safe to the people you love and into the arms of Louis and Jane. They're not there all the time but the phone lines are busy until you see them again.

You wish that Dublin was only next door and that Vancouver was just a few miles away. You miss them with all your heart when they're not home and wish you could see them every day.

You are so proud of the people they have become with their careers and futures so bright. You always led by a good example and showed them fortitude, ambition and insight.

It's a good job that Jane left her little dog behind her as he has filled a large and gaping void.

Alfie rules the roost and is master of the house both in the bed and when he needs to go outside!

He is the third child you never had and requires just as much attention. Who knew that a little four legged pal would curry so much of your affection?

Then there is me and I have become your brand new partner in crime. We enjoy meals out and trips away and laughter fills the air all the time.

I want you to know that I will always have your back and that I think the world of you. I enjoy your company and all the fun we have and am glad that one is now two.

You are 56 years young today and are worthy of having a big celebration. And for the first time in our lives I'm delighted to be part of the occasion.

I hope that these words have brought you on a journey back to where it all began.

And that you have a happy birthday Eddie Coleman.

You are certainly some man for one man!

All my love Kathryn x

