

LESSON IN LIVING HOMEMADE HAPPINESS

Elma Allen Milano

When I was a professional musician living in Los Angeles, CA, I never performed in a location where I could not sleep in my own bed afterwards. Home is where I feel at peace. Most of my friends love to travel. When they invite me, I say, "Thanks a lot, but no thanks." One of them quipped, "*Yes, I spend my money traveling but I drive an old car. You spend your money on new cars and don't like to travel.*" We then agreed, "*To each his own!*"

Suggestions for homemade happiness

Pray as a family morning and evening.

Spend time studying scriptures together.

Attend Church regularly and live religion.

Maintain family home and gardens.

Consistently eat homemade meals together.

Teach, train, work and achieve success as a unit.

Enjoy recreation, relax, laugh and play together.

Build happy memories via traditions, reunions and activities.

Support one another's worthy endeavors.

Be actively engaged in healthful physical pursuits.

Keep accurate records, post journals, write histories and take pictures.

Enjoy homemade music as members whistle, sing and play instruments.

Keep lines of communication open and avoid misunderstandings.

Listen carefully and look each member in the eyes.

Pay sincere compliments as you smile and build each other's self-esteem.

Be kind, thoughtful, loving and serve one another.

Treat members equally and avoid favoritism.

Look for good, appreciate, be peacemakers and relish homemade happiness.

This was written in 2005 when Elma was 85-years-old.