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Some of the most memorable lines in "All the Best, George Bush: My Life in Letters and Other Writings," includes declarations of love to his grandchildren. Jenna Bush Hager reports for NBC News from College Station, Texas.

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Poetic Letters from George H.W. Bush

BRIAN WILLIAMS, anchor:
Finally tonight, he is 88 years old, still going, and that means former President George H. W. Bush 41 is still writing notes and letters. He has always said it's the way he was raised. It's the right and polite thing to do. Many of his letters are in an updated version of “All the Best,” a collection of his correspondence over the years to family and friends and colleagues. Well, his granddaughter, NBC’s Jenna Bush Hager, recently asked some of them to read those letters. Tonight, we hear from them and from the former President himself.

PRESIDENT GEORGE H. W. BUSH (file): December 12th, 1943. My darling Bar--

JENNA BUSH HAGER, reporting:
My grandfather has always been a lover of words, a poetic letter writer.

PRESIDENT GEORGE H. W. BUSH: I love you precious with all my heart, and to know that you love me means my life.

BUSH HAGER: From letters penned during his time overseas in World War II to political memos to royalty and heads of state, to maybe the most telling, declarations of love to his grandchildren like my sister Barbara and cousin Lauren.

LAUREN BUSH: I'm a very happy gampy. My legs don’t bend too well. As you know I have had to give up fly fishing off the rocks, but there's plenty left to do, plenty of wonderful things.

BARBARA BUSH: I think of all of you an awful lot. I just wonder how each of you is doing. If you need me, I am here for you because I love you very much.

BUSH HAGER: He was there for his children, too, in letters of support during difficult times.

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH: Dear George, your decision just made is the toughest decision you’ve had to make up until now. But you made it with strength and with compassion.

BUSH HAGER: He often closed his letters honoring his young daughter Robin, who died from cancer.

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH: Remember Robin’s words. I love you more than tongue can tell. Well, I do.
BUSH HAGER: And writing was an outlet for admiration, documenting an unlikely friendship.
PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON: This notice simply to let you know that I so appreciated your words about our relationship, about our friendship. It was from your heart. I hope you know I feel the same way.
BUSH HAGER: But his favorite subject has been the same since 1945.
B. BUSH: Here we are 42 years later, and I'm a very happy guy, the luckiest in the world actually. I have a skinny, miles walking wife.
BUSH HAGER: It is no secret that at 88, my grandfather’s faced health issues, but he’s stronger and back at Texas A&M, the school he loves, where students are honoring him with a different, more modern use of words, a flash mob.
PRESIDENT GEORGE H. W. BUSH: All the flash mobs I have ever seen, this is the best.
BUSH HAGER: It was the best?
PRESIDENT GEORGE H. W. BUSH: Yes, the very best.
BUSH HAGER: Was it the only one you’ve ever seen?
PRESIDENT GEORGE H. W. BUSH: Yes.
BUSH HAGER: And you look pretty good, Gamps. Are you feeling good?
PRESIDENT GEORGE H. W. BUSH: I feel like a million bucks. I really do.
BUSH HAGER: Letters documenting history and a lifetime of loving relationships that like him will be cherished always.
PRESIDENT GEORGE H. W. BUSH: All the best. George Bush.
BUSH HAGER: Jenna Bush Hager, NBC News, College Station, Texas.