



# Speech

## After Dinner Speech

### Susie Richard

Gonzaga High School

Speechwriter: Anne Schwab

Pre-chosen Title: A Man for Others

### **NOTE TO THE READER: MS. SUSIE RICHARD IS JUST 4' TALL**

SUSIE RICHARD: (referring to the 6' subs served at the dinner) "Those subs sure were awesome, weren't they? I must admit, though, I'm a bit intimidated when the food I am eating is twice my size. Despite the size of your subs, I'm really glad to be part of Gonzaga's Mother/Son Dinner.

How many of you out there are seniors and applying to colleges? I'm a senior too and I'm freaking out waiting to hear back from schools. Of all the college I applied to, Georgetown is my first choice—if I can get in on a basketball scholarship!

Some of you are thinking, "She's going to college?" Sure I am. Handicapped kids are much like other people and like to be treated the same. I was born with a bone disease called Osteogenesis Imperfecta. My bones don't absorb calcium so they break easily. How many of you have broken one bone? Two? Five? Well, I've broken over 120 bones! And my bones don't grow right either. But I'm really lucky. Most people with OI can't even walk and I get around pretty well. In fact, I'm thinking of challenging Father Lilly to a tennis match after dinner. How 'bout it, Father?

Sometimes handicaps can work for us. Last year my friends and I went to a Lady Gaga concert in London. We were dying to meet her but no one was allowed back stage. So with me out front, we paraded right past the guards to the dressing rooms. The guards just stared at me. They didn't know what to say to a handicapped person. As a result we got to talk with Lady Gaga for a whole half hour..."

Good luck boys, see you at graduation!