Letter to Alex's grandma Rose-

Dear Rose:

We think of you often and hope you are doing well. Alex has been on our minds also – I think he broke so many hearts when he disappeared. I cannot even imagine what you and your family are going through, but please know that our thoughts and prayers have always, and will always, be with you.

Our dinner conversations had always at some point revolved around Alex being missing. The kids had questions like "What if.." or "Why him.." or "Where could he be..". We imagined what might have happened, but that scenario changed from minute to minute. As parents we were at a loss for words because what happened couldn't be explained.

Alex's disappearance has changed our lives. This past Sunday, like any other, my husband and Nick went out fishing. The goal this day was not even to catch the big one outside Kawaihae. The hope instead was to catch a glimpse of Alex, maybe on a piece of driftwood, hanging on and crying for help and asking for his mom. After all, we know how boys are. They will always need their mother. I was filled with sadness when Mike told me this. He said they had gone up and down the coast and saw nothing. They caught some mahi, they saw a lot of sharks, but no Alex.

Please take care of yourselves and each other. We are always faced with challenges in life, many of them unpleasant, and while the days may seem so dark now, I am sure that healing will begin and better times will come. That's how life is. When one door closes, another will open.

Thank you, Rose, for being a good friend to my mom.

Aloha,

Mike and Elsa Camp Matt and Nick