

Song: Halfway to Heaven

By John Barczyk

"Halfway to Heaven" is a song written for Joyce Ann Barczyk by her husband John Barczyk. There are a lot of songs about Alzheimer's disease, but John felt there was something missing in all of them – hope. John's goal was to frame the long hard struggle as a journey with many identifiable steps along the way, and help sufferers and their families find comfort in each successive crisis. When the song was shared with Kaitlin Ridgeway, a board-certified music therapist with Hospice of Michigan, she sang it to Joyce and then to other patients. Kaitlin commented, "I have played that song for other patients and families and every time they find such an emotional connection to the words."

Go Here to Watch the Music Video: <https://youtu.be/RZYFt7iwtmM>

Kaitlin recorded *"Halfway to Heaven"* on her phone and sent it to John. John added an introduction he recorded on his phone and some images. That is what you will hear and see in the video above.

Joyce was a wonderful wife to John for over 50 years, a mother to four great kids, and an RN for whom no sacrifice was too great. She had a ready smile that never dimmed and faced her diagnosis with courage and determination. Joyce will be remembered for the comfort and joy she lovingly displayed to others. As a nurse, a friend, a mom, and a grandmother, she was always willing to offer help and support.

Joyce Ann Barczyk, of Lakeville, Michigan, passed peacefully on July 14, 2022 after a long, hard battle with early onset Alzheimer disease.

LYRICS WITH CHORDS TO HALFWAY TO HEAVEN:

C It's sort of a mystery

G No one can explain Why it can change you

C In so many ways

C C7 Could be the answer

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F Is simple they say

C You're on a journey,

G C And well on your way

F You're halfway to heaven

C I want you to know

F The angels are coming

C G To take you back home

C You're halfway to heaven

F The angels are near.

G You're halfway to heaven

C My dear.

C You love hearing music

G And sing right along With words you create

C To familiar songs

C C7 You see your reflection

F In windows and mirrors

C You smile and say hi

**G C As though it can hear You're halfway to heaven I want you to know The
angels are coming To take you back home You're halfway to heaven The angels
are near. You're halfway to heaven My dear.**

C You were so good

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G So kind and so true Harsh words and hard feelings

C Were no part of you

C C7 Our life was a great one

F Some ups and some downs

C Our love is the sunshine

G C That makes us go round You're halfway to heaven I want you to know The angels are coming To take you back home You're halfway to heaven The angels are near. You're halfway to heaven My dear.

C Though you don't answer

G I know you're still here Our names have all left you

C Forever I fear

C C7 You're drifting away

F Yet we persevere

C Through every new challenge

G C The angels draw near You're halfway to heaven I want you to know The angels are coming To take you back home You're halfway to heaven The angels are near. You're halfway to heaven My dear.

C Out of the haze

G Every once in a while The darkness gives way

C To your shiny bright smile

C C7 When you get up there

F Please send for me

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C So I will be with you

G C For eternity You're halfway to heaven I want you to know The angels are coming To take you back home You're halfway to heaven The angels are near. You're halfway to heaven My dear.

C C7 You're halfway to heaven

F You just have to know

C At the end of this journey,

G C You will be back home