

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

Your family needs you and wants you to be around for many more years. That's why it is important to protect your health.

The risk of colon cancer increases with age. A colonoscopy can find polyps before they can develop into a cancer.



Call your doctor today to schedule a colonoscopy.

For more information on colon health, local resources and colon cancer screening, visit :

**[www.ToledoColonHealth.org](http://www.ToledoColonHealth.org)**

*Early detection is the best protection.*

Love,

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- ▶ Beginning at age 50, both men and women at average risk for developing colorectal cancer should talk to their doctor about which screening test is best.
  - ▶ **African Americans and people with a family history of the disease are at higher risk and should talk to their doctors about beginning testing earlier.**
  - ▶ Having polyps removed during a colonoscopy prevents colon cancer from starting.
  - ▶ If your colonoscopy is normal, it does not need to be repeated for 10 years unless you have symptoms.
  - ▶ During a colonoscopy, you receive medication that makes you relaxed and you most likely will not remember having it done.
  - ▶ Medicare covers a screening colonoscopy once every 10 years for anyone age 50 and older. You pay 20% of Medicare approved amounts with no part B deductible.