As I was standing in the greeting card section of the grocery store a couple of days ago, I just couldn't find a card that could adequately express the love that I feel for you. After a year of marriage, I just can't believe how happy I have been. You make me feel like I can do anything--and with you by my side, I know that I can. They say that the first year of matrimony is the hardest and, if that's so, we really have an easy life ahead of us! Of course, things can't always be perfect, but they've been very, very good, and I'm so grateful to you for that.

Thank you for being so good to me and for being so loving, patient, and kind. You're as thoughtful today as you were on our first date. Do you remember how nervous we were around each other back then? Things got better as we got to know each other more. I'm thankful that you're so willing to listen to me and to share with me your feelings and dreams, even your concerns and your worries. I always heard how important open communication was in marriage, and now I wholeheartedly believe it.

I honestly can't think of how my life would be without you in it other than barren, bleak, cold, and meaningless. I know that as the years pass, the love that we share will continue to grow. I look forward to those years when we'll be raising our kids together, building a home, and fulfilling our dreams. Crazy as it may sound, I even look forward to growing old together. I once heard that men are like fine wine--they only improve with age. The thought of all the upcoming years spent by your side brings me a joy and a peace that I can hardly comprehend. I know that, no matter what, we'll stay together, through thick and thin. That's what real love and commitment is all about, and that's what I have for you.

Honey, I know how blessed I am, and I want you to know that I know it. So, instead of a card, I'm giving you the enclosed gift certificate for a weekend getaway at the Alaskan Getaway Inn for our anniversary. Just follow the map on the back. I think you'll forgive me for giving it to you a couple of days early. I'll be waiting in cabin 12. Don't be too long.

Yours always and forever!