

## ANYWAY

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered;

. . . Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;

. . . Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;

. . . Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;

. . . Be honest and frank anyway.

The biggest men and women with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest minds.

. . . Think big anyway.

People favor underdogs but follow only top dogs.

. . . Fight for a few underdogs anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;

. . . Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous;

. . . Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;

. . . Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;

. . . Give the world the best you have anyway.

**Mother Teresa**

(Poem engraved on the wall of her home for children in Calcutta, which omits the parts in italics which were part of the original *Paradoxical Commandments* by Keith Kent written in 1968)