

3-3-2021

Jean Marlene Reynolds

born October 8, 1936 at St Mary's Hospital - Rochester, Mn to Ida Lydia Schellhammer - 25 years old from Eyota, Mn and Archie (Jack) Henry Reynolds - 30 years old from Rochester, Mn. Originally Madelia, Mn. Married August 14 1935 They lived in an apartment in Rochester with Sugar the dog (Pekinese) and that was my first home ① (pictures)

I don't know when Gordon (my Dad's brother) started up Reynolds' Wholesale or when my Dad went to work for him. I do know he drove a truck with candy, etc. and cigarettes on a regular route (towns, stores) and took orders & made deliveries. He also played drums in a band nights which is where he and my mother met. He was married and divorced once before. No children. My mother stayed home with me.

We bought our first house ② on 5th Ave. S.E., ^{Rochester, Mn.} and I remember being afraid of a bear and a fox upstairs. I don't know where the bear came from but Dad bought Mother a fox stole. Anyway, I didn't go up there.

Dale Charles (my Mother's Dad's name) Reynolds was born at St. Mary's hospital - Rochester, Mn on August 14, 1938 their anniversary.

~~-la-~~

Both my dad + Gordon loved horses.

My dad had a horse in later days which he boarded + went out to ride every day. He also had twin colts which he boarded.

Gordon had a horse^(trotter) which he raced at the fairgrounds. He rode on a sulky^(cart) behind the horse. Eventually he bought a rated horse^(trotter) named Vicky Lynn which he kept + raced in Kentucky. She won many races.

Dale and I got along pretty good when we were little, as we grew older he chased me & pounded on my door and we didn't get along so well.

My Dad's parents were Sam & Martha Reynolds. Gordon was the oldest, ^{child} then Archie, then a girl named Lila, who had a girl named Evelyn, born out of wedlock who Grandma and Grandpa called their daughter. Because of this Lila fell mentally ill and had to live in a "home". Evelyn lived with Grandma & Grandpa and Lila died and Grandpa died and Grandma married Connie Griffen and everything was kept secret even from Mother at first.

Mother ^{Parents} had 3 families" ^{Elsie, Cora & Alfred} 2 girls and 1 boy - 7 years and then her ^{Ida & Art} and a boy - 7 years and then 2 girls. ^{Luella & Leona - 7 in all} It wasn't fun. Grandpa was strict. Saturday evening the people on the neighboring farms went to town while Mother and her brother had to stay home and work. As she got older, she snuck out and went dancing. That's where she met my Dad.

I started school at Hawthorne which was just a few blocks from our house so I walked. ~~You had to be 5 by Sept. her 1st~~ ~~I wasn't until Oct. 8 so I~~ ^{years old.} started at 4. Girls had to wear dresses and snow pants when it was cold and boys dressy ~~shirt~~ shirts. One day I wrote a letter to mother about a

~~Pat Glissendorf married our son Dale.~~

~~Dale~~ Dale married Pat Glissendorf + they had 4 Kids, Scott, David (stillborn), Kathie + Ann Marie.

Our Kids played together a lot + we had lots of fun times together.

Scott married Karen + they had no children.

Kathie had Brandon + eventually married Rick Brisson.

Ann Marie married Scott Phippen + they had Jonathon, who they called Jack, for my Dad, + Samantha.

Dale passed away of lung cancer a few years ago.

a boy who touched my new dress and got it dirty. I don't recall any special friends.

After a couple of years my dad decided he could make money by selling and buying different houses. So he sold our house and bought ~~and~~ house on Highway 52. It had a big lot and a hill behind it. The only thing bad is it only had 2 bedrooms and a open space for Dale behind Mother and Dad's room. I had the other room. It had a screened porch where we put beds and slept in the summer. I believe it was there we got a Boston Terrier puppy (many pictures) we named her Ginger but I called her Peenie Weenie or Bitsy Boo. She slept with me and I played with her. I put her in my doll buggy. I loved her dearly. Also I found out there was a girl who lived next door who was just my age whose name was Janet. We played together all the time. (pix) In the winter we climbed the hill behind our houses pulling our sleds and went sliding (Dale too) when the front yard ditches froze Janet and I went ice skating.

Other days Janet and I played paper dolls in her bathroom. She had a built in shower and we argued about who would get that as our "house".

^{we} We went to a one room school house and all had to walk beside the highway to get

there. There was an outdoor bathroom. Mother made us wear long underwear and when using the bathroom instead of lowering the flap in back I got all undressed! I loved that school!

Mrs Ashler was the teacher and taught all grades. Each grade had a row of desks. We had a Christmas play and joined 4H ~~which~~ ^{which} ~~it~~ was a lot of fun.

One day while walking to school, there was a pick-up truck driving on the shoulder on the other side of the road, all of a sudden Dale ran across the road right in front of the truck and it hit him. When they got him to the hospital, they found he had a broken leg. In those days they put ~~him~~ him in a sling. He had to stay in the hospital a month. I couldn't visit. No children under 12.

I was pretty upset. Mrs Towey who lived across from the school and saw what happened came and got me and took me home and rocked me until my Mother came.

After all this a new family moved in across the street from our house with a boy named Teddy and a girl named Karen. Dale finally had someone to play with. It was hard on Janet and ~~I~~ ^{me} as it seemed we three girls couldn't get along together even though Karen was younger. I even slept with my clothes on so I'd be the first one over to Karen's ~~have someone~~ ^{have someone}

One winter when the snowbanks were really high, Teddy + Karen + Dale + I built a huge fort. We even had food - a carrot which was really dog poop.

My dad loved horses, so one summer he took the back seat out of the car + Dale + I got in the front and ~~the~~ Mother drove, which she hated, and he got in the back and we went to a farm and bought a shetland ^{pony} who ~~we~~ we named Rex (pix) who was too wild for all of us except dad. Another time dad and Janet + dad bought baby chicks and kept them in our garage. Dale picked one for a pet and called ~~her~~ Jimmy.

We had a huge weeping willow tree in the back yard. We also had a Kitchen nook in our Kitchen, so didn't need the table from our other house, so Mother gave it to us and we put it under the tree + used it for our tree house. One day Dale climbed on the table and clear up to the top of the tree + fell out. We thought he was dead but he had only lost his breath.

Dale and I liked to sit in Mother's garden and eat the peas and strawberries and sniff the mint leaves and I liked to make 'dolls' out of the hollyhock flowers.

I tended to get sick a lot and I always

had a ~~ear~~ ear ache. My parents got me a little pink rubber hot water bottle and I carried that around. Finally when I was 3 I had a mastoid operation ^{on my ears}. The only thing bad I sucked my thumb and the sisters put some bad tasting stuff on it and ^{they} wouldn't let my parents see me.

When I had measles I couldn't stand the light so I had to be in a dark room. It was around Christmas time so our pastor dressed up as Santa Claus & came over.

When I had ~~chicken pox~~ ^{chicken pox} I was so weak I had to stay in bed. One day my mother decided to give me a bath. She filled the tub with warm water & the bathroom got real warm. She helped me in there & the first thing I did was fainted.

~~My first experience with mental illness~~
~~was when I was 8~~ Every time I saw a picture of a heart, I thought mine was going to stop. ~~I had a panic attack~~. My dad held me until I stopped shaking.

When they had the polio epidemic it was advised that all children stay out of crowds so when the fair came Mother & Dad went & Dale & I stayed home. A couple years later when Kids could go, we went and they had an iron lung there which is what they had polio ~~patients that~~ were paralyzed in. It scared me to death.

I wore glasses starting when I was five.

I had to ^{go} every year ^{to the doctor} and they put

drops in my eyes & everything went blurry and I had to wear dark glasses & I was afraid.

I was terrified of doctors and dentists anyway. Mother finally found a doctor at Olmsted Medical Group who understood and was kind to me. She also found a dentist who specialized in children. That's why I took you kids to "Tony".

One 3 day week-end we drove to the Black Hills (our first vacation) The only trouble was ^{our car was} new and we could only drive 45 mph and we took "Peenie Weenie" & with us & she "snorted" and drove Dad nuts, then Dad wanted a 'nice' motel & Mother wanted a 'cheaper' one. We got one with sparkly stones & I was thrilled & immediately set about changing ^{ing} everything around.

I think this was about the time Dad started working for the Pontiac Garage because we got free tickets for the Outdoor Theater every time the movie changed and Gordon wouldn't do that they said. ^{It was time to move again and} that ended the cowboy ~~series~~ ^{making} serial movies on Saturdays & Carmel & pecan rolls ^{which Mother made for us} when Dale & I got home, and going across the street and climbing the billboard and putting on plays or going to our backyard and putting a blanket for a curtain on the clothesline and putting on more plays

The next trip we took was to Yellowstone, we enjoyed the bears along the ~~road~~ in the park - especially when we parked & they put their front paws on the ^{car} window frame & begged for food (pix)

Another trip was to Georgetown, Texas to ^{visit} Mother's sister, Elsie & her husband, Rev. Willie Laubach. (they had 13 kids) Elsie raised parakeets & she gave Dale one. He called it Willie.

When we left, we went to Carlsbad Caverns, a huge cave with a cafeteria in it in New Mexico. We couldn't leave Willy in the car, ^{it was too hot} so we took him in & they had a baby sitting service for animals.

Later on Dale & I were cleaning the living room at home - Willy^{ie} was out of his cage on the floor. One of us was vacuuming & accidentally sucked him up! We quickly opened the bag & he was OK.

and inviting our mothers to come + watch.

By this time there were more kids in the neighborhood.

Well, much to our dismay, Dad sold our house. After much trying he couldn't find a house for us in Rochester. Mother and Dad had many discussions and finally talked to Grandpa Schellhamer (Mother's Dad) who had built a large house in Eyota, a small town about 15 miles from Rochester, and he said we could move in with him and have the second floor. Mother's sister, Luella, and her family, lived on the first floor.

Mother fixed it all up nice. My bed was in the living room and, of course, Peenie Weenie slept with me. I don't remember where the others slept.

When we started school, which was a couple blocks away, I was in 6th grade. Mother fixed lunch ^{at home} and we walked home and we all listened to "Ma Perkins" while we ate. I met some girlfriends and we went to all the basketball games and we especially watched the cheerleaders. The next day we met at Grandpa's porch and practised. It wasn't like it is now with all ^{the} lifts. We had routines and probably drove Grandpa crazy. He sat in the living room and listened to Christian programs.

We still drove to Rochester on Sundays

and went to Peace church and Sunday School. I played the piano ^{for} ^{SS} Dad got the car washed.

I loved it in Eyota, but wouldn't you know the next summer Dad found a house for us in Rochester on Third Ave. SE only 2 blocks from where we lived before. It was a story and a half with one big bedroom and one small bedroom and a 1/2 bathroom upstairs. Dale had the big room until I talked him out of it. Mother believed in work, so we had to clean our rooms and I ~~cleaned~~ ^{cleaned} the bathroom, on Saturdays. I also got my first job, babysitting Ann Matthews after lunch and on into the evening on every Saturday. I hated it, ^{she was a little brat.} Nobody had TVs so ~~I~~ just listened to the radio especially "Johnny 2" at night.

He played all the popular music and took requests ^{on 3rd Ave,} There was a girl next door named Ellen Hanson. She was younger than me, but we still played together. Whenever we wanted each other, we just went to the French windows across from each other + called out, "wa wa wa."

One day somebody called me and invited me to a dance, ~~I had no idea.~~ Mother said I should ^{go +} borrow a dress from my cousin Ruth. Anyway, he could drive a car because Ellen and I were playing dolls in the front yard and he drove up with a corsage. How embarrassing.

~~I was so embarrassed I cried all night long.~~
~~and I was so embarrassed I cried all night long.~~

-9a-

When I was 12, Mother taught me how to sew on her old treadle sewing machine, so I could make a dress for a 4H exhibit at the Olmsted County Fair.

After that, as I got older, I made lots of my own clothes.

I took piano lessons from Margerite Hoff^man for 7 years, I got quite good but really hated those recitals!

One day our parents told us we were going to have a baby which was unusual as Mother was 40, I was 13 and Dale was 11, anyway, we were thrilled and got out the catalog to figure out what we would need.

That summer I went to 4H camp. I loved it and couldn't stop talking about it until Mother said, "Be quiet" and really hurt my feelings.

When I started 7th grade, I went to Rochester High School which was a big building divided in two, mostly ^{for Junior High} ^{Senior} to ^{High} protect the Junior High Kids.

I didn't know anybody but lucky for me a girl named Gert Ludden introduced herself and we became best friends. She lived on the same street where they built the first Dairy Queen on North Broadway. She had an older brother who went to Hamline U. One week~~end~~ ^{end} he was home and treated us to our first DQ cone. Also ^{another} ~~one~~ weekend they had open house at Hamline U and he invited us to come ^{up}. I don't remember how we got up there (St Paul) and home again but we went.

We got to school by riding the city bus. We bought coupons when we got on. They lasted a long time + were reasonable.

Alyce + I get along fine. When she was about 4, Don won a big bear at the fair + gave it to her.

I took her downtown on the bus one day + we went shopping.

~~She was the flower girl at her wedding; Mother made her dress out of one of my formal dresses + got it gold.~~

When we moved into the greenhouse, she came out most Saturdays to play with Pam + help me, she even rode her bike out once.

She married Mike Lundberg + they had two boys, Ryan + Andy.

Mike passed away last year (2020) of a heart attack.

When I was 14 I was in a car accident. My friend, Darlene Robarge, was at our house on a Sat. morning & her boy friend & another boy drove over & asked if we wanted to go for a ride. I asked Mother & she said ok. We went out by Mayowood & he was going too fast & the car turned over. I ended up under the car with my face ~~cut~~^{cut} open on the left side. It took 125 stitches to sew it up & I was in the hospital for a week. It turns out the boy didn't have a license. My dad sued & we won, Dad paid the hospital bill & saved the rest for me when I got married. ^{When we bought a house} Don & I got \$1500.00, enough to buy a couch, chair, table, lamp, dining room table & chairs, stove, refrigerator, & washing machine.

After I met more of the neighborhood Kids, we sometimes walked.

When school started, all the 7th grade girls were assigned a senior girl as a "mystery sister". We wrote letters back and forth. ~~and she helped me get acquainted.~~ When the seniors graduated, we had a dinner and finally found out who our "mystery sister" was. In fact, she had 2 of us. Her name was Evelyn Larson. I think she liked me best because when she got married, she asked me to be a bridesmaid. She gave each of us a gold ID bracelet ~~which I am wearing. My dress is down stairs in the red bag.~~ I was lucky to have Evelyn as my mystery "sister." She was always thinking up clever ideas and surprises.

When I was 15, I was very tired of baby sitting and you couldn't do anything else until you were 16. Dad talked to Mr. Drake, who owned a root beer stand on the road to Chatfield, to see if he would "take a chance" on me. He agreed and then said he would give me ride back and forth. I worked 4 to 12 and I loved it! Dad sat me down and taught me how to count change.

I decided to save my pay and spend my tips. By the time we closed up, I had enough money to buy all my school clothes. I got out the Penney's catalog and ordered.

Mother + Dad bought my coats, caps, scarves, shoes + boots.

I thought my glasses looked bad, so I asked my doctor if it would hurt to go without them. He said "No if I ~~■~~ wore them for reading."

While I was working at the root beer stand one day a car ^{with a boy in it} drove in. I went to wait on ~~him~~ ~~him~~. ~~I was a boy~~ He ordered a root beer. He said his name was Don Erdman + he was from Chatfield. He asked me out + we went together part of the summer. I was 15 + he was 16.

Drakes asked me to work at their diner next to the Chateau Theater that winter.

My best friend, Sharon Peterson, + I worked at Neisner's Dime Store at Miracle Mile the next couple of years.

My Dad + Mother bought a small cafe at Miracle Mile. My Dad was his own boss! I worked there on Sat. morning. ^(then I worked at Woolworth's Dime Store + Lyman's Dept. store) ~~■~~ One day, ^{two years later - 1954} I was getting off my shift + stepped out the door + there in his car sat Don Erdman! He asked me if I wanted a ride home + asked me out. After a while, we went to my class play. Before it started, we drove to Silver

May 6, 1954.

Lake & he asked me to marry him.
He gave me a beautiful set of rings.

He was in the Air Force stationed
at Finland, Mn. on the Mn. border.
It was a Radar base. At that time
we were in a cold war with Russia &
they were protecting the USA from
airplane attacks.

One night (May 25, 1954) we were
together & he had to be back to the
base by morning. He dropped me off
at midnight & started back. ~~He went~~
~~the wrong way~~ (less traffic). There
was a semi truck with a load of potatoes
parked partly on the road & a man & his
wife were asleep in the cab. Don ^{reached for} ~~the~~
~~the car~~ ^{the car} ~~lighter~~ ^{lighter} to light a cigarette & that's the last thing he
~~remembered~~ ^{remembered} he hit the back of the truck &
continued under. The noise woke the
man & his wife up & they called a wrecker
& an ambulance. When the wrecker got
the car out, the ambulance took him to
Rush City, Mn. The doctors didn't think
he'd live so just stiched his face & head
up with ^{fish line} ~~gut~~ - that's why he has
scars today. He had a fractured skull,
a broken arm, a broken leg & a bad
back. His mother called me the next

day + told me about it + when Mother + Dad came home I told them + we headed for Rush City. We didn't get home until early the next day.

Mother thought I needed more education, after high school, so they took me up to the Cities + I enrolled in Minneapolis Business College + lived at Pillsbury House for Girls. I met a girl there, Girlie ~~Nelson~~ + we decided to room together. I soon found out school was a big bore, ^(repeat from high school) I quit + went to work for a company, typing, but I didn't tell my parents because I wanted to stay in the Cities.

Don stopped and picked me up every break he had + we went to his house in Chatfield.

We decided to get married in Nov. We got married at my church, in ^{Peace Evan-} Rochester. ^{gelical + Reformed,} We bought a 35 ft. mobile home and pulled that to Finland because there was no housing on the base for married people. There was a trailer court across the road from the base but we were the only ones in it. The man who built it was from

~~16~~
-14a-

Girllie Nelson was my maid of honor, Lucille Nichols my bridesmaid, Don Manning, Don's ~~friend~~ friend, was the best man, my brother, Dale, was groom's man + Howie Gane, Don's friend, ~~I was usher. My sister, Alyce, was the flower girl +~~

~~times for me.~~ Jimmy Brennand, ^{Don's cousin,} was the ring bearer - ^{they all} wore ~~a~~ black ^{except Don who} tuxes. ^{wore his uniform at my request.} The girls wore purple + let him keep the pillow. Alyce wore gold.

We girls, dressed at the pastor's house ~~then~~ we ran to the church, it was snowing + my ~~only~~ hair got wet + straightened. The ceremony went smoothly. We couldn't get out of town, so we stayed ^{at} Jamison's (pink) Motel ^{on} So. Bldwy. I was exhausted - we had slept 3 in a bed the night b4.

The next morning, I wore my gray suit + my purple orchid from my bouquet + Don took me to the Green Parrot for breakfast.

We hadn't planned on going on a Honeymoon. It was either that or the 35' trailer we had bought to live in at Finland. We pulled it with our small new, Ford. I'll never forget the hill over Duluth. There was a Sunbeam Bread ^{sign} to the left. I'll ^{also} never forget Finland, ~~there~~. There was a little, brown, wooden, groc store + gas station + post o. + that was it. ^{There was a} long hill, the base on the left + a place to put the trailer on the right. No one ^{else} was there. Sometimes the ^{Air Force} guys would get stuck at ^{the} bottom of the hill ^{in the winter big trucks + plow} + the ~~trucks~~ would come + pull them up the hill.

the South and only dug the sewer 2' deep. We soon had enough + decided to move to Two Harbors. We had to get a big army ^{surplus} ^{OSH-KOSH} 4x6 truck with a snow plow ^{chains} to pull us out, the snow was so deep.

When we moved to Two Harbors, we lived in a nice trailer court + two of Don's friends from the base who were married + lived in Two Harbors, decided to take turns driving back + forth to the base.

We really enjoyed living in the North Country.

In the spring of 1955 Don got transferred to a new base in Rochester, Mn so we moved to a trailer court there.

Pam was born at St Marys, ^(July 1, 1955) When we took her home a lady from the trailer court told me she was going to come over + hold Pam. Dad said, "Oh no she isn't" + we packed up the trailer + took it to Chatfield + parked it in Dad's mother's yard. We bought a lot + moved ^{the trailer} there.

Dad drove back + forth for a while but soon got tired of that, so we sold the trailer + bought our first house ^(white) across from John Marshall in Rochester. It was a big house + didn't have much of a lawn + was on a busy street so we started looking. We found a smaller house ^(gray) we liked, around the corner, so we moved there + Grandma

When we were living at Finland my family + Don's mother came up for Christmas, we waited for them by the Post Office. Before we got married, I had bought a Cocker Spaniel puppy who I named Bambi. + she was with us. When they came the first thing Bambi did was jump in the car + wet all over Don's mother!

They stayed with us in the trailer. We had lots of fun showing them around + playing Royal Rummy at night. ^{My} Dad + ^{Mother} cheated! Don's mother stepped over to the kitchen window + looked out, she said, "My but it's dark out here," Don said, "No wonder, you're looking through ~~tar~~ paper, the window is broken!"

Pam was our beautiful, little, doll.
My favorite picture of her when she was a baby was her sitting up with her church hat on. In those days women had to wear a hat ~~in~~ church. ~~When she was baptized at~~ ^{St Paul's Lutheran Church in Chatfield (Dad's church),} Mother, Grandpa + Grandma were her sponsors.

When she was 3, she wanted to go to Vacation ~~Bible~~ Bible School, so I took my driver's test so I could drive her. She also went to Sunday School + later, ^{taught} I sewed a lot of her clothes, especially when she went to school.

Both Pam + Paul loved to be read to, so every time we went grocery shopping, we bought a little Golden Book so we had lots of books. We also made a lot of craft things. I played with them a lot.

Before ^{Pam} ~~she~~ was born, I found a buggy I wanted but Dad said we couldn't afford it (we only made \$10.00 in the Air Force) + then surprised me with it one day. I took her for a ride in it every day, year around - just bundled her up in blankets in winter, unless it was too cold.

She had a stuffed, cloth, Raggedy Ann doll who I named Peanut Butter + she called Peeny. She carried it around + slept with it for so long that it got really dirty - even Grandpa^{Jack} noticed. We got another one for going places + she used the first one at home.

-15d-

We joined Trinity Lutheran Church in 1957 + right away were asked to be the leaders of Walther League, a youth group they used to have.

Dad + I taught Sunday School + he eventually was Superintendant.

He served on the Trustees' Board + was a Deacon.

We took 2 Bible studies - one Bethel Bible Study ^{a 2 year study} under Pastor Radeke + then Pastor Rose when Pastor Radeke was asked to leave when he divorced^d his wife. ^{The class} was very interesting + when it was over Dad taught a class.

The next one was Crossroads Bible Study taught by Pastor Otte, a two year class, we learned a lot.

Rue decided to buy our big house, sold her house in Chatfield + moved in.

Paul was born at St Mary's while we lived ^{in the grey house} ~~there~~ Jan. 18, 1957. We also got Muggs, (Cocker Spaniel) our second dog, while we were living there.

Soon we decided we wanted a house in the country. We found one on Hwy. 63. It was in an ^{addition} ~~area~~ called Oak Hills ~~D.~~ ^{The house was} ~~It was~~ painted green + had a big lot + was our third house. We owned it for 9 years. Our neighbors were Jim + Betty Anderson + we became good friends.

When Dad got discharged from the service in 1957, he went to work for IBM; he worked there just a year + quit because his boss wouldn't let him advance.

~~Next he got a job at Capital Aviation as a mechanic on airplanes. He quit there when they tried to unionize.~~

He decided to go to welding school in Austin, Mn. + we moved into the lower floor of a duplex + Grandma Rue moved into our house. We bought our first TV there + Pam + Paul could watch "Captain Kangaroo," + I joined them for "I Love Lucy." We went home for Thanksgiving through a terrible snow-

Paul-Jan 18⁵⁷ (grey house)

He was so sweet - many pix. My favorite? In Sailor suit (and boots, like Dad's), ~~room on wall~~. And sitting in the little chair at the photographers, on the wall in hallway. I believe you have the suit, Peter.

When he was baptized at Trinity, we had the Great Grandparents as sponsors. I don't know why. Pastor Eifert didn't say anything. I guess ~~we~~^I thought we were honoring them. ~~I~~^I didn't understand they needed to be young to take over for us in case they needed to in the Lord's teachings. ~~learn that in my childhood~~. That's why I like Trinity. ~~They teach the truth~~^{main}. I remember when I went to Confirmation on Sat. for 2 years, I know I drove Rev. Buck crazy with questions. ~~I finally got the answers at Trinity~~. We had to memorize part of the catechism each week. Mother made us or we couldn't go out on Fri. Lucky for me, It was easy and when Rev. Buck asked questions on Conf. Sun. & someone couldn't answer, he asked me, because he knew I had the whole book memorized.

When Paul got older & understood what we had done, he never let us forget that he had the greats for sponsors. One day, when he was 3, he

~~16b~~
~~16b~~
-16b-

said he wanted to go to Vacation Bible School, like Pam, so I called Dayton's (downtown then) & ordered 2 Buster Brown short sets, one yellow & brown & the other light blue & navy & matching sox. The sales lady charged our account & sent them downstairs where Dad drove through the alley & picked them up on the way from work.

^{When Pam started school, He also went to Sunday School.}
Paul loved to be read to & every day, before his nap, he picked out 4 little Golden Books & we laid down on the living room floor & read them.

He had a ~~small~~ black & white teddy bear which he carried around & slept with.

~~16a~~
-16c-

When we lived in Oak Hills, I went out to get the mail & a car came along. It was my old friend from school, Nancy Schutz, now Mulholland. She told me they had built a house up the street & had just moved in. I called a few of the neighbors & had a "welcome party" the next ^{day}. Our group got together, once a month, for over 30 years. (Some left & new ones ^{came})

They also had an Extension Club which I joined for a little while, much to Dad's dismay - he didn't like me to go out at night.

Betty & Jim Anderson + ~~Don~~ ^{Don & I} started a card club & that lasted many years.

Speaking of Andersons, we used to play board games with ~~them~~ ^{them}. When it was ~~their~~ ^{their} turn, we put the Kiddie's pajamas on, took a quilt for each & put them to bed in front of the fish tank & they soon fell asleep. Betty & Jim couldn't believe it!

~~_____~~
~~_____~~
~~_____~~
- 16 d -

While we were living in Austin we had sidewalks & Pam & Paul liked to go outside; she rode Paul's tricycle & he followed behind pushing a croquet mallet, wearing Grady's (a neighbor^{boy's}) cap.

When Dad finished school, he visited his doctor because his asthma, from childhood, was kicking up. The doctor recommended he try a warmer climate, so we rented a small trailer, put a crib mattress in the back seat of the car for Pam & Paul to nap on & headed for Arizona. It was winter & the first night out we stopped at a gas station with a restaurant attached. While the guy was filling up the gas tank, we went in to eat. Dad had turned on the furnace so it would be warm for us for sleeping. All of a sudden the trailer was on fire & there were two tanks of gas in there. Dad had to get them out or the whole place^{most of} would explode. He did, but lost his long eyelashes. We called the owner of the trailer, & told him what happened & he said to leave it there & pick it up on the way home. We stayed in motels the rest of the way. By the way, it was a

~~176~~ -16e7

~~166~~

~~148~~

faulty switch on the furnace.

Dad looked all over for a job, but couldn't find one, ~~so we came home.~~

Paul loved the vacuum cleaner ~~(the vacuum)~~ ~~to play~~ with & attached himself to my hand mixer, so Dad cut off the plug so he couldn't plug it in & that's the only thing he played with all the while we were there. Pam loved the swimming pools at the motels. The weather was heavenly.

While ^{we} were there, we drove over the border into Mexico at Nogales, we paid a young boy to watch our car, as was the custom, & went looking around. We bought a little, red leather purse for Pam & one my size for me.

We started home & picked up the trailer & dropped it off in Rochester; the owner, Cleo Lyke, didn't charge us, he said his insurance would take care of it.

We often went to the Aquatennial Parade in Minneapolis, but one year was special, Captain Kangaroo, Mr Green Jeans + Dancing Bear appeared, both in the parade + in Parade Stadium. What a treat for the Kids! (movies)

Dad decided he wanted to be a clown in parades so joined the Eagles Clown Club. First he was a majorette + then put a motor on a tricycle, I made him a clown suit, + he ~~rode~~ ^{rode} around on that. He soon found out our church forbids belonging to the Eagles + that was the end of that.

One Saturday (Oak Hills) I was going to bake an apple pie, so I took off my engagement + wedding rings + put them on a shelf in the cupboard so they wouldn't get pie crust on them. I spread out a newspaper on the counter, + peeled the apples, then threw it all into the garbage + continued making the pie. Dad took the garbage to the dump. Later that night Mother, Grandpa + Alyce were out + Mother noticed my rings were missing + I looked in the cupboard but they weren't there; they must have gotten brushed off onto the peelings! We searched for a long time + even called our insurance agent to file a claim under "mysterious disappearance" but he wouldn't go for it, so ~~Grandma R. gave me one of her rings to wear until I found a new one.~~ ^{Grandma R. gave me one of her rings to wear until I found a new one.}

storm.

Dad planned to try to buy Kramer's Welding Shop in Chatfield when he finished school, but that didn't work out.

^{We moved back to the green house & Grandma Rue built the house we live in now.}

Next he worked for Gopher Aviation near the Rochester Airport. He quit when they tried to unionize & his doctor told him his back was getting worse & he should find a job where he didn't have to stand.

Our third child, Peter, was born April 4, 1961 at St Mary's.

Dad thought about what he wanted to do next & we talked it over & he thought being a disc jockey sounded interesting & he could sit down. He decided to go to Brown Institute in the Cities. We went up there & rented an apartment in Richfield & then came home & rented our house (green) to a family. Dad went to school on the GI Bill & worked 3 part time jobs. In April, Jim Anderson called & said the people were wrecking our house, so ^{we} went home & kicked them out & decided the kids & I should move back home. Dad went back to school, rented a room in a house & continued school. He got a Radio Engineer's Degree &

Peter - April 4, 1961 (green house - Oak Hills)

He was so precious - many pix. My favorite then was the ^{one} in the little chair in the hallway. The photographer thought it was so good he ~~enlarged~~ ^{enlarged} it ~~up~~ + put it in the window; we bought it + it's in a manila envelope in the little bedroom.

He was baptized at Trinity; his sponsors were Tira Hoffman, Grandma Rue's best friend (I don't know why) + ^{my brother, Dale.}

When he was three, he + Paul went over to Stevie Anderson's house. They were playing in the basement, jumping off the coffee table, when it was Peter's turn, Stevie pushed him, he started crying so Betty sent him home. We took him to the ER + he had a broken arm. They put a cast on with a ^{strap} ~~strap~~ around his neck + kept him overnight.

He carried around + slept with a ^{stuffed} dog.

Peter went to Vacation Bible + Sunday School. Later he taught Sunday School + even went to a Sunday School Convention in Chicago. (we went too to drive him) We stayed at the Palmer House where the convention was held. Peter loved to be read to when he was little, his favorite book was "Teeny Tiny Woman" + we read it over + over.

almost finished the Disc Jockey Degree, but one of our neighbors (we know who) poisoned Teddi^h, our St Bernard dog, & she died. She was our third dog, who we got from Siegan Kennels in Des Moines, Iowa. Dad wanted a St. Bernard puppy & kept watching for ads in the Sunday paper; he finally found one - Siegan Kennels in Des Moines. He said, "That's not too far," he called them^h, we picked up Mother, Grandpa & Alyce & started out in the later afternoon. Well, it turned out to be quite far & we didn't get there till 8 or 9 o'clock & the lady had fed the dogs. We had a station wagon^{Siegan} & Teddi Gero Gerd Yogi (she was registered) & I rode in the back end & she got car sick all over me. Both Dad & Grandpa had to go to work in the morning & we didn't get home till about 3 a.m.

We decided to take a trip around Mn. to find Dad a job, ~~that~~ so we packed up our tent & trailer & lots of food & took off. He finally found a job in Marshall, Mn., ^{so we rented a house.} He took us home & hurried back to start work & I called the moving van & packed up the whole house. I called

the train depot for the time they left, the lady said 7 o'clock + I assumed 7am + called Grandma Rue to tell her what time to pick us up. We got there before 7:00 in the morning, only to find out it was 7pm. Dad was to meet us in Owatonna + it was too late to call him, so Grandma drove us to Owa⁺tonna where we met him + continued to Marshall. We all liked Marshall, Pam rode her bike to ^{the} swimming ^{pool} + Paul made friends with a neighbor named Ricky, his mother + I became friends + Peter was just a baby. Dad soon found out the job was not for him, the owner recorded everything himself + all Dad did was play the tapes. He found out that ~~more than~~ many people had quit that summer. He quit, ~~we packed up~~ ~~the house~~ + ^{we} drove back to Rochester, Pam + Peter stayed with Grandma R. + Dad, Paul + I drove to St Paul + rented a semi truck + drove to Marshall + loaded up. We drove to Rochester + unloaded at our green house + Dad + Paul took the truck back. (little did they know but the trailer brakes went out)

There was a new radio station in town, KOLM, Dad applied + got a job as the

Engineer + Disc Jockey. He loved the job + stayed for many years, but the pay was poor + the hours long. While he was there, Mary Beth, ^{one of} the secretaries, invited us over. She had a Kitten + Pam fell in love, Mary Beth asked if she wanted it, Pam asked us + we had a Kitten. ^(Bitsy) We didn't know it was a girl, let her out + we soon had 3 Kittens. Bitsy was outside one day + got run over, so we had to feed the Kittens with doll bottles until they could eat solid food. Elissa, Pam's best friend took one, we gave one away + kept one, who we named Tiger, hoping it was a boy.

We finally sold the Oak Hills house, it leaked water, + moved into a twinplex. We took the front unit, which had 3 bedrooms + rented out the back which had 1 bdrm.

[While we were still at the Oak Hills house, we bought another St. Bernard puppy, who we named Barney; he had a broken tail, so I held him + soaked it in an olive jar]

Mother, Grandpa + Alyce ^(+ Twinkle) bought the matching twinplex next door + moved

We went to lots of plays, mostly at the Civic Theater. When Dad worked at KOLM, ^{complimentary} we got tickets to every play + went. We ^(even Shakespeare) also went to Chanhasen Dinner Theater, ^{THE OLD LOG THEATER} mostly for our anniversary. One time Mother took the whole family to Chanhasen.

^{Another} time we went to Eau Claire, Wis. to the dinner theater there with Andersons + Walbergs + stayed over night - fun! And of course, we went to all the kids' plays mostly twice.

One day Dad brought home a Basset Hound for ^{us}, we named him KaNu. He was a weird dog. Every morning when we let him out, he ran up to Anderson's + we had to drive up + pick him up + take him home ~~before~~ ^{Dad} went to work + took Peter to school. ^{+ me to work at Mayo} One day our neighbor was building a house + the door was open so KaNu got in + crawled up on the roof where Dave was working!

I used to watch Art Linkletter in the afternoon ^{when I was home}. He had little kids on + asked them questions, their answers were really funny.

Dad + I watched Emil Lagasse's Cooking Show. It was really entertaining.

in. That's where she became an Avon Lady. She didn't drive, so she walked her route carry^{ing} her heavy bag, even in winter, for over twenty years. She did very well.

We found out Tiger cat was a girl when she had 4 Kittens, we then named her Tigerina. We kept the Kitten that looked like her even though Dad didn't want to.

One day Dad got a phone call from Dr. Earl Wood of the Mayo Clinic asking him to come to work for him. He described the job & Dad didn't like it, so he refused. Dr. Wood called later with another offer & Dad accepted. Dad really liked Dr Wood because he was fair & always stood up for his staff even against other doctors.

Dad spent the rest of his working career there, even when Dr. Wood retired & Dr. Rittman took over. Dad eventually became^a Supervisor.

They built the centrifuge & ^{got} space suits & tested them for NASA. They also built the first DSR (first^{high speed} scanner in the world) & did many experiments on it. I guess I just made the best of his experiments & waited for him to come home. I always had birthday parties for

-22-

For Easter we got up at 7am + the Kids hunted for their baskets (candy + things to do). We went to Sunrise service at church + then breakfast there. Then the whole family went to the Hubbel House for dinner.

the family - theme parties for you Kids + your friends in the afternoon + then family parties for supper.

For Christmas, we always had a tree, which we let you Kids help decorate. We went to the church children's program + then came home + Santa had been there.

For scouting: Pam wanted to be a Brownie, so I started a troop at RCLS where she was going to school. We had lots of girls + lots of fun. Then she wanted to be a Girl Scout, so I started a troop. We did lots of things to earn badges + Dad, Paul + Peter followed behind to guard us. Some of the things we did were: We took a 30 mile hike, we borrowed the rack of canoes from G.S. headquarters + Dad ^{+ the boys} pulled them to the lake + two girls got in a canoe + paddled around. Pam + her friend, Elisa, tipped over + she lost lots of little things she took along. Then we, including Dad + boys, spent a weekend at Camp Edith Mayo + cooked our own meals.

Paul joined Cub Scouts when he was 7, his Den Mother was Ruby Strehlow +

he went to her house for weekly meetings. The whole troop met at RCLS once a month. Dad was one of the scout leaders. When the Pinewood Derby came around, each boy was given a block of ~~wood~~ wood, 4 plastic tires & some nails & told to make a race car with their dad's help. One Sat, the person with the race track came to RCLS's gym & many races were held until the winner was declared - Paul Erdman. His name was engraved on the trophy cup, kept in the glass case at RCLS.

After he finished Cubs & Webelos, Paul wanted to join Boy Scouts, RCLS didn't have a troop, so he joined one at Bethel Lutheran Church. Eventually he won the Pro Deo Award for working in our church. His name was in the paper (see clippings)

He went on campouts with the troop at ~~Camp Kott~~ ~~Camp Kott~~ Hoksiha at Lake City.

Peter wanted to join Cub Scouts when he was 7, so I volunteered to be his Den Mother. We invited several neighborhood boys to join & they came over after school on Wed. I had a snack for

them + then we started ^{the meeting.} I used materials from Scout Headquarters, + we made lots of things; it was fun.

Peter didn't care to go on to Boy Scouts ^{but he + Dad had fun making a rocket out of a block of wood for the big race instead of the Pinewood Derby.} ~~Derby. Dad made a rocket etc.~~

While we lived in the twin plex, I had my first job, the neighbor ^{Mr. Brickly} brought over his typewriter, a box of envelopes, + a list of addresses. + I addressed the envelopes + he paid me \$5 a week.

→ Yesterday, Feb, 11, 2021 we drove to Mantorville, + went by Dad's birth house, it was gone + a double wide trailer was in its place!

Holidays cont.

We celebrated New Years Eve with Alyce coming over + helping me make newspaper hats + punch, ^{getting the snacks ready, we had} potato chips + dip + Christmas cookies etc. Mother + Grandpa came over at night + we all played Royal Rummy.

For Valentine's Day the Kids took Valentine's to school for everyone in their class + put

and put them in the boxes everyone had made & then every one opened their box. By the way, Bitsy had her Kittens in one of the boxes Pam made, which was in her closet.

For Halloween the Kids got dressed up in costumes & Dad took them Trick or Treating, when they were little, I stayed home & passed out candy. They all wore Dad's tiger suit from his childhood. ^{when it fit.} After that, I made costumes. One year when Pam was in Kindergarten, I made her a bunny suit & even went over to school to put pink lipstick on her nose before the parade. Peter, in particular, loved Halloween & when he was older started making his own costumes - Pink Panther, I made his suit, & he made the head out of chicken wire & paper maché, a ^{elevator} ~~computer~~, etc. One year he put a speaker in the tree & played scary music, put a black outfit on, took out the screen on the front door, laid on the floor & when the Kids came, rose up & scared them to death!

We had lots of boats from pontoons to runabouts to fishing boats ^{Dad loved boats.} to a canoe.

For our early vacations, we went to

Franna's Resort in Faribault + rented a cabin. Mother, * Grandpa^{+ Alyce} came too. Then we started to go to Walt's Resort in ~~Aurora~~^{Glenwood}, by then we had bought our first tent - a big blue one with all the acc. We stayed in that + Mother + Grandpa + Dale + Pat + Kids rented cabins. We had lots of fun.

One year we had \$100.00 left over + decided to go to the Black Hills; Pam was 10, Paul 8, + Peter 4. (I was the instigator, I loved to travel, not so much Dad.) I promised to cook all the meals to save money. The first night out we put up the tent in the dark + discovered during the night when we heard a train go by ~~in the morning~~ we were right next to some railroad tracks!

The next year I surprised Dad with money I had saved + we went to Yellowstone. ^{we stopped at Cody, Wyoming, overnite.} There was a play there in the barn + on our way, Dad saw a little boy on the bottom of the swimming pool + ^{rescued him!} Dad finally let me know he wanted to go to the lake sometimes, so we decided to travel every other year + we started going to ~~Winnipeg, Canada~~ Nisswa. The Kids had fun there with Turtle Races etc. + Dad was happy. For our next trip we bought a new,

smaller tent + went to Mackinac Island. Dad didn't get up the first morning, so the kids lowered the tent on him! It had rained during the night + we put the tent in the trunk, wet + it mildewed. It was fun on the Island - no cars allowed, so we rented bikes, Peter rode with Dad.

Next we bought a covered wagon trailer + camped at Whitman Dam. Pam + Elisa used the pup tent.

We used to go to the State Fair every year + by then we had a Scamper Trailer, with Pam + Elisa in the pup tent next to the fence so they could yell at the boys that passed by.

Next we bought a green pickup + put a camper on it + went to California for 3 weeks. Dad + Paul slept over the cab, Pam + I on the pulled out dinette + we put a cot in the middle for Peter. We went to Disneyland, ^{went in} ~~the~~ the Queen Mary ~~etc.~~ + took a bus to see the stars' houses, etc.

We went to St Louis next and ^{the} ~~the~~ Kids went up in the arch. We also got lost in the ghetto + it was scary!

Our last trip as a family was to Disney-

world. Pam helped drive + fell asleep (we went at night) + Dad woke up + saw we were headed for a bridge + grabbed the wheel. We stayed in a hotel. We went to Daytona Beach the first day + Pam + Paul got sunburned. The next day was Easter Sunday + they had a sunrise service on the lawn in front of ~~the~~ the hotel. Dad, Peter + ^I went; Pam + Paul hurt too much. We had a great time at Disneyworld, Universal City + Busch Gardens!

The twinplex was too small, so we started looking for a bigger house near Mayo High School because the Kids wanted to go there. We found a good, story + a half house, in Meadow Park. We got a hold of the realtor, Chip Swenson + bought it. I really liked that house. Dad put up a fence for Barney + built him a house in the back of the garage with an entrance so he could go in + out.

One year Dad built a deck on the back. I was helping him + a 2X4 leaning against the house fell + hit me on the head, I saw stars! Peter built his first greenhouse there.

Another trip we took was to ~~the~~
~~D. and L. Lake on the Gunflint Trail in northern~~
East Bearskin Lake on the Gunflint Trail in northern
Minn. We set up our tent, rented 2 canoes,
one for Dad, Paul + Peter + one for Pam +
me. We spent the day paddeling around,
(it was beautiful) + returned the canoes
+ walked back to our tent in the dark.
It was pretty scary, there are bears
up there.

- 29 -

We had a "hand sign" in our front window to show the kids that went by that ours was a safe house if they were in trouble.

Cucumber liked to sit in the kid's rocking chair with her paws on the arm rest. She didn't say "meow" but "Baa," Peter told the kids at school & charged them \$4 to come over to see her. Rina slept on the furnace.

I tried selling Avon but it didn't work out. ^{It was a bad territory - no one bought anything.}
All 3 kids were interested in drama.

Pam was assistant to the director (Mr. J.) ^{at Mayo}
Paul acted & Peter put on a play at the Public Library when he was in 5th grade; his teacher sent him a bouquet of flowers, that was Miss Slinde; she was a gem.

When ~~he~~ ^{Peter} went to Mayo, he was stage manager for Mr. J. and cleaned up & repaired the back stage. The theater kids gave him a plaque for "Best Stage Manager".

Jerry Smith, the choir teacher, at Mayo asked Paul to be a member of the Southtown Singers but his girlfriend ^{Pam played the French Horn.} talked him out of it. ^{in the Mayo band like her dad.}
^{She also played the saxophone in the jazz band.}

I talked to our neighbor, Nancy Simon, she was secretary to the nurse at Mayo, & she told me about her job, it sounded interesting. Peter was in 7th grade & old enough so I decided to apply. They

had an opening at John Adams in the ^{as a teacher's aide} ~~Math~~ & Industrial Arts Departments & I got the job. At first it was fun, the teachers were nice & the secretaries & other teacher-aides were great. We celebrated our birthdays in Mr. Endersbe's (the principal's ~~extra room~~) & we got together for taco parties at each other's houses. But they didn't keep me busy & there's nothing worse than trying to look busy when you ^{aren't} ~~are~~. While I was there, I had an ~~operation~~ (hysterectomy).

There was an opening at Mayo High School as a secretary in the library, so I applied & talked to Lorreta Kimblin, the librarian (old & grouchy) & ^I soon came to find out she didn't like kids or anybody else. I got the job & at first I was really busy ordering books & processing them.

Soon she retired & Royal Matson & Corrine Pfeifer came. They were great, they both loved kids & the library was the place to come! As for me, the government cut off paying for books & ^I was left with not much to do.

Soon Royal left, & Corrine took over.

Corrine died (young) & Wayne Servais better known as "Froggy"

took over. It was a disaster from the start. He hated ~~the~~ Kids and they were used to coming in from Royal + Corrine's time. He spent most of his time chasing them out. He even took the reference books, the classes came in to use, + gave them to the teachers so no Kids would be in the library + he could lock the door. He was in deep trouble with the asst. principal who came up + yelled at him all the time, but couldn't do much because "Froggy" had tenure.

Finally, all I had to do was to clip newspapers! I told Dad one night it was driving me crazy. He said, "why don't you quit." I was surprised, I thought he wanted me to work + so I called Joan Brandhagen, the head secretary, + told her I was quitting + she said to send a letter of resignation.

By the way I only had one friend there, Rose Koenig. I worked a total ^{of 16 years.} ~~of 16 years.~~

I used to save green stamps + we redeemed them for many nice things including the coffee table in the living room.

We decided to take up cross country skiing + bought the family skis +

and boots. It was fun, but one day Dad was working & the kids were in school, & I went skiing with Simon's. The snow was covered with ice & I was just standing still, but slipped & fell & hurt my wrist. Simon's took me to the ER, & dropped me off. The doctor took x-rays & it was broken so they put a cast on. I called Dad but he couldn't come so, I called Pam & got her out of class, ^{went home & got the car} & she came to get me.

The best "job" I ever had was staying home & taking care of the kids - they were a joy to bring up!

We're very proud of our 3 kids.

One day Mother bought airline tickets for Paul, Peter & Scott to fly to the Cities & back; the trip up went fine, but when they were ready to come back there was a lightning storm & their plane wasn't flying ^{so} ~~they had to come back on the bus home~~! Paul called to tell us about it and I told him I would call Dale ^{(Scott's dad) who lived in the Cities} & ask if they could stay there over night & fly home in the morning, so that's what they did.

The milkman delivered milk, cream, cottage cheese etc a couple days a week at the gold house. He was a friendly guy, ^{Lyle} ~~hyle~~ Narveson, from Chatfield, Peter liked him.

The newspaper boy delivered the Post Bulletin Mon. thru Sat. + I was always digging around for money when collection day came - sometimes in the Kids' Piggy Banks!

It just happened that Pam's Confirmation fell on Peter's birthday + she had to share her Big Day. She wasn't too happy!

We celebrated Paul's Confirmation at the gold house + Peter's too. Peter was invited to his friend, Joe Dubin's, Bar Mitzvah (he was Jewish), so we invited Joe to Peter's Confirmation. We had big dinners for them all.

Pam graduated + we had a small family party for her before she went off with her friends.

In the fall she went to St. Olaf College in Northfield, Mn. We had our house paid for + were going to be ^{inun} ~~inun~~ dated with taxes, so we decided to build a house. We found

-34a-

Paul graduated ~~a~~ while we were living
at the gold house + ^{we had a family party for him} then ^{he} went off to celebrate
with his friends.

Paul + 3 of his friends went on a canoe trip
on the St Croix River.

a three acre lot with lots of trees ⁱⁿ ~~an~~ addition ⁺ bought it. Betty + Jim Anderson had built there. I drew up the plans + we took them to Kruse Lumber to make the blueprints; we bought all the lumber there. We called Chip Swenson + put our house up for sale. It sold the same day to a resident at the Clinic.

Dad called Floyd Whipple, from our church, + had him put the basement in (not where Dad wanted it), ^{+ doors} put the walls + roof + the windows in + we would take over.

We rented one of Whipple's apartments + moved in. There was a rule - no animals + we had Rina + Cucumber. We tried to hide them by keeping the shades down, but they snuck around to look out + I'm sure ^{Whipple} ~~he~~ knew. We kept Barney out at the lot + went out every day to take care of him + check on things.

Dad + I cleared the driveway, we made it curved.

As soon as we got the toilet, sink + bathtub in the bathroom + the appliances + sink ~~+~~ in

the kitchen + water turned on, ^{the electricity pulled in} we moved in.

It took 13 months for us to build it working nights + weekends. We both had jobs besides.

~~Peter graduated + had a family party for him before he went off with his friend.~~

Peter was the director for the Spartan Scene, a program show ~~on~~ over TV in most rooms at Mayo.

One time his friends at Mayo toilet-papered our house.

Another time he had a party for his friends in the living room.

Pam married Mike Kapinos + pretty soon Tony came along + then Peter. We were thrilled to be grandparents in our forties + we babysat a lot.

Peter graduated + at that time the parents were having all night parties ^{at the school} with a theme.

One time they built a train, it was always something special + there were games + nice prizes furnished by businesses in town. We chaperoned Peter's party. ^{Peter decided to go to} Brown Institute. We followed him up to the Cities + helped him find an apartment.

I was ~~nt~~ feeling just right so one night

I asked Dad to take me to St Mary's, they kept me a few weeks & that was the start of my mental problems. Some times I wish I had never gone in!

I went back to work at Mayo, Royal was in charge.

We lived in the brown house 9 years & had many good times.

Pam divorced Mike & worked at Mayo Clinic & finished her degree at Winona State U., graduating Magna Cum Laude.

Peter took many classes & got his Engineers Degree. He decided to stay in the Cities & bought the townhouse he's living in now.

^{& went to work for UNISYS & then started computer businesses.}
Paul worked with his friend Art building houses on the weekends ^{& drove shuttle bus for Kahler during the 9 week} & finally got his ^{after going to school.} Electrician's License.

He married Kathy Hoyland & many years later they had Michael, another grandchild to love. ^{& I baby sat him for awhile.}

We took Tony & Peter on many vacation trips to Nisswa & once to Nashville, & the Wisconsin Dells.

Dad & I went to Branson, Mo. one year for our anniversary. There was only one show "The Presleys".

We finally decided to sell the house & called Chip Swenson & he sold it for \$950,000.00! It cost us \$51,000⁰⁰ to build! We gave each of the kids enough for a down

payment on a house + moved into Grandma R. house which was sitting empty as she was living in Samaritan Bethany. There was a lot of work to do. We gutted the Kitchen + put in new cabinets + counter tops + new appliances. Redid the woodwork + paneling + put in new carpet + drapes, removed the wallpaper in the bedroom + sold all her furniture. ^(the kids took what they wanted) We had a garage sale for everything else. We've lived here for 38 years.

~~We took tons of trips, the first to Mystic
Seaport + Washington D.C.
P...~~

We took Tony + Peter to Cold Springs Resort + went into Nisswa one day + found a stray dog who we called Norman. We took him home with us + Dad built a ^{large} pen in the basement - he was kind of wild. We let him come upstairs when we were home.

One day we were baby sitting Walter, Peter's dog, + I was bringing Norman upstairs + holding onto his collar so wouldn't hurt Walter. When we got to the top of the stairs, he gave a lurch + I fell and broke my right hip. At the hospital they operated + pinned it.

Pam married Steve Combs, a farmer from New London, Mn. Soon Abbey came along, another grandchild to love. When she was about 4 she came to stay, but when bedtime came she was ready to go home, so we met Pam + Steve halfway. When she was older we took her to the lake + Wisconsin Dells. ^{Pam took more schooling + got a job as County Prob. She + the boys moved to Spicer. Pam + Steve were divorced + a few years later she married Todd Erickson from Spicer, Mn. He had 2 children, Riley + Tierie.} Dad + I went on many trips, first to Mystic Seaport Washington DC + Boston we got there by riding in a van from the campground, it was a wild ride, we'll never forget it!

Next we went out East again + were almost to Annapolis when a car came around a curve in our lane, there was no place to go as there was a guardrail, he hit us head on + we spun around + he finally stopped when he hit the car behind us. The police came + I put as much of our stuff as I could in their trunk. They gave us a ride to a motel in town. Dad called Arley Carlson, our insurance agent in Rochester. He got his wife, Aggie + she told him what to do. We rented a car + started home, she told us to put all expenses on our credit card + our insurance company would reimburse us - they did.

The next summer we went back + finished our trips. ^{The Mansions, Kitty Hawk + the Upper Banks etc.} We needed a new vehicle + we found a two-tone brown Ford truck we liked + Dad stayed in the car + Peter + I went in + he did all the dealing, I didn't say a word. The salesman said he had never gone up against such a tough dealer + we got it for our price. ^{rode the two decker bus in (like Great Britain) we stayed in Kissemeet} The next trip was to Walt Disney World + the Florida Keys + we fell in love,

We went to Duluth + Two Harbors almost every year + rediscovered Branson, Mo. It was far different than it was before, ~~where~~ a city with lots of shows instead of just one. We went to all we wanted to see over the years + always ^{to} The Presleys, our favorite.

We went to Texas + saw the Alamo, The Riverwalk in San Antonio, we sat along side it + had lunch, many boats went by, then one with Wayne Newton + others. Dad burst out singing "Rock A Bye Your Baby With a Dixie Melody", one of Wayne's theme songs + Wayne didn't know what to think, the others laughed. We went to Biloxi, Mississippi, ^{where Dad's base was in the Air Force.} + spent a week in a hotel on the beach in the winter. We stopped at New Orleans on the way home.

Our friends the Walbergs went to Arizona every year in the winter + we decided to visit them one year. We got as far as Alb^{querque}, New Mexico, pulling our fifth wheel, we parked it + ^{drove} ~~drove~~ over to a camping store. We were sitting on the highway, waiting to turn + a lady came ripping out in her car + hit us. Our truck was destroyed + we had to buy a new vehicle - a green pickup with no air conditioning! We called Walbergs, they drove up + stayed overnight + we headed home the next day.

Our last, ^{except to Branson + Duluth} + biggest trip ~~was to Alaska~~ was to Alaska for seven weeks. It was wonderful, fabulous, the best trip ever! It's light ^{out} there 24 hours a day. We saw so many things + it's so primitive we felt like we were in the 1800's. (See Milestones Book + little diary I Kept)

Tony graduated + went to St. John's College. ^{in Collegeville} He graduated + married Lisa Neu, she went to St. Benidict's in Collegeville, Mn. They had 7 children, Madeline, ^{who is planning to marry Riley Brien in Nov.} Dominic, Gabriel, Eliza, Mathias, Anthony +

We had 2 different trailers on different lots in Smitty's Campground in Lake City. We camped there for almost thirty years. Lots of fun!

When we were in the first trailer Paul, Kathy + Michael came over + stayed on the weekends; whenever we heard a train, Dad would grab Michael, jump in the truck + drive over to watch it go by! Michael loved trains.

- 406 -

We used to go to Valley Fair every year as an extended family + had great fun.

Uncle Gordon left me \$500.00 + I took the extended family to the Minnesota Zoo.

Dad + I went to the Renaissance Fair for quite a few years.

Our last camper was a motor home - good for Katy + us at Branson. Dad, Katy + I also went to Connecticut in it for Peter + Nicole's wedding

I love to read + enjoy watching pro football; my team is the Vikings, of course, + my favorite players are Peyton Manning, quarter back, retired, + Patrick Mahomes, quarter back for Kansas City.

The coronavirus pandemic started in Wuhan, China in 2019. It started spreading + reached the United States ^{in early 2020 + mn.} in March 2020. Gov. Tim Walz ordered almost everywhere people gathered, except grocery stores, to lockdown.

Eventually some places were allowed to open only to be closed again when the death count got too high.

A mandatory mask wearing in any indoor establishment was ordered + is still in effect as this is being written.

Near the end of the year, Pfizer announced a vaccine ^{Madelaine + Gillian got the virus but they're ok} had been found that looked promising, it was tested + approved.

Soon Moderna announced they had found a vaccine, it was tested + approved. They started vaccinating, but it was a mess at first. Finally Mayo Clinic got a supply + they started calling their local patients over 65 to make appointments. We were called + told our first appointment was Jan. 27, ²⁰²¹ at 5pm - we got our first shot! We had to stand in line about an hour, but it was worth it + it didn't even hurt. They gave us an appointment for our second shot Feb. 17, 2021. We were delighted, we could get our hair cut (you should have seen it) + I could go to Barnes + Noble + spend my gift card Christmas gifts. Now Dr. Fauci says the vaccine may not stop the mutants that are showing up!

Vivian. More Kiddies (great grandchildren) to love.

Peter Kapinos graduated + gave the Baccalaureate Address + then went in the Navy. He married Nicole Lucas in Connecticut where he was stationed. They both went to college to become ^{RN} nurses. Nicole got a masters in nursing eventually. They had 1 child, Gillian, another great grandchild to love.

Abbey graduated + went to work. She now has a partner, Trinity Hallon + Mikiah Gale, another great grand ^{child to love.}

Michael graduated + went to RCLS in Rochester + became a deputy sheriff. He married Marissa Dather + they had 2 children, Grayson + Callum.

We decided to get another dog + went to Paws + Claws + asked for a medium sized one. There were two dogs together, but when the black one came out + she jumped in Dad's arms, we knew she was the one for us; we named her Katy + had her for 14 years. After that Dad said, "No more dogs, I can't walk them any more." So back to Paws + Claws ^{to look for a cat}. They were having a special, two for one price, so we took two, but Orange got sick. We still had Smoky for a few years + then he got sick.

Next we went to Safe Haven ^{to look for another cat}, but they didn't have any but knew of a family who had two they couldn't keep because their little boy was allergic, so that's where we got Bailey ^{right} our present cat.

I had ⁶ more operations, a hip replacement, 2 Knee replacements + gall bladder, ^{+ both eyes - cataracts}, not the simple kind but the old fashioned kind with a big scar.

I will never understand why God took Paul from us, but at least he's in Heaven.

Dad, Bailey + I are happy!
We've been married 66 years!
We love now all!

Peter - Your mom got a few things wrong so thought I'd make these notes for you. The dates are from memory so might be off a little. Will check when I get home. - Alyce

Jack + Ida were living in a rented house near Northrup School when Jean was born. Gordon's first company was Queen City Candy Company about 1929. I don't know when it became Reynolds Wholesale. Jack was previously married to Irene Billman. Gordon owned a restaurant in Kasson and Jack + Irene worked there. Some/all food came from Erdman grocery store. I was afraid of the fox store, too. Jack + Ida rented out the upstairs of the 5th Ave house. Ida told about a time when Jean got ^{something-candy?} + Dale didn't. Jean said "Honey (Dale) didn't get any." Gordon was born in 1900, Lila in 1904 and Jack in 1906 (not 1905, which is on his gravestone). Lila died when Evelyn was 11 months old. It was common knowledge ^{in Madelia} that Evelyn was Lila's daughter. After Lila died, Martha + Connie adopted Evelyn and then began calling her their daughter. Lila suffered from guilt feelings (depression?) about having an illegitimate child. She also had a bad heart as a result contracting "black" ^{spelling?} diphtheria when she was about 12. At the time when the court sent her to the state hospital ^{in St. Peter}, she was physically very sick and died a short time after admission. She didn't commit suicide, which Jean has always thought. Sam had died in 1916. Martha + kids moved to Mankato for a short time. When they moved back to Madelia, Martha bought a restaurant ^(used money from Sam's life insurance) on Main Street. There were dances there every Friday night and Martha played the harmonica. She owned the restaurant for a short time, then sold it and moved to Rochester where she bought a boarding house near St. Mary's. Soon after ^{Nov 1919} she married her brother-in-law, Connie Griffin, and they moved to a rented farm south of Madelia. Gordon remained in Rochester. In ^{spring} 1927 Gordon found a job for Connie as a gardener for a doctor in Rochester so Martha, Connie + Evelyn moved in with Gordon and Anna. Martha was supposed to keep house while Anna worked. That didn't work out well. Ida said one day Anna threw herself down the stairs. Jack moved from

Modelia to Rochester in the fall of 1927 and probably lived with Gordon & Anna, too. Jack found work as a ^{spoiling?} vulcanizer, very dangerous job. Ida met Jack in 1933 at the ^{valencia?} Valencia Ballroom where he was playing drums in a three-piece band. She said he kept winking at her. Jack had been divorced only a short time, and Ida was worried people would think she broke up the marriage.