

**“HICKMAN FAMILY REUNION”**  
**Memories of Grandma: OLIVE NIXON HICKMAN RICH ELGGREN**  
**August 2000**  
**Chuck-A-Rama Restaurant, Salt Lake City, Utah**

**CHILDREN OF ERMA AND RALPH BIRD:**

**Gloria Bird Anderson:** I think the most fun I had was staying at Grandma Elggren’s all the time and going down in the canyon with either some of my cousins or my brothers. Watching the skeeters on the water and picking up all kinds of bugs and then going and seeing all the goldfish. Having the boys splash the water at the goldfish or on me or whatever. But, I think Grandma taught each and every one of us some type of truth even if it was only telling the truth or standing up straight. I can remember one time when I spent the summer with her. Everybody remembers I had these long braids, and Grandma thought it would be so nice to wash my hair and then put about 15 braids all over my head. When it all dried, there were all these waves. She then took me to the Tabernacle Choir Practice so that she could show off this granddaughter with the long hair and the waves. It was fun and I loved every minute of it. I wouldn’t trade it for anything. Of most of my summers, I have the most recollections of being here with Grandma Elggren.

**Gilbert Bird:** I want to mention my recollection of Grandma. I’m probably the only one who remembers this, but she was my Grandma Rich before she became Grandma Elgreen. And I knew her as Grandma Rich for quite a few years before she became Grandma Elgreen. The thing that I remember most about Grandma Elgreen was the canyon that she had. Dennis and I were the very luckiest ones of all the cousins, I think, because we got to mow the grass in that canyon. There was no such thing as a power mower in those days. It was by hand and we would tie a rope around each other or we would tie it to the lawn mower. One would stand at the top, and one would push it across, and we would push it back and forth. We had to mow the whole thing two or three times a summer at least, maybe even more than that. That is one of the things I remember about Grandma Elggren.

Probably the most important thing about Grandma Elggren was that she was a very special person and she made you feel special. Whomever she was with, they were the special person. And since I got to live with her for a while, I got to see how she treated others and many of her grandchildren. It was a special treat to learn.

**Maureen Bird Wolfe:** I never really stayed with her, but I have some recollections of Grandma. When I was born, my brothers and sister would all come to spend the summer. I remember she introduced me to Postum. I had never heard of that stuff before. Here in California I didn’t know what that stuff was. I really liked it. It was kind of an acquired taste. She liked it so I thought I should like it, too.

I remember going shopping with her. She always had that lucky streak where there was always a parking place right up front. I liked going shopping. She was at our house when my oldest daughter was blessed. And that was such a cherished moment because that was about four months before she passed away. Those were the things that I remember.

**Erma Hickman Bird:** What I remember about Grandma is that she loved to shop and I loved to shop, so this is where we would spend our time. Ruthie would say, “I don’t know how you can stand it.” Anyway, that was the thing that appealed to me the most about Grandma. She also taught all of us how to cook, which made it wonderful. I’m sure between the four families, we all love to cook since Grandma taught us these things.

#### **CHILDREN OF JUNE AND BEE HICKMAN:**

**Randy Hickman:** I have a lot of memories of Grandma. They are all younger ones, obviously--when I was eleven, twelve, nine, eight. We were always living out in New York. Every summer we would come to Utah to visit. I think I was the mischievous one in the family. Some of the memories I have of Grandma--one interesting one, I don’t know how many of you remember—is the dome clock that she had, with the glass that went around, and the little three balls that kind of spun around. Well, I looked at that and that thing intrigued me. And every time that I went to her house and saw it, it just fascinated me how you could see all the little gears and everything inside. One day I was so intrigued, my passions overwhelmed me and I just had to take that thing apart. That clock never ticked another tock. But I remember taking that thing apart, and I remember Grandma’s reaction, which I won’t get into at this point. All the time I think of that clock and I think of Grandma.

I have fond memories of the garden, the canyon in the back and all those things. My nose points west, and grandma always told me that if I just push on it everyday for about five minutes, that it would straighten up, and when I grow up I would have a straight nose. My teeth overlap here. Grandma always said if I just held onto those a few minutes before a meal, and at night before I went to bed, you would be able to straighten those things up. I didn’t do it, Grandma, I’m sorry but I didn’t have your patience.

**Scott Hickman:** I remember how energetic Grandma always used to be. She always happened to be in a really great mood. I remember her house, the porch and the stone house. How big the property was. It was cool that it went down to the canyon and had a stream at the bottom, and that always was intriguing. It was always great to go to Grandma’s house and play in the canyon in the back. Another thing I remember is that I know she never forgot my birthday. I would always get a birthday card. When I was young, it was a dollar, then five dollars then it would be ten dollars. She never forgot to send a birthday card with her letter of love and a little bonus. That was always great.

**Gay Hickman DeJesus:** My memories of Grandma are about the same as everyone else-- the canyon and the flower garden. When I think about Grandma, I can still hear her laugh-- that tinkly, high really sweet laugh that she had. I also think of her basement, and down in her basement she had all these jars of raspberries and fruit and things, some more current than others. I also remember breakfast at Grandma’s house. She would make cracked wheat cereal, and toast, and poached eggs, and bacon that she had made in the oven to get as much of the fat out as she could. Also the applesauce—applesauce in the cereal. Dad Elggren would take two bites out of the toast and make it look like an elephant. Do you remember that? Then when we were mischievous (I debated whether or not I should talk about this), Grandma was a real interesting disciplinarian. More than once Randy was bound and gagged and tied to a chair until he was penitent enough to be let go.

I also remember that if I would tell Grandma I was sick, if I had a sore throat, she would concoct her brew of iodine and hydrogen peroxide and I don't know what else it was. We had to open wide and she would swab our throats. If you were ever sick at Grandma's house you didn't want to say anything because that would be the treatment you would get. Anyway, I love Grandma. I miss her. She passed away on Father's Day. It was also my first wedding anniversary, so it really sticks out in my mind. I just love Grandma. I love the things that she taught me. I love the example that she set. I love the talents and abilities that she passed on from her down to myself and my children and hopefully my children's children. It is a great honor to be a part of this family and I am very thankful for it.

**Bee (Hickman) Black:** I am the lucky mother, and grandma, and now I'm going to be a great-grandma pretty soon, which is a wonderful and great blessing in our life. June and I had a wonderful life in New York. He was marvelous because of the mission he filled in Germany. He spoke German very fluently. So he was chosen to be in the Secret Service because of his excellence in the German Language and they sent him to Germany. He was put in that Secret Service Organization. We went to New York to live there for that. I kept a little room and a half apartment while he was in Germany. He was investigating and looking through all of Hitler's papers and picking out things that the government needed to know. And that is a great tribute to him for his excellence and diligence with the German Language, because he was a missionary in that great country.

When we lived in New York in the late 40's, Grandma used to come and visit us on a regular basis. Her favorite thing was to go into New York, and go through all the stores, and up and down 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and Times Square and all those things. So we did it almost every day. The only thing that she didn't like was out where we lived--out in Queens--because we had to walk up a million steps to get on the elevated walkway, which under the river it became the subway in New York. Then we would have to go up steps again, millions of them, to get out of it so it was a double bad thing. But, I have wonderful memories of that sweet, wonderful Grandma. One of the sweet things that I remember was that she made the best rice pudding. I think that was it, was it rice pudding? She just made a continual batch of it so that we just practically lived on rice pudding. She taught me how to make it. Of course, in my old age I don't do those kinds of things anymore. But I do think we have her sweet wonderful recipe, and I have wonderful memories of her. I am thankful for the wonderful part she played in my life. I am thankful that I was a Hickman and had that great blessing. I love all of you. You people have always been a wonderful family to me. And it was wonderful to be a part of you at that time. Thanks.

#### **CHILDREN OF RUTH AND WILFORD COON:**

**Joseph Leslie Coon:** I remember going to New York with Grandma, but we'll make it short. The only thing I know about Grandpa was that I was named after him. That's about all I can say about Frank Leslie.

**Dennis Coon:** Grandma used to call me Dennis the Menace. She called me a few other things. I was glad to hear Gay talk about Randy's experience with Grandma because I was saying to Christine, "I wonder if anyone here knows about the sadistic side of Grandma?" I can remember lying face down on the bed with my hands tied behind my back, for no apparent reason. I can also remember many times, even up until I was in high school, Grandma making me take a nap

when I was staying there, and singing stories to me. She could always make me cry when I was little because she would sing "Lullaby and Goodnight" and that meant that I had to go to bed and I would start crying. I can remember that. I had a lot of great experiences. She gave me one of my favorite sayings that I like to say to my kids when it is raining and they're outside. It is one I'd always say. Grandma would have me out there pulling weeds. I don't know how many of you had the opportunity of pulling weeds with Grandma. There was never a shortage of weeds on that property. You guys saw the flowers, I saw the weeds. It would start to sprinkle and a drop would hit me and I'd say, "Grandma it's raining," and she'd say, "You're neither sugar nor salt nor anyone's honey. Stay out there and pull those weeds." Gilbert and I used to mow those lawns, and like he said there was no such thing as a power mower. I guess I have Hickman calves. I have kind of big calves and people say, "Where'd you get those big calves, did you work out a lot?" And I say, "If you'd seen my Grandma's lawn, you'd understand where I got these calves." Up and down, up and down, mowing that lawn. When Gilbert wasn't there, I'd mow it by myself, on a slope like that.

I loved Grandma. She did a lot for me. She was very supportive whenever we had anything at school-- involved in the theatre or wrestling or sports--she was there most of the time. They called her my little old lady from Pasadena in her little Chevy driving out there. I recall one time when she came out to a play that I was in, and she was running late with Dad Elggren. She passed about four cars on a double yellow line, one of which was a Sheriff's car. He pulled her over out there on 21<sup>st</sup>. She said, "I don't have time to stop, I have to go to my grandson's play." Fortunately for Grandma, this Sheriff was a friend of Mom & Dad's and when he found out who she was, he let her go.

Those were some of my memories of Grandma. She was a wonderful woman, and I loved her. She used to take good care of us. She was a great Grandmother.

**Christine Coon:** I have many memories of Grandma. In fact a spring doesn't come by that I can pass up the nursery. I plant flowers every spring, and that brings me closer to her. I spent many summers up there gardening with her and pulling those weeds and watching Dad and J.L. and Dennis mow the lawn. I spent a lot of time with Grandma growing up. I did a lot of housekeeping with Grandma, too--spring cleaning. If you were ever there for "spring cleaning" you learned how to clean.

Grandma taught me many things. One of the things that I will always cherish about her is that she was very loving about everybody. I never heard her say a bad word about anybody, except Dennis and Randy, I guess. But, she has always been my hero. I was her namesake, and that was always very important to me. I have one daughter Camille. I, of course, had to name her Camille Olive to carry on the tradition, but we'll see how far that goes. It is very nice to see all of you. I think Grandma is having as much fun as we are watching us all tonight. I love you all.

**Shelley Coon (Daughter of Dennis Coon):** I never to be a spokesman because I'm a great-grandchild. I was six when Grandma died. I have my Grandma's tendencies too, so I cry, too. The thing that I remember the most about Grandma was her peaches. Grandma always had fruit when I went to her house. I didn't get to go to her house very often, but I always remember eating peaches with Grandma. To this day, peaches are one of my favorite fruits and I don't ever eat a peach--a fresh, juicy ripe peach that drips down my chin--without thinking of Grandma. I



just wanted to share that memory. I loved her. I remember her. I remember the day when I was told that she died, and I remember how it broke my heart. I just wanted to tell you all that I loved her, too. I'm one of the few great-grandkids that remember her. I wanted to share that with you.

### **CHILDREN OF DEAN AND DORIS HICKMAN:**

**Deanna Hickman Siefke:** I should have come up after Randy because one summer when I was sixteen, actually it was the summer Gilbert was nineteen, and we celebrated our birthdays in Grandma's canyon, my sister and I came to visit for a week or too and Randy and Gary were there, too. They did give her a run for her money, and my money, because I was older and tried to help her a little bit. But as Tracy knows, I am not the best disciplinarian (well maybe I am), I'm not the best supervisor of children.

Grandma . . . some of the things I remember. She sat me down at the piano everytime that we would go visit. And usually it was around conference time in April. The weather was ok for us to drive, so that was what we did with Dad. She just knew that I could sing. I was Dean's daughter, and her granddaughter--no way. Joy, my sister is the one that had a wonderful voice and took after her.

Grandma would come to San Francisco and visit sometimes. Many of you have been in San Francisco, which probably most of you have. There is the most crooked street in the world called Lombard Street. My dad would take her down there on that crooked street and drive as he always drove, and I can still hear her screaming, "Dean, Dean, Dean, slow down!"

Her laugh is also what I remember, too. There have been many things each of you have spoken which has brought memories of that wonderful, wonderful woman that we all know as Grandma Rich or Grandma Olive or Grandma Elggren.

**Tracy Hickman:** I keep waiting for the Bishop to sing the closing hymn so that I can get out of having to bear my testimony to all of you. All I'm wondering is when we are going to have that closing prayer. I keep waiting for the manager to bail me out. I had the fortunate grace of being able to . . . grace that's an interesting word that we'd forgotten about, Aunt Grace. I had the pleasure of being able to come to Salt Lake every October and every April to come to conference and go with my father driving a million miles an hour in Nevada. I told the story . . . Dad died about a year ago, and I told this story at his funeral. One time we were driving to Salt Lake and we looked up and there was a highway patrolman keeping up with us, only he wasn't in a car, he was in a plane. His wing was over our car and he was motioning to my Dad to slow down. Dad looked over at me and said, "Don't you ever forget this. I'm going to need you as a witness." So it actually happened and I told everybody that.

But the one thing that I really learned from the relationship that my father and Grandma had was the devotion that my Dad had for her. He loved her more than anything, and he was so sad in his heart that he had to live away from her. When he would come to Utah, he would do everything he could for her. And they had such a wonderful relationship. He just loved her to no end. And she showed her love to him through me as well. I was lucky enough that I was born late enough in her life to never get tied up or handcuffed. I'm wondering what was down in

that basement--was it just fruit or something else. Luckily, she got rid of all those torture chambers that she had down there before I came around.

So as a consequence, I remember a lot of things about Grandma. One of the things that I remember because I lived so far away was when she would buy you a Hallmark Card. What would happen? She would underline every word. Do you remember that? She always underlined the really important words. And I was, like everybody else has said, the grandkids have said, we always looked at the Hallmark Cards and said, "Where's the money?" and it was always there. I always loved that.

Somebody came up and talked about her breakfasts. I never had breakfast when I was a kid, because I really didn't want to eat in the morning. And she would come up with this incredible, incredible breakfast every morning that I couldn't believe that one woman of her age could put together. She would put together some of the most wonderful breakfasts, and she forced me to eat it, which I would. I always thought that stuff she used to put applesauce in--guess it was cream of wheat, or whatever it was--would just stick to your ribs all day long. I never left Utah without having to skip lunch because the meal at breakfast time would be so incredible it would stick to your ribs and you would just go from breakfast to dinner.

Dad Elggren taught me the right hand of fellowship, which I will never forget. I passed that on to my sons. I want to let you know that Dad Elggren always said something that I'll never forget as well. In his early nineties, he used to look over at Dad and me and say, "Never grow old," and I always wondered how to prevent that--what was the remedy for growing old? That was a wonderful thing. I had a great time knowing that I had a grandmother. And by the way, not many people know that I had two grandmothers named Olive. Is that weird or what? But I loved her, and I always wanted to say this . . . But you know, it was very touching to me that person who should help her, one of the kindest most wonderful people in the world, J.L. Who got over to help her all the time, and in fact found her the morning that she had passed. I always wanted to tell J.L. how wonderful I thought it was--what a wonderful act of service. How he really exemplified what grandma was all about. I thought that was wonderful, that he had the chance to go over and help her. He did that because he loved her, not because he had to, but because he loved her. I love her, too, and I think of her often. And I thank you for this opportunity.

#### **CHILDREN OF VARD AND ELAINE MAXFIELD:**

**Neal Maxfield:** I remember spending some time with Grandma when I grew up. I took piano lessons just a street away, and afterwards I would go over to grandmas and Mom would pick me up. Grandma would always complement me and say, "This is my great piano player." I am like eight or nine years old in the third grade and can't play a thing, and she thinks that I am a great mistro, a great artist. One thing that I enjoyed growing up is when I would go down and work with her and pull weeds or whatever. She would always, or often, let me drive home even when I was twelve or thirteen years old. She had an old, green Mercury. And I couldn't see over the steering wheel, but I could see through it. So here is this little guy driving home, and it was great. It was fun that she had common sense and didn't worry about hitting any other cars or pedestrians. That was my first driving experience and it was with Grandma.

One of the favorite things that I enjoyed that she made was rice pudding. I loved that. I guess you've got her recipe, Dad? Every once in a while we can talk Dad into making it. It is the only way that I ever really liked raisins, or rice. I could never eat rice separately until I had rice in Hawaii on my mission. Then I really liked rice. Otherwise, I only ever ate it in rice pudding.

Grandma was always very positive. I remember bright colors. The green carpets, and her pink couches and everything were just bright and cheery and energetic. She had a lot of life, and was really a wonderful, positive, loving lady. I loved her very much.

**Nita Maxfield Sorensen:** I remember playing, and I could just sit and play forever. Somebody jogged my memory, so I just took a few notes, while someone else was talking. I really have to pay tribute to Ruth and Wilford, J.L. and Dennis, and Christine, and Gilbert because they were the ones who were really hospitable and took care of Grandma. All the time we would always hear about how they would do this, and how they would do that. They were truly kind and generous. They lived clear in Magna and they would always come in and take care of Grandma. I never will forget that. I just think it was because of Aunt Ruth, and she was always giving.

After we got married, we didn't have a place to live. We never looked at any places to live and didn't have a place. Well, the next day after we got back from our honeymoon, the one house Craig found, the only one we looked at, he said, "I thought that you would like it because it is near where your Grandmother is buried." I have to tell you that it has been wonderful, because I go walking quite often. When I go walking, I have the opportunity to go to the cemetery and spend time there quite often, because I walk past her grave almost every day. And it has been a true blessing to feel her spirit. I have had quite a few experiences feeling her spirit in singing, in music, and her guidance in making the tape of singing together as sisters is totally because of her on the other side nudging, and guiding and her inspiration to push us along. In fact, I was sitting in (I don't know why I remember this) an English Seminar that I took with both she and Aunt Grace on the other side. It was incredible the experience I had in that Seminar because of some of the things that were being taught. I was being bombarded by both sides of the veil, and my paper was wet with tears, and they weren't my tears. I just thought this is incredible that I've had such strong impressions from both of them. They were both up there working together, so it was a double load.

One of the funniest memories I have is that I remember Grandma coming and canning peaches with Mother. I remember one time when I wasn't getting along, or I wanted Mother to do something and grandma said, "Darlin' you have a wonderful mother, and you need to treat her kindly all the time."

There is only one funny thing left. One of the last memories with Grandma was when I was over there visiting and I wanted to tape record some of her stories and memories and things. I've got to back up. We tried to pump her and ask her things about Grandpa and their relationship and what he was like, and she would never say anything negative. He was always a wonderful person, a wonderful husband. She wants you to know the best. He was truly a wonderful man, and she had nothing but kindness to say about him. Anyway, about a month before she died, I went over to ask her some stories to get her on tape. She hated the recorder. She hated talking into it. But, she had just fallen out in her garden, and she was flat in bed, and she was supposed to stay down in bed. I remember she tried to get up. And I said, "How can

you do that? You're not supposed to do that, Grandma." She said, "Well, watch me," and she grabbed a bra and wrapped it around her and pulled herself out of bed and that's how she got out of bed. And I said, "Grandma you're supposed to stay down." And she said, "I don't have time to stay down. I've got to go turn off the water or something." She was just out of bed, just pulled herself out because she wouldn't slow down, even though she was supposed to stay in bed because of the rupture inside.

I loved her. She was a special woman, like all of you. We all feel like she was our personal friend, like a Savior to us, because she cared so much that she was our personal friend and we all love her. I love her too. I love my mother and all of you too because you are so much like her.

**Nila Maxfield Paul:** My memories of Grandma are similar to yours. I'm sure I was a lot younger, though. I do remember her as being my wonderful Grandmother that was always fashionable. I called her my fun Grandma, and she always had a hat on and she was always very well dressed. That's what I remember about Grandma.

I also remember the day she passed away, also. I feel bad that I never got to be at the funeral because I was back with Nadine performing, and I know that that was a neat experience. I remember one thing that Grandma also taught me. Because we have the Maxfield curse and we all have crooked teeth. She always told me to push my teeth back every day, and to this day I've never had braces--probably the only one in my family that has never had braces. It does work a little bit. I still do it every once in a while, because they still cross every once in awhile. But she also told me that I had such little eyes, so she would say, "Raise your eyebrows, Darlin." She wanted me to also pluck my eyebrows, but I didn't ever do that. I know as a family she always wanted us to sing and perform. Each one of the kids were doing different things and the girls were in different girls' groups. But she always told us that, "You girls need to sing together." So after she died, that's why we finally did. That's why we made the tape. But I really loved grandma, as all of you have said that you do, too. She was a big part of our life. Even though she wasn't around as much for mine as she was for yours. We used to go and visit her a lot. And I think the favorite part that I loved of her house was the parlor room. Maybe you called it the garden room, I don't know. I just thought that when I was there that I was in a castle, because it was the biggest house that I had ever been in. She had all these rooms, and all these bedrooms. We loved just playing in the parlor room, and I just felt like she was the queen and it was her castle.

**Norman Maxfield:** I have fond memories of Grandmother. I'll mention a few things that have been referred to, I guess. I can remember that she was our singing coach on several occasions. The Maxfield Family tried to be performers on occasion, and when we got together we had quite a group. So she was there in our front room several times trying to manage Nelden, to tone it down, and bring out the alto, so we would balance and get the proper blend. So she was our voice coach several times.

I remember that she asked me often about my lessons with Aunt Grace, her sister. As a young boy it surprised me that these two strong personalities were sisters. I took some lessons with Aunt Grace so I was acquainted with her and her house, and grandmother and her house. That was enlightening to me. She often asked me about my lessons there. I was a fairly young boy. We used to take the bus downtown to go to Aunt Grace's house down on State Street.

Sometimes I wasn't so thrilled with it, but her showing an interest I guess kept me going a little bit.

I also remember making ice cream at her house. At our house it was an electric motor, at her house it was a hand crank. I had to really work hard and keep pushing. I think at several parties I just didn't know what to do with myself, so I went out to help with the ice cream and made that big thing turn.

I was surprised on one occasion. I think she was in our house and some scriptural topic came up, and I learned quickly that she was opinionated. That was new for me to have some of these strong opinions about the scriptures. I hadn't seen that often. So that was interesting that she knew enough and read enough that she wanted to talk about different issues in the scriptures. I saw that as a young boy as well.

I'm grateful to be part of the family and we love our parents as all of you do and we're grateful for them as well.

**Natalie Maxfield Dowse:** You've taken most of my memories of Grandma. But, I've been sent a birthday card with all of my things underlined, and I'd spend my dollar every year. I remember the parties at Grandma's house, the showers and the parties, and everything. I remember her two, cute little bowls that were all the different the colors, and having raspberry ice cream in it and Aunt Ruth's brownies. And then also she taught us how to make gravy, and she taught mom how to make gravy (Nila just told me to remember the gravy.) We all know how to make gravy because of grandma. I also have a couple of her pans. I have her pressure cooker pan that I've had since she passed away. I still use it. It's my favorite pan. The pressure cooker part doesn't work, but it is still a great pan.

**Nanette Maxfield Garrett:** I just want to say that I have a lot of good memories about Grandma. What a wonderful person she was. I was going to say something about the gravy. In fact, I thought that there has got to be something that nobody has said. But there's one thing about the gravy and my kids. Periodically I try to make mashed potatoes and gravy and roast beef. I still remember her coming to Mom's house and having to make the gravy and doing it just perfect, and I knew that was Grandma's gravy. I can never find anyone in the world that makes gravy like that. We've taught my mother-in-law how to make gravy, we've taught the Relief Society, we've taught neighbors. My kids love it so much that they've told me time and time again that you have to teach our wives how to make gravy. So I just had to tell about the mashed potatoes and gravy--that's from Grandma. You have to have the right kind of pan. I have the right kind of pan, but I don't have her pan. I have one of her pans, but not that pan. Also, the thing I remember about grandma that really was special to me is that everytime that I would be practicing the piano, I remember her coming in time and time again. She would walk in the door and she would say, "Never, never quit, and always practice." And she would just make you feel like you were so wonderful. She told me that my voice was a lot like hers when she was younger and she could sing, and that was really special to me. I have a lot of music in our home with our kids, and I often think about Grandma and how she said, "Never, never quit." And I tell that to my kids so they keep going. That was a really, really special thing to me because she loved music so much.



I remember that when she was the Primary Director, she would have trees. She would have the people who couldn't sing be the trees and the rocks. But she was a fabulous Primary Director. When I was first called to that position, I was in college and she was still alive. I still remember asking her how to do it, and she was very sweet. We used to drop by her house. When I was in High School I would drop in anytime, and she would just welcome us and say, "Come on in." When I was in college would have us come on in and sing her a song, and she was a really good friend.

Just one more thing about when we were naughty. When we were just being regular teenagers, I guess, being mean to my mom or whatever, she would always come in and reprimand us and say, "You be nice. Your mother is so wonderful." Nita said that, too. But I remember that. She is wonderful. Grandma just was always so positive. She really wouldn't talk badly about anyone. But, anyway, I just wanted to tell everyone that I love all of you, and I love my Mom and Dad. Mom is definitely a product of grandma, and my Dad's wonderful too. And Aunt Erma and Uncle Ralph, and Aunt Ruth and Uncle Wilford, and the others, June and Dean and all the family are just such a sweet wonderful close family. I just feel like you are all my brothers and sisters.

**Nita Sorensen:** I know that it is just about time. I just need to say something that I forgot, I don't know if any of you know this. It will be short. But I had the opportunity of taking dramatic arts lessons from Aunt Grace not too long before she died. She would tell me stories and I would ask her things about Grandma. One of the things she told was the reason why Grandma was such a good cook was because when she was younger and she was the cook of the home. Her mother worked to take care of the store that they had extended on their home and her mother wrote Road Shows, and she taught and did all these things. But Grandmother was like a Mother to Aunt Grace. She was the cook and the cleaner and that's why she was such a wonderful cook and homemaker because she had experience from the time she was young.

**Elaine Hickman Maxfield:** We all have great memories of Grandma. And she'll never be gone, because we all have a little bit of her in each of us. And she taught us all. I guess, I didn't teach my kids that well, but I know that Grandma taught them, and that's great. Thank you for coming, and now Nanette has some things to tell you about tomorrow.

**Craig Sorensen:** I want to say something as an in-law, an out-law. Your Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother said to me when I first dated Nita, "It's too bad that you have to be a tree." Then later, Aunt Grace said to me, "You'd be a lovely tree." Elaine has never said it to me, so thank you Elaine. A Tree, I just found out why I was always supposed to be a tree.