

**EVA ANNA**

**THOMPSON**

**CUMMARD**





EVA ANNA (THOMSON) CUMMAR D

EVA ANNA THOMPSON  
1883 - 1932

Eva Anna Thompson was born December 12, 1883, in

Langham, Norfolk, England to John Thompson



and Anna Betsy Everett.

She was

the fourth child of



six

children.

She married John Cummard



on the

16th of August, 1905.

She passed away on the 7th of October, 1932.



MEMORIES OF EVA ANNA THOMPSON CUMMARD

She used to tell us that when she was a little girl, she never knew what it was to have a whole orange, and sometimes a whole egg. Her father was a 'market-gardener', so evidently they didn't have too many 'posh' things....so it was a half or a third of an orange, etc. I can remember her sitting in the evenings by the fire, peeling oranges (almost by the dozen, as only she could peel them, while the nine of us would eat them.) We had our own orange, lemon, and grapefruit trees. This is when she would tell us about the whole oranges that we were getting.

When mama was a young lady, she worked as a maid mostly, working for some well-to-do-people. She also worked in a department store in London, as a sales lady.

When she would tell us stories, they weren't about western or local things, they were about Kings and Queens, and Princesses, etc. She did love Queen Victoria and she would tell us about her, and Prince Albert, etc....

Our grandparents were married in the great big prestigious Norwich Cathedral where, really, only the rich and the aristocracy were married. Because our grandmother worked as a maid for someone who knew someone who arranged for them to be married there. Of this, they have always been so proud.

As I understand it, the conversion of our parents came about after pop was assigned to go the Liverpool Mission Home of the church to fix their stove. He was very much impressed with the clean-looking white-shirted missionaries all about. It took several visits until the stove was fixed, or replaced, and, in the meantime, he heard the gospel story. Mama said that she was converted long before Pop. He just could not be converted to the 10% tithing part.... He couldn't believe that anyone should have to give that much of their church. It was William A. Morton and J. R. Price who converted them. Pop later became First Counselor to President Price in the original Maricopa Stake Presidency where he served for many years.

Soon afterwards, they came to America. They sold all of what they had, converting it into cash.

After Mabel was born, in Provo, Mama returned to England with the three children for a year. Zena remembers they went around visiting all of the relatives. She remembers visiting Auntie Ada on the Isle of Man, and they were eating snails

Zena remembers that all of the houses were alike, fastened together, like our Town Houses. They all had small yards and small gardens.

People in England have a very unique way of buttering their bread. They butter the end of the loaf, and then cut off a slice. Doing it this way, Mother could really slice the bread very thin. When they make a green salad, they put big chunks of washed, prepared vegetables in a bowl. You take whatever you want on your plate and cut it up and prepare it yourself on your plate. And, of course, you hold the fork with your left hand, cutting with your right hand, but with no exchanging hands as we do here in America. You can always tell an Englishman by the way they eat at the table, as our parents did.

One time when Zena was a little girl, when they were living in Provo, she used to watch Mama slice bread as above, and she used to think, wouldn't it be wonderful to have a lot of butter sometime. So, she went into the pantry where the food and dishes were kept, and with a big spoon helped herself to a great big spoon-full of butter out of a big can, and was she ever disappointed in the taste. Mama caught her.

Zena remembers, on this trip to England, being in a little house in the country. The floor of the house broke and the leg of the bed went through the floor. It was Christmas time and she was sure that she saw Santa Claus in the corner behind the table. In those days they just had lamps and so the room was dimly lit.

Mama saw that they went to school while they were there. Zena remembers a country road and a ditch on the way. At school sat on long benches with a taller bench in front which served as the desks. Zena was jealous of the long curved combs that all

the girls wore to hold their hair back.

Grandma Thompson taught Zena to make a long cord on a spool. She took Zena to town in a horse driven cart. It was like a bus service, with seats around the outside edge of the cart, facing in. She bought her some red string and some little bells to put on her cord so she could play horsie. Also while they were visiting Mama's youngest brother, Uncle George, (who died during World War I) he gave Mabel a doll's rocking chair, which she still has. They were also given little tiny tea pots, a very popular English souvenir.

While they were in England they had to wear long wool scarves which went around the back of their necks, across their chests, and then under the arms and around to the back, (to keep warm, no doubt) where they were tied. Zena remembers wearing these scarves on the boat coming home. On the deck they were served hot broth and sandwiches.

While they were on the boat, Jack had a little boat and he wanted to sail it on the ocean. One time, Mama found him hanging out the port-hole. He had his little boat on the end of a string trying to float it...  
Mama always said that Mabel was the worst baby, and Zena the best

On the boat coming home, Mama and Pop, we remember, always talked about the wonderful missionaries that were on the boat with them.



The boat docked in Halifax, Nova Scotia. A young girl convert was getting off the boat and was going to meet some people. Evidently she was timid, or frightened, or very young, so many got off the boat with her to help her. The boat went off and left Mama stranded in Nova Scotia. Zena remembers being so frightened that they had left her Mama. Somehow, Mama met the boat at its next stop.

When they first came to America, they lived in Price, Utah, then Heber, Utah, after which they moved to Provo.

While Mama was in England with the three children, Pop migrated to Arizona with George F. Price, so Mama, Zena, Jack and Mabel joined him in Arizona when they came home.

The four traveled to Arizona in a train without a berth, all the way. When they landed in Arizona, it was so desolate. Pop met them at the station in a cowboy hat and Mama just about died. She saw a dry dusty little old dumpy town (Mesa) and she really wanted to go back to England, and to turn around right then. Pop told her that there was a dollar in Arizona for every dime in Utah. He was now selling life insurance with George F. Price.

The first home they moved into in Mesa was a Spanish type, three homes in one building. I guess a triplex. The Price's had just moved out when they moved in. Mama sat up all night to watch and keep the two inch big cockroaches off of the kids. They moved out the next day to a

house one or two blocks east of Center Street in Mesa, facing east, and one or two blocks south of Main Street. It was a little green two bedroom house. Two maiden ladies, named Shaeffer, lived next door. This is where Nadeen was born.

When Nadeen was born, Zena thought there was a cat yowling in the night, but it was Nadeen crying in the night before Zena knew about her birth. Libby Myers was there helping. Libby Myers was one of Mama's dearest friends. She was from England and they remained the best of friends for many many years. Later when the Myers family moved to Long Beach, California, we always went there for our vacations.

Mama really suffered in the summers with the heat and so Papa would put us all in a car and we would go to the coast for two months. We would stay but Papa would come home and work and then maybe visit us once and then come back and get us at the end of the two months.

It would always take us a long time to find an apartment, we had so many children. Eight children, and sometimes they would take a girl to help Mama. Mama would dress us all in red swimming suits so she could count us easily while she was watching us. We would go to the beach in the morning. Mama would go to the out-doors market (she used to like to do this because they had outside markets like that in England.) The market was near the Long Beach City Hall park, and then she would bring our lunch, with a lot of fresh fruit, to eat

on the beach. We spent a lot of summers in Long Beach with the Price's and the Myer's, and sometimes the Ellsworth's. Another long time friend was Aunt Annie (Mrs. Frank) Ellsworth. She and Mama were real pals, and our families often visited together.

Because the folks were from unsunny, damp, cold England (they always talked about how terribly cold and rainy England was) Pop really believed that he saved Doctor bills in the winter by taking us all to the beach in the summer. He really believed that the sun and the salt water kept us from getting sick all winter. And, of course, we loved it. When we returned home to Mesa, he would go through town honking the horn of the car, and we would be so embarrassed. I remember the cars we would go in, they were open touring model cars. One was a Romer, brother, was it ever a beaut!!! There would be legs hanging out over the edge when we traveled. To make more room, I guess.

When Papa would come into the house, (with four teen age girls in the house) he would say "all I can see is legs

and more legs. He would also say that his boys were worth \$10,000 each but his girls were just worth 10¢. It's a wonder we didn't grow up with a complex. However, in his next breath, or the next day, he would call us his "jewels."

Another cute thing Pop used to do was whenever he would write us a letter, or phone us on the phone, he would call himself, "your illustrious father."

Back to when Nadeen was a baby in 1914....Zena remembers washing Nadeen's diapers, and she was so proud, however, Libby Myers, who was helping, said "that's not good enough," and she had to wash them again. Zena was crushed....

Twice, when Zena was baby-sitting Mabel and Nadeen, she was supposed to be watching them. Somehow they got into an ant bed and their legs were bitten. Mama spanked she and Jack for letting them bite them.

They all three had the mumps. Mama tied a large cloth, like a dish towel, around their heads and under their chins, with a knot on the top, to keep the mumps warm.

I remember once when Jack had a loose tooth, Pop chased him around the block trying to get him to let him pull it out.

There was only one time I remember Pop and Mama having a fight. We were sitting at the dinner table when they fussed about something. Mama left the table and ran out the back door where she fell down the steps, (there were three) and she hurt

her leg. I thought the whole world was going to come to an end because they never argued or fought. They were real sweethearts with each other.

The next house they lived in was on Main Street - in a duplex. There was no bathroom, just an outside toilet. They bathed in a wash tub in the kitchen. Mama's most embarrassing moment was there in this house. The ice man came in to deliver some ice when Mama was in the tub. However, he only saw her back, luckily. She never forgot this most embarrassing moment. In those days, you were very fortunate to have a refrigerator which held a big 50 pound hunk of ice to keep your food cool. While they were in this house, Jack ran into a clothes line and cut himself.

Their next house was near the Third Ward, called the Tabernacle then. It was on Fourth Avenue and Main Street.

Pop used to date Mama once a week. As we grew older, they would take one of us with them each time they went on a date. One time, when they had just the four children, he took her to a Chinese Restaurant to eat. Jack and Zena were baby sitting. They decided to go, too. They walked all the way there - taking Nadeen, the baby, and they walked into the restaurant and up to their table where they were eating. Pop and Mama were very unhappy about this.

Their next move was to a house through the block from Joe Clark's family, who lived on what is now Country Club Drive,

about the 200 North block. It was near where the Mezona was, about 1 block north. The Clark's were very good to them. They ate there a lot in the evenings. The Clark's had their own cows and chickens, and they had a big family. When they would do the dishes after a meal, they would set the dishes on the table again upside down at each place. The salt and pepper was left in the middle. For supper they always had bread and milk with the milk in a large shallow pan and a hunk of ice in the middle, no doubt the night's milking. Jessie, Verdell, Lee and Harold Clark were the big boys and girls in the family, the same age as Jack, Zena, Mabel, etc. We enjoyed these new friends very much.

The Myers lived next door, too. Mama was happy to have Libby right next door.

Pop would win prizes for selling Beneficial Life Insurance. Once he won a huge box of chocolates and suit for Mama, which was very good looking. She was tall and slender and carried herself very straight and stately. Sometimes she got accused of being conceited, but this was not true, it was just the way she carried herself, with very good posture. She always looked stylish, however, she used to have a hard time getting clothes with the sleeves long enough for her arms. She wore a lot of hats.

She had a beautiful beige suit and she had high top laced-up shoes to match. The top of the shoes were cloth and the bottom part was leather. The beige top matched her suit.

The dresses then were cut slender and were almost ankle length, sometimes with fullness in the back of the skirt, and always a hat was worn.

About this time another family moved close by and were from England. They were related to the Myers family and their name was Trough. They became close friends.

One time the gas lamp caught fire and someone had to run outside with it. Zena thinks it was Libby Myers.

One time Mrs. Trough was cutting a cake. She being from England, could cut pieces very small - especially for the children. From then on it became a family by-word. "Don't cut me a Mrs. Trough slice." We always held this against her.

The Myers had three children. The oldest was a girl, Elsie, and she was very small. She would say, "I'm not tiny, I'm petite." It was a sad day for Mama when the Myers family moved to Long Beach. Elsie passed away soon after they moved to California, leaving only their son Ronnie for us to visit.

We then moved to the Patterson house on N. Robson Street, as it was called then. This was while the folks were building the family homestead. The Patterson house was where Eva was born. They moved into the new home when Eva was three weeks old.

There was an Auditorium where the San Tan Apartments are now. This is where Zena went to First grade. There were four different classes in one room, one in each corner.

Zena remembers when Papa and Mama went through the temple in Salt Lake City. She remembers them taking off her black shoes and putting on white moccasin like shoes.

Pop was working at B.Y.U. when they lived in Provo. He taught wrestling. He was a champion wrestler when he was in England. He would take Jack and Zena to the B.Y.U. kindergarten on his way to work, on his bicycle.

The address of the new home was 456 North Robson Street. Our first telephone No. was 38, then it was 189 for many many years. Pop's office phone was 290 - at 8 South MacDonald Street.

In our big new home, we had a huge Indian rug on the dining and living room floors. In the dining room we had a mirrored old-fashioned "side board" and also the old-fashioned ledges all around the walls in the dining room, up high, where Mama kept all of her little knick-knack keepsakes, from England.

We had a round oak table that would open up into a very large one. This home had four bedrooms and a back-kitchen which we used a lot. It had a large eating table in there, too, with window seats around two sides for us to sit on while eating. There was a wood stove in the front kitchen and a gas stove in the back kitchen. However, only one bathroom as it was unheard of in those days to have more than one.



There was a screened upstairs room over the garage for the boys.

Mama was a very good cook. She didn't have time to bake desserts, however or didn't believe in them. She really could cook meat. Her specialty was roast beef, or a joint, as it is called in England. She cooked it very tender with a little suet on the top and she sliced it very thin and sometimes would cook yorkshire pudding with it, which is a real English treat. Pop would always say that the first slice was for Mother, because she liked the outside cut. (also that tiny tender piece of chicken on the back.)

Pop really taught us reverence and respect for our mother. Every Sunday he would bring home a sack full of candy which was candy coated with glazed nuts and coconut, her favorite at a certain Elite Candy Store. He wouldn't let us have a piece of it until "his sweetheart" had the first piece.

Mama cooked breaded veal cutlets very often, and we had finnan-haddie for breakfast quite often, that is boiled fish. She would cook eggs and serve them on spinach for breakfast. I remember she really liked that English Golden Syrup. She would cook fish roe, which is fish eggs, and they were good. Now they are a real delicacy. I'll never forget when she started making "glorified rice." I guess it was when they first invented jello. It had pineapple, rice and jello in it , and I never tasted anything so good. I guess the rice was a stretcher.

When in California, they loved to go into Los Angeles and see the vaudeville shows. We saw the Zeigfield Follies and they were really magnificently costumed. We also saw the first talking picture, I remember, in Long Beach. We also saw "The Good News" and "The Best Things in Life are Free.", also, a play that Edward Everett Horton was in.

Once Zena was taken to a "Cabaret" with Mama and Pop in Los Angeles and there were girls dancing on the tables. Zena was shocked, she thought that was terrible. However, they were fully clothed.

When we would get home from California, the grass would be so long, like weeds all over.

Pop bought a raffle ticket for 25¢ and it was put on the side board in the dining room. One day someone called up and said, "When are you going to come over and pick up your new car?" So, Jack and Mama picked it up in Phoenix and they sold it for \$300.00, which paid for our summer vacation that year. Pop was in California at this time on a business trip when we received the call. Mama had them stop him at the California border to tell him on his way home. That was really an occasion.

An added note about the lunch at the beach: Mama and Libby Myers would return with fruit, buns, lunch meat, etc. and they would sit under the umbrella and make sandwiches and eat lunch, grapes, and peaches, and all of us in red bathing suits.

A really big treat was a hot dog on the beach, or a banana nut ice cream sandwich. Mama really liked to get a tamale at Lee's stand on the Pike in Long Beach. We used to always beg to walk through the Pike, which is a boardwalk amusement center. Of course, there was no money to spend, but a good look and a lot of sailors in port to watch, always, sailors everywhere in Long Beach.

Mama used to love to go listen to the City band play, on the Pike. They would play all of John Philip Souza's marches, etc., and it was thrilling to hear that band, and there was always a cool breeze on the beach. The Pike was very clean and the food was good. Pop used to buy cooked shrimp at a meat market and walk along eating these shrimp, which we could not understand then.

Mama liked to go to the auctions on the beach. She used to buy little tiny, tiny tea sets from the Orient. There were Oriental Auction places. One time she bought some yellow chartreuse dishes. Then, she got pregnant later and couldn't stand them so she put them away where she could not see them.

She was fed tea in a bottle when she was a baby in England so tea was really hard for her to give up when she joined the church.

We really loved to go to the docks and watch the boats come in and dock and unload, Pop especially enjoyed it.

We were at the coast one summer when we learned that Jack and Macky (Maude) were married. Before this, I can remember going to the northern part of the state, and Maude was along. At night we made one long bed with everyone in it, with Jack on one edge and Maude at the other. We spent one summer in Snowflake, Arizona, which we enjoyed very much. We became very close to the Kartchner family, there, and I remember the old-fashioned corn roasts they had for entertainment.

When we were teen-agers growing up, Pop had rented the Nile Theater to the Nace Company through his real estate office. He made a deal with them that we were to have a pass to the theater, so, all of our lives, we had a pass to the shows. Needless to say, we got our money's worth there, with eight off-spring in the family. Even after Jack and Maude were married, I remember they still could get in on the family pass.

At the time the folks found out that Mama had cancer, they took off and went to Europe for a wonderful trip. They were gone almost a year. The Wilkins family stayed with us, and did we ever have a terrible time with them. He was our seminary teacher, and we thought a very bad one, We did not

like their son, Erwin, and Nadeen could not get along with them, but it was a good thing in a way as we learned some very important lessons that year. We learned that we had to get along even if we didn't like it. We all really appreciated when Mama and Pop returned home. It was really a happy day.

By Eva with help from Zena



Anna Betsy Everett and John Thompson  
(Grandma & Grandpa)



Grandpa Thompson - 1916



JOHN THOMPSON

ANNA BETSY (EVERETT) THOMPSON  
(Sister of Anna Betsy Everett)





Grandma Thompson  
Anna Betsy (Everett) Thompson  
Age 83  
Pictures taken about Oct., 1938  
when Blain was on his Mission to  
England.



Aunt Mary    Joan    Aunt Flo

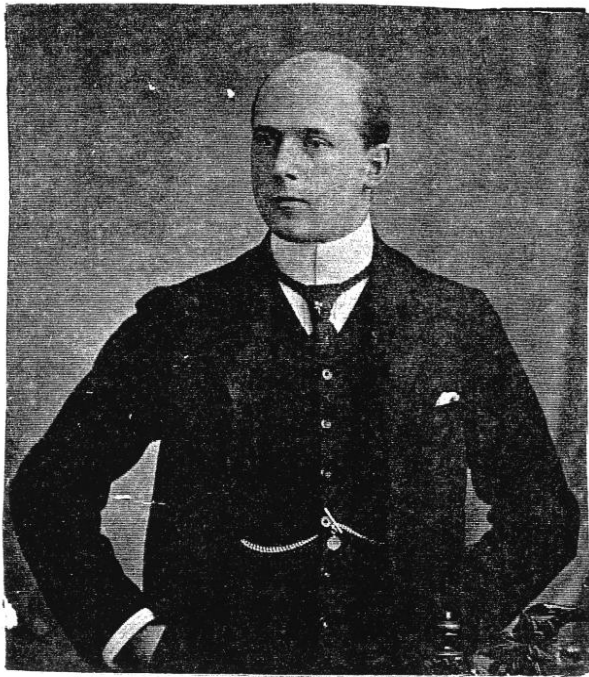


Elsie Sarah Mildred Thompson  
(Aunt Millie)

Ellen Mary Thompson  
(Aunt Mary)

Eva Anna Thompson  
(Mama)

Albert Thompson  
(Uncle Bert)



Albert Thompson  
(Uncle Bert)



Ellen Mary  
(Aunt Mary)



Florence Mary Ann  
(Aunt Flo)

FAMILY OF  
JOHN THOMPSON  
and

ANNA BETSY EVERETT THOMPSON



Eva Anna  
(Mama)



Elsie Sarah Mildred  
(Aunt Millie)



George Ambrose John  
(Uncle George)



Mama

Aunt Flo



FLORENCE MARY ANN  
[THOMPSON] HUNT

SISTER OF EVA ANNA  
[THOMPSON] CUMMARD



GRANDMA THOMPSON | AUNT FLO | BLAIN



AUNT FLO



The Maidshead, close to Norwich, England, where Grandma Thompson and Aunt Flo operated the Pub and lived upstairs. Blain stayed there one night while on his Mission.



GEORGE THOMPSON



Ellen Mary (Thompson) Mower  
Joan & Edward

ELLEN MARY THOMPSON  
MARRIED  
SIDNEY GEORGE MOWER



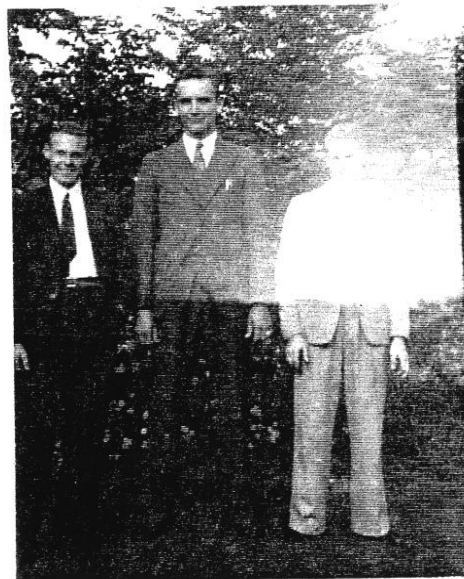
SHE IS EVA ANNA  
[THOMPSON] CUMMARD  
SISTER

MARY



MARY SON-EDGAR  
GRANDMA THOMPSON

MOWER CHILDREN



RAYMOND-BLAIN-EDGAR



COUSIN  
JOHN GOWARD  
RAYMOND-EDGAR  
JOAN

THINGS TO REMEMBER ABOUT MAMA  
EVA ANNA THOMPSON CUMMARD 1883-1932

(As told by her children in 1977.)

(J)=Jack (Z)= Zena (M)=Mabel (N)=Nadeen (E)=Eva (B)=Blain (R)=Robert  
Cummard Sasser Speckart Steward Dana Cummard Cummard  
(G)=Gerald --- HER EIGHT CHILDREN  
Cummard

Physical Appearance (J) Stately, very erect, 120 lbs., tall, 5 ft. 7 or 8. Maybe as tall as Pop. Never had a weight problem. (M) Tall, well dressed. (N) Tall, stately, regal, straight back. She used to say, "Stand and walk with your ears touching the sky--try it!." Beautifully dressed. (B) Tall, stood very erect. (G) Can't remember. I was 9 years old when she died, and she was sick in bed for several years. (E) Mama had such good posture that she was often accused of being conceited, but she certainly wasn't. She was very reserved, however, in her manner.

What she liked to wear. (J) She liked to dress up in suits, wore hats a lot, long dresses. English ladies had to dress well, she said. (E) Hats, conservative clothes. (N) Hats -- Tailored clothes most of the time. Georgette, velvet, crepe, for evening. Loved to go to Switzer's and the clerks remembered her for hears. (E) I remember the clerk in Switzer's with the lavender hair that she like to wait on her. She didn't buy a lot of clothes, but she liked them to match her hat and bag, etc. (B) Always wore a hat, mostly wide brims. She would always wear an apron around the house and would insist that we change our best clothes when we got home, etc.

Books she liked. (J) The Books of Knowledge for the kids. Set of H. Ryder Haggard literature. (G) Pop said she was a pushover for any encyclopedia salesman. I have several sets of books from the family library. I was the last, the caboose. (E) We had lots of books and were encouraged to read them.

Personality and temperament. (J) She was sensitive to people's wants. (Macky) She was generous. The epitome of refined genteel womanhood. Never lost her temper. Never used slang language, gentle, reserved. (M) A great sense of humor. But she was quiet around strangers. (N) Terrific sense of humor. Very reserved, to the point some people that didn't know her, thought she was stuck-up. (B) Very British in temperament, very exacting in accomplishments. Had a hard time giving up English desire for a "cuppa" tea. (E) She was very 'even-tempered'. I only remember she and pop having an argument twice and I thought the whole world was coming to an end, because they got along beautifully. She was always pop's "sweetheart" and he would cut her a special piece of the turkey, or chicken, etc., first, and make a bit "to-do" about this mother of ours who was very special to him, and to us. Almost every Sunday, Pop would come home from his meetings and he would stop by the Elite Candy store and buy a bag of candy. He would never let us have a piece until he had given her the first piece.



Spiritual Incidents in her life. (J) She grasped the concepts of the gospel when the missionaries taught her and Pops. He had a hard time accepting the law of tithing, but she insisted on living it. (M) Mama never completely became Americanized as Pop did. She always preferred England and English ways. (E) I remember how mama used to fold up their garments after laundering them. She would seem to pat them after she would fold them, and me being a little girl, I sensed that there was really something special about these underwear. She taught me that they meant something very spiritual and I should be a good girl so I could wear them someday. (N) On special times, we knelt around the table for family prayer. (Usually it was while we were sitting at the table.) (B) She was the organizer and charter member of the Missionary Mothers of Maricopa Stake, and became the "honorary Missionary Mother." For many years, her picture was on their letter-head. (G) Shortly after I was called to serve in the First Ward Bishopric, while in my room praying, I had a wonderful feeling that she (Mom) was there telling me that she was proud of me for serving in the church. (E) She always saw to it that we all attended our meetings, even if she had to stay home to do the work. She was always concerned that we didn't hurt anybody's feelings in any way.

Her Life with Pops. (J) Pop was the extrovert - the outgoing one. She cooperated with him, but was the more quiet reserved one. (M) Pop was always the life of the party, or wherever he happened to be, you knew he was in attendance. Mama preferred the background. (N) I never heard them argue. She called him "Jack" when they were alone. He brought her gifts of candy (those delicious nuts, brazil nuts, pecans, etc.) in a clear glaze - and ice cream. (E) He always made a lot over Mama, flattering her and complimenting her. They went on lots of short trips together and they counted each one, calling it No. 128 honeymoon, etc. Papa was raised in Liverpool and used to go down to the docks all the time and dream of traveling all over the world. They both loved to travel, especially to England. One time, Mama went to England and took Zena and Jack when they were babes, and visited all of her sisters, brother, and folks. Then, when Pop found out how ill she was, they both went on an extended trip to Europe and were gone about a year. The Wilkins family stayed with us while they were gone. (B) I remember one time I saw her sitting on the back step and evidently must have had words with Pop. (G) I remember only one argument. After it was over she sat on the back porch step and wouldn't come in. (E) I remember the same fuss they had. We were at the dinner table and Mama got mad at something Pop said, and she ran out of the back door and fell down as she went down the back steps and hurt her leg. We all remember this because they very very seldom had an argument... I only remember two.

Stories and sayings she used to tell: There is an English rhyme that ~~mama~~ used to say to us, and it goes like this. (Z & E)

There was an old woman I've heard tell,  
Who went to market her eggs to sell,  
Who went to market on a market day,  
And fell asleep on the King's highway.

Along came a peddler whose name was Stout,  
And cut off her petticoats all round-about,  
Who cut off her petticoats up to her knees,  
Which made the old woman shiver and freeze.

And when the old woman first began to wake,  
She began to shivver and she began to shake,  
She began to shivver and she began to cry,  
"Lack-a-mercy-on-us, this it can't be I."

"For, if it be I as I think it to be,  
I have a little dog at home, and he'll know me.  
If it be I, he'll wag his little tail,  
And if it be not I, he'll loudly bark and wail."

So, home went the little woman all in the dark  
And up jumped the little dog and he began to bark.  
He began to bark and she began to cry.  
"Lack-a-mercy-on-us, this it can't be I."

(We thought this was such a sad poem!!!)

(E) If we would say to mama, "Where are you going?" she would say, "I'm going crazy, do you want to go with me?" Sometimes, we would say, "How can I get there?" She would answer, "Sit down and slide..." If we would say, "I just want a little tiny bit." She would answer, "If that's all you want, you don't want any." She would say "If you waste, you'll live to want." She would say "Pretty is as pretty does." Also, she said, "If you act just half as good as you look, you'll do just fine." Sometimes when one of us girls would get prettied up, she and Pop would say, "She looks like our Ada." or, "She looks like our Midge, etc." We heard about these Aunties of ours, way across the big pond, all of our lives, and we were very envious of everyone else who had Aunties and Uncles and Grandma's and Grandpa's. Because we had none. Mama loved Queen Victoria and used to talk about her to us, also about Prince Albert, her "prince consort." She would tell us about how poor they were when she was a child. She said she never had a whole orange, or a whole egg at one time. It was always half, or a quarter.

Stories and sayings she used to tell: (M) "And the chief said to Antonio, "Antonio, tell us a tale," and the tale began as follows: It was a dark and stormy night, and the chief said unto Antonio, "Antonio, tell us a tale - - - -" Sometimes we would say "How did you know that?" She would answer, "A little bird told me so. Don't you know that little birds always tell mothers?" (E) She used to tell us about the great Norwich Cathedral that our grandparents were married in. It is where just important, or aristocratic people, were married, but because she was the maid for someone who was important, they let them get married there. Of this, the family has always been proud!! (G) She seemed to know always when I had done something wrong and said, "A little birdie told her so."

What she told you about her childhood: (J) She was very poor. She helped out her father garden the vegetables for market. She collected the manure in the streets for her dad's garden. She hated that job, it even made her clothes stink! she said. (N) How they never had a whole egg except at Christmas because they weren't available. Her dad was a "fancy vegetable" farmer -- like, he grew strawberries with straw under them. Evidently their family was very close as she got lots of mail from them, her parents and her sisters. (E) She said she would run and play in the "meadow" near the "heather," and smell the "lavender." She retained a lot of her English expressions, but didn't have an English accent. In fact, she used to tell her friend, Libby Myers, that she should get over her English accent, and be an American... When we would coax her to tell us a story, it would be about queens and princesses, not cowboys and indians, etc. She said they never did have any "dear," or "posh," things. She used to sit by the fireplace at night and peel navel oranges for us by the dozen. She had a very fast unique way of peeling them fast, and this was a very special time for us, as all the bedrooms were very cold. We would dress for bed in the living room and then run and jump into bed very fast. This was before central heating. There were ten of us using one bathroom, which was a real jam-up sometimes. However, we had the first solar system in Arizona, I believe. We had pipes installed on a roof outside of the bathroom window, which was covered with glass. And the good old Arizona sun used to keep much bath water ready for our big family. We knew how many shallow tub-fulls it would supply, and then the rest bathed in the cold. We had our own citrus orchard, with several orange, grapefruit and lemon trees. Also fig, an almond, and two plum trees.

Talents she possessed. (J) She enjoyed going to concerts, and traveling. Home was furnished in good taste. Our home was excellent, nice, orderly, and clean. She organized the girls to get the housework done, and the boys to get the cows milked, etc. (M) A good mother, with poise. (N) She had good leadership abilities. She was counselor in the Maricopa Stake M.I.A. for years with Naoma Brimhall. She was an

excellent plain cook. (E) She had the patience of Job. I can only remember being punished once by her. I was slapped on the cheek for sassing her. I wanted to go see my little friend, Viola Passey, and I hadn't done my work. (G) She made quilts. The quilting frames were often set up in the dining room using the dining room chairs for legs. (E) She had built in plate rails around the walls of our dining room, up high, and she had a hobby of collecting little knick-knacks, especially tiny little dishes from England. She loved to hear K.S.L from Salt Lake City, and she used to imitate the announcer. She loved to hear the word of the Sunday Morning broadcasts from the Tabernacle. She really had a lot of patience and backed my dad in his church work 100%. We never heard her complain, though she had this big family responsibility. Whenever our dad would write us a letter, or call us on the telephone, he would refer to himself as "Your Illustrious father," and this was using very good psychology. It always made me think that he was busy doing good things, and I'd better get on the ball and get busy too, and accomplish things. He was always going to a High Council meeting, a Red Cross meeting, a cemetery meeting, a hay-growers Ass'n. meeting, Rotary, or a hospital board meeting, etc., etc. And when he was not in a meeting, he was off to one of our rentals teaching Robert and Blain to fix toilets, or mend something in our duplexes, etc. They all grew up to be real good handy-men around the house. In the summer-time, we had no coolers, whatever, and believe me, it was hot. Pop would take us for a ride every evening to get us cooled off. And, at the end of the ride, he would buy us an ice-cream cone, then, 5¢ each. We would hate the ride, but love the cone at the end, so there would be a lot of fussing among us, all 8 of us, but Mama would manage to keep us content... I remember when Gerald was born. Jack took us for a ride, but he wouldn't take us home. He kept calling home. In those days, the children didn't know when they were going to have a little brother or sister, that was a carefully guarded secret. So, finally, after an eternity, we thought, we got to go home, and there was a little baby in a basket on the sewing machine in the dining room. We were so surprised!!! We had built in benches of cement around our front porch. This made a wonderful place for everyone to just visit and rock, or swing. I remember one time we pooled our money, all of us, and bought one of those old-fashioned swings that holds 4 or 5. We really enjoyed it.

Foods she liked to prepare: (J) A good cook. She cooked Yorkshire Pudding with Roast Beef. Lamb with mint sauce. (which she always grew.) Pork with applesauce. (M) Meat and potatoes. Yorkshire pudding. (N) Roast Beef, Yorkshire Pudding, candied apples cooked with red hots (candies), rice pudding, a cake that ended up in 3 loaves; 1 chocolate, one carraway seeds, and one a plain pound cake. A cake with fig jam. Always cooked 2 vegetables. Melted cheese on toast. Finnan Haddie with butter and pepper. Fried tomatoes. Corn and scrambled eggs. Glorified rice. (E) Finnan-Haddie for.

breakfast, boiled with butter and pepper. Glorified rice made of Jello, rice and pineapple. Breaded veal-cutlets. Lamb with English sweet mint sauce, or mint jelly. A breakfast dish of dry toast topped with cooked spinach and topped with a poached egg. (B) Roast beef with gravy and Yorkshire Pudding. Lots of Ice Cream. Didn't like water-melon with black seeds as the melons in England had white seeds. (G) Chicken and dumplings and Yorkshire Pudding, bread and milk. (Z) Mama was a very good cook. She didn't have time to bake desserts, however, or didn't believe in them. She really could cook meat, her specialty was roast beef, or a "joint" as it is called in England. She cooked it very tender with a little suet on the top and she sliced it very thin and sometimes would cook Yorkshire pudding with it, which is a real English treat. We would have chicken almost every Sunday. Pop would always say that the first slice is for Mother, because she liked the outside cut. (also, he would save that tiny tender piece on the middle of the chicken's back for her, as it was the tenderest piece. Papa really taught us reverence and respect for our mom. Some Sundays he would bring home a sack-full of candy which was candy coated nuts and coconut, her favorite from the Elite Candy Store, then, he wouldn't let us have a piece of it until "his sweetheart," had the first piece. She liked that English Golden Syrup, too! She would cook fish roe, which is fish eggs, when we would be in Long Beach and could get them very fresh. Now they are very expensive and a real delicacy hardly affordable. I'll never forget when she first started making "glorified rice." I guess it was when they first invented jello. It had pineapple, rice, and jello in it, and I never tasted anything so good. I guess the rice was a "stretcher." (E & Z) When we first moved to our big new home on Evergreen, we had a huge Indian rug on the dining and living room floors. In the dining room we had a mirrored old-fashioned "side-board", and also, we had the old-fashioned plate or dish rails all around the walls in the dining room, up high, where mama kept all of her little precious knick-knacks from England, berry dish sets, etc. We had a large round oak table that would open up into a very large one. (Where we used to entertain a lot of church dignitaries from Salt Lake City when they would come to Conference in Mesa. J. R. Price, the Stake President lived in Phoenix, so they would eat with us. President Grant ate at our home several times. It was around this table that Mama started the family table-cloth where she had these apostles, etc. sign their name, and then she would embroider them into the material for forever, so they wouldn't wash out. One time, when we had prepared a sumptuous turkey dinner for President Heber J. Grant, he asked for bread and milk and Mama was so embarrassed because she didn't have any home-made bread. This table cloth was given to Eva when she was very ill near her death, and she has been able to carry it on, adding 35 or 40 names to it inasmuch as her husband, George I. Dana, was a Stake President of the Tempe, Arizona Stake for 13 years. (E) Back to the foods she liked to prepare... She made the best chestnut dressing when she stuffed a turkey or chicken. (N) I remember the banana nut ice cream sandwiches that she like to buy when we were on the beach in Long Beach. (E) I remember that she really

liked to get those real big tamales at "Lee's" Restaurant on the Pike. Pop liked to get shrimp in a butcher type package and eat while he walked down the Pike. We kids liked the fried shrimp the best...

Humorous Incidents: (J) She caught Jack drinking the cooking sherry and so she poured the rest down the sink. (G) She had the water sprinkler going on the parkway and she went out to move it. She got hemmed in between the sprinkler and the hedge and yelled for me to turn it off. I didn't hear her so she got wet getting out. She said I did it on purpose. I have always felt bad because I really didn't hear her. (E) Mama hated the smell of cigarette or cigar smoke. She would smell the smoke of someone who was walking past our house, and she would say, "The nerve of some people!!! There was a neighbor who used to bring her flowers and she would say, "throw them out, I don't accept flowers from men who don't treat their wives nice!!" However, we wouldn't throw them out... (Macky) Once, a big fish - head, eyes and all was prepared and set on the table. She refused to eat it, with it's eyes still "looking" at her. Same thing happened with a piglet on a festive occasion. She couldn't stand to sit at the table with that pig looking at her with an apple in its mouth. She had learned to set a fine table for dinner and knew how to fold napkins, or "serviettes," into fancy shapes, such as flowers, birds, and crowns. A couple of children had convulsions and the doctor told her if it happened again to put the child in warm water to relax him. One day they were driving in the car near Gilbert and Robert went into a convulsion. Mrs. Cummard ordered the car stopped, and Jack had to get into the canal and dunk Robert. As he grew older, we called him Rock even though Mama always said she gave her children nice names and they were not to be nick-named. (N) One time she came home from a dance to match her shoes. She did not have on pairs. One was a single strap and the other a double strap on the outside with a button side. She had on an apricot chiffon dress. (N) On our vacations in Long Beach, when we were tiny, we had to all wear red swim suits so we could all be "counted;" I've seen her laugh until she curled up in a ball. We used to tease her about Mr. Steele that owned the grocery store because he always delivered our groceries. I always did think Pop was jealous. (E) We used to tease her about Mr. Julian, too, who drove the vegetable truck that came around to the house, three days a week. (N) She saved special food for Jack if he was late. Jack was allowed to eat his dessert on the living room floor, but we girls weren't. She didn't like giving up her seat in the front of the car -- and didn't. When she made social plans and needed transportation, her remark sometimes was "sit down and slide." Papa brought home ice cream and those good nuts in the clear "brittle" on Sundays. The nuts were hers - good nuts, like Brazil nuts and big pecans. The only time I ever kniw anyone to smoke in our home was when a man the folks had met on the boat, going

or coming from England, visited us and Mama gave him a saucer for his cigar ash, but opened one of the little windows on either side of the fireplace, at the same time. The youngest, Gerald, sometimes milked the cows. The pail was too heavy to carry across the street. The pasture was always across the street. He yelled, "I was good enough to go milk the cows, can't you be good enough to carry it across the street?" We all thought he was adorable!!! I'll never forget -- after her umpteenth operation, on a card from the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in California, she wrote to Jack - "Now I know what hamburger must feel like." (Z) Sometimes when we would have company, Jack would get under the table and tie our guests feet together with string. Such fun for him! (E) She used to imitate the K.S.L. announcer, She would say, like, "This is K.S.L. in Salt Lake City."

What she did for fun and relaxation: (J) She played Rook with friends. She wouldn't allow "playing cards" to be in the house. She always had a nice car. (E) I remember the Romer, and her Chevy coupe, the one when she had her picture taken in front of it. She did love the car. (M) She loved a cup of tea, but had to give it up. She said she was given tea in a bottle when she was a baby. She loved a good conversation with her kids. (N) She loved to dance and picnic. They had tickets for years to see the Players in Phoenix. When special shows like the George White Scandals (vaudeville) would come through Phoenix on their way to Los Angeles, they would always go if they could possibly arrange it. Also, when the Chatauqua would come to Mesa, they would put up a big tent where Meldrum's Mortuary is now and we would always have tickets for the whole family to go. No one loved a show more than Pop and Mama. When they went to Europe, they arranged it specially so that they could see the Oberamagau pageant in Germany, which only plays every ten years. It is the life of Christ and is something really special to see. On one of Pop's business deals, he sold the property to the Nace Theater people to build their Nile Theater in Mesa, which was just around the corner from Pop's office in Mesa, on Main Street. As part of the deal, Pop was to receive a pass for the theater shows for the entire family, 10 of us, no less. So, we could just walk into the show anytime we could get our parent's permission, for no charge. This theater had great big bust faces of Egyptian women all around the walls, and we always thought they looked like Nadeen. Also, in those days, at first, they used to have someone playing an organ at the front of the theater. So, Mama enjoyed many of the better movies that came along, until she became ill.

Miscellaneous things to remember: (N) Mama never wanted her daughters to clean chickens, even though she did. (E) I remember once when

Rock (Robert) got ill in the car when we were going for a ride. He was having convulsions. The car was stopped, and Mama lowered him up and down into the ditch of irrigation water and he immediately stopped convulsing. Brother, was I ever scared! (N) Sometimes when they would go on their trips to Phoenix, Mama would come home with a manicure of which we were very proud! One time we went into the Splendid Grill and Mama ate an artichoke, in a booth, for a special treat! They would sometimes eat at the Grand Cafe and would sometimes bring home ground horseradish and fresh ground peanut butter from a fancy market. I remember the big King touring car that was burned in the garage fire that we had. Also the last one, the tan Chevrolet with orange trim that had a jump-seat. She bought a scarf to match! It was pleated! (E) I remember the light blue Romer car which looked like a Rolls Royce car 20 years later. (N) Mama loved the late KSL program of organ music. When she was so sick, she insisted that Mabel not postpone the wedding. It seems like I remember that the wedding was the last time she went outside. She was much impressed with Spec's voice when he sang "Asleep in the Deep" at their wedding reception outside of our house. It was August 24, in the summer. At Christmas time she gave the first oranges and grapefruit to people in new shopping bags with handles. The Myers family would come to see us on their "Easter Vacation" (we didn't have such a thing) and Mr. Myers (Eddie) would paint a part of our house each time. He was a painter by trade. We had to put clean newspaper (ad section) in the knife and fork drawer, and where we kept the cereals, almost weekly. I remember her boiling the white clothes in the back yard, and giving us baths in those double tubs in the kitchen with the green plaid blanket at the window to keep the cold out. I remember the sour milk bag hanging in the tubs for to make cottage cheese. The time Jack and I were caught with the white pepper in the coconut package in the cupboard above the General Electric refrigerator. Our Christmas gifts from Santa (if wrappable) were always in the same heavy wrapping paper, the same heavy string, and the same big bold black grease pencil print. Pop always passed out the presents one at a time and we had to wait and see as each and every present was unwrapped. Mama belonged to the Mesa Women's Club and she didn't play bridge. Her friend Aunt Amie Ellsworth, her very close friend, came from England, too, but never had an English accent. Mama said that many people had lice on the boat coming from England, and she spent most of her time helping people wash their hair to get rid of them. Pop would rent an apartment in Long Beach and would guarantee the house would be in better shape than when they moved in, and it was always within walking distance of the beach. This was all-important!!! His daughters were his "illustrious jewels." On the way to California on a business deal, Pop stopped to eat breakfast and he heard people talking about a man who had won a car.



Found out he was the man that had won a Hudson Essex. He sold it for \$1,000.00. He brought home ten \$100.00 bills for all of us to feel. Nadeen feels that Jack was Mama's favorite because he was the oldest and the only boy for so long. One of us kids could go on dates with Mom and Dat if our birthday was that week. Mama always wanted more than one bathroom. She also wanted an outside drinking fountain for the kids but she never got either one. For hired help we had Miss Copland for awhile, also, other girls to help after each new baby arrived. She was tall, never stout or fat. She learned good posture from grammar school in England. Sunday dinner was special, she always had a 10# roast and sometimes Yorkshire Pudding, white table cloth, and dishes that always matched. She loved linens and dishes. When we were in California, they would go shopping in Los Angeles, and then see a stage show, or vaudeville at night. If one of us had a birthday that week, they would take that person with them. (E) I remember seeing the first "talkie" movie with them in Long Beach. It was either Al Jolson, or Edward Everett Horton. (Macky) In 1915, the Pan American Exposition was held in San Francisco. Pop took the entire family on the trip because he wanted to also attend a life insurance convention held at the same time. Jack remembers seeing the rubble from the 1906 earthquake from his hotel room. He would throw rocks out of the windows, down into the empty basement holes. Afton Clark Peterson was the baby sitter Mama took along to help with the children.. (She has since reported to Zena that they were very naughty children.) Zena remembers they were upstairs, above the hotel clerk who was below them, and they dropped straight pins on him; Zena says Jack dropped sacks full of water on people out of the window. On the way hom from San Francisco, the entire family stopped in Long Beach and discovered it was a nice place to take a family for a summer vacation. (E) So, this was where we went every summer for many many years, with the exception of one when we went to Snowflake, Arizona, for the summer. When we would rent our apartment on the beach in Long Beach, Pop would always leave half of us in the car while he went in to rent it. I always wondered if he told them honestly how many children he had left in the car. He would always tell the landlady that we would leave the apartment in better shape than we found it, and we did, Mama saw to that. The old Orpheum Theater used to have stage plays, and the old Rialto Theater used to have vaudevilles that visited the town. These were our parents chances for a night out, away from the children, for an evening. Sometimes when we would go to California, they would take along an extra girl, for baby-sitting (this was when they had their first ones) like the Colpan girl, Fern and Faun Ellsworth and Afton Clark. They were a little bit older than Jack and Zena. Pop always believed that he saved enough money in the winter on doctor bills, to pay for the expenses to go to California. Being from England,

where all they had was fog and rain, Pop felt that the sunshine we got on the beach was worth a lot for health reasons. Our doctor was Doctor Openshaw. He had some favorite brown medicine that he gave for everything. Brother, was it ever nasty! I believe he doctored us free of charge, sometimes anyway, because they (he and his wife, Dora Openshaw) were very close personal friends of our folks. They never got along with each other, however, and we heard a lot about their bickering, as to how terrible it was. They later got a divorce. He left her one day and went to Mexico. Mama would use this as an example and tell us to be nice and sweet, not like so-and-so, you see what happened to her. Back to the beach. Every morning, except Sunday, Mama would let us go out pretty early to the beach after our chores were done. She would sometimes keep Zena to help her in the apartment to make sandwiches for the rest of us. Then, at about noon, she would come to the beach with loads of fruit and sandwiches, and we would sit under an umbrella and have lunch. We always had to have red swimming suits, when we were smaller, so that she could locate and count us all readily. Two Price families, the J. R. Price's and the George F. Price's were always there on the beach with us, usually in a nearby apartment. We were very close to both families. It was J. R. Price who was instrumental in bringing the gospel to our folks in England. Mama and Libby Myers, one of her dearest friends from England, who later moved to Long Beach, used to go together to the outside market (like in England) around the City Hall Square, and have a good time shopping for beautiful fruit and vegetables and fresh peanut butter, etc. Three days a week they had this outside market and it was their favorite shopping place. We all loved to go there too. When we went to England, we saw one of these outside markets, and it was identical to the one in Long Beach. Each "market gardener" had his own private little stall, where he pedaled his wares, mostly food. (B) With 8 children the fun is evident. (C) Mama was in the Woman's Club of Mesa, but she would not play bridge.

How she treated your friends:

(J) Very graciously. (M) Friendly, but with reserve. (N) Everyone loved her! She would suggest things to do and games to play. She would insist we would walk our friends half-way home, sometimes, or part-way. Our friends were always welcome in our home. We would sit by the hour on our front porch, which had lots of built in cement benches. She nearly always, as I got a little older, had a "sit-down" dinner party for me on my birthdays. (B) She was ill for the last three years and that made me only about 10 years old at that time and I don't remember too much. I was close to the Pew boys, my friends, and they were treated nice by her. I remember she was real conscious of us returning tools we borrowed from the Spilsbury's, our next-door neighbor. Elaine was their daughter, she was in between Eva and I in age. She used to scratch. She was an only child and sometimes didn't know how to get along with other children, so Mama was always teaching us what to say to

Elaine so she would be nice to us and we wouldn't fight. (E) One night papa went out to get into his car and he found a dead snake in the driver's seat. We found out a neighbor boy, Gail Vance, had put it there. We all wanted to make a big thing of it, but mama said, no, we'll just forget it, he thinks that is a good trick to play on someone. One time I was invited to go to San Francisco for a summer vacation with a friend and her parents. I didn't really want to go, but her mother talked to my mom and said they were having a hard time with their daughter and I was a good "example" (Ha!) for her, so mama thought I ought to go and help if I could. You see, I was used to having to get along along with many brothers and sisters!!! I went and had many a fuss with her, but we became life-long friends after that, thanks to mama.

Church callings she fulfilled: (J) She formed the Missionary Mothers when Jack, Dix Price, and Blaine Freestone went on missions. (M) She worked in the Mutual after we were all grown. (N) Sta ke Mutual. She started the Missionary Mothers. Her picture was on their letter-heads. (E) She was in the M.I.A Stake Presidency with Naoma Brimhall for many years. Sister Brimhall is still alive as of this writing, 1977, and she always compliments me on my lovely mother when she sees me. Mama was so busy having children and keeping them fed and clothed, she didn't have much extra time for church jobs, and then she was ill for so many years.

Sad or hard times: Mama missed her mother in England. (M) We never had much money, but we didn't go without either. (E) Pop had some tough financial times. He was always talking about raising money for the mortgage. One time he had purchased a lovely big acreage from Mr. Chandler, in Chandler, but got behind on the payments and lost it. He never forgot this because he did love that ranch. Also, he had a ranch in Gilbert during some very rough times. I think it was during the depression years. Two men were killed on the ranch laboring on some machinery. Pop was sued and this law suit hung heavily over his head for years and years, but finally we won the law suit. There was no negligence on his part. We really loved to go out to this ranch with Pop. I remember when Nadeen had scarlet fever. Mama and Nadeen were closed off alone in the living and dining room and it seemed like it was for weeks. We were quarantined into the back of the house, away from them.

We would pass their food around the kitchen door and onto the side-board for them to pick up and eat. She was so sad to have to be so far away from the rest of us for this time. (G) We never wasted anything. We ate all on our plate because she said we would have to save it and eat it for our next meal. We never took more than we would eat. Pop had some real tough breaks. One was when he lost the ranch in Chandler because he could not make the payments. Also, he had a law-suit hanging over his head for many years because one man was killed and another was injured in an accident on the ranch in Gilbert when they were working for Pop. After many years it was settled and that there was no negligence on dad's part, so he was cleared. Also, I can remember pop was always saying he needed to make some money to pay on the mortgage. He was always bettering himself by buying houses and apartments and duplexes, etc.

Her Friends and Neighbors: (J) Libby Myers was her very close friend in Mesa. She was from England. When she moved to Long Beach, California, they still remained very close friends. (M) Mrs. Myers for many, many years was her best friend. She tolerated "Mrs. Op-----" She had a good neighbor relationship with Mrs. Spilsbury, next door, (E) She was best friends with Naoma Brimhall, especially when they were both on the M.I.A Stake Board. When she was alive she spoke very highly of Mama. She was especially fond of Annie Ellsworth. They had a pair of twins, which really fascinated us kids, and we played together a lot while our mothers visited. We also went to California together once or twice for the summer. (G) The Galbraith's and Spilsbury's on the south, and out crows on the north. There was also a pasture next to us and not a house for a block. The Frank West's were our next door neighbors on the north, but they were more than a block away because of the pasture. I always wondered if we owned the pasture, or was it the one across the street that we used the most.

Home Chores She Assigned You: (J) Cows to milk, and make butter in the churn. I had a paper route for the Arizona Republic. I also had to baby sit a lot of kids and look after them. (M) I always did the house work, Zena the sewing and Mama did the cooking. (N) We rotated the house work. I washed the dishes every odd day of the month and Eva wiped, and then visa-versa on the even days. (E) I remember that on Saturdays, Mabel had to clean the living room. Nadeen cleaned the bedrooms and I had to clean the bathroom and do the grocery shopping. I was instructed to buy a roast every time, and ask for free suet to cook on the top. Also, I asked for veal cutlets when we could afford them. I remember that the butcher always seemed to like my mother and wanted to please her and give her the best of what he had. First it was Frank Gurley who had a butcher shop. Then it was Joe Moody who worked for the Pay'n Takit Market on the corner by Pop's

office. Pop used to tell the story that one time when Mama was pregnant, in the middle of the night she decided she wanted some crab, so he phoned Mr. Moody and got him out of bed and he got it for her in the middle of the night. (G) I had to milk the cows (to help Robert) and mow the d--- lawn.

Special Trips She Took -- Places She Liked To Go: (J) She liked to go to California every summer. (B) Mama and Pop liked to go placed alone, without the children. (N) They had many honeymoon trips to Los Angeles. Pop had them numbered as they took each one. Papa took her to England just prior to her death. (E) I remember that they would often take one of us with them when they would go on their everning's out, taking turns. Pop could make a bit "to-Do" about taking "his sweetheart" out for the evening. (G) We went to Long Beach (the Myers's lived there) each summer. Pop and Moma went to England and the Wilkin's stayed with us for about six months when he found out she was so ill.

Her Education: (J) Probably 8th grade only. Went to work as a maid and kitchen help. (M) Very little, perhaps 4th or 5th grade which was not unusual in those days. But with her the "King's English was spoken perfectly." (E) I seem to remember Aunt Millie telling me that Mama quit school to help their father do the "market gardening." Mama said she had to shovel the manure off of the streets and put on their vegetables, which whe disliked very much. But I believe that she had a very happy childhood, from the way she spoke of it.

Happy Memories: (J) She spent a lot of her time attending to the four sisters of mine in the family, putting ribbons in their hair, and sewing their dresses just right. (N) I have many, many happy memories. (E) All of my memories are happy ones. Pop and Mama were really sweethearts. They only had one or two fights that I ever knew about. One time Mama ran out of the back door when she got mad at something Popa had said, and she fell down the steps and hurt her leg, and then she refused to go in the house for awhile. I thought the world had come to an end because that was the first time I had seen them argue in any way. I remember how proud she was of her little collection of knick-knacks that she placed on her plate rails in the dining room. Sometimes when someone would walk by our house, she could smell them smoking, and she would say, "The nerve of some people, smoking in front of my house!!!. She had a marvelous smeller!

When she was very ill and would receive flowers from someone of questionable character, she would say "throw them out." And then, she would teach us a little living lesson, for why... This she was very good at. I believe I learned more lessons from my parents from just listening to them when they would be visiting and talking with their own friends, or with each other, than at any other time. It seems that everything they told about had a moral to it, and we learned from the story as told. This is what is the matter with the modern generation today, too much T.V. and not enough of listening to our elders as they visit with each other, of their experiences, etc.

(G) We made home-made ice cream often. Playing on the beach at Long Beach and walking down the Long Beach Pike. (E) One unhappy memory. One day I was sent home from school because I did not bring a white apron to the 8th grade for a cooking class at the start of the year. I brought an "off-white" apron, so I was sent to the principal's office because I had been told by my mother that I didn't have to have a white apron. O. P. Greer finally settled it between my mother and the teacher that day. The off-white apron was acceptable.

How She Disciplined You: (J) She turned me over to Pop when he came home from work, but I knew she still loved me. (E) I can remember being punished only twice, once for sassing Mama. I wanted to go see Viola Passey and she said I couldn't. You see, I had to go through what we called Mexican Town, by their 'ole swimming' hole' and they would scare me to death, sometimes taking away my peanut butter sandwich, so she was concerned about this every time I wanted to go see my friend. (E) I would say she punished by explaining why that was not the thing we should do, instead of with a stick, or whatever. Sometimes, Pop would chase Robert and Blain down the road with a razor strap. I don't think he ever caught either one of them. (N) Pop might put us to bed without supper, but Mama would sneak a bite to us later. (G) She didn't have to discipline you, her look was enough.

What She Taught You: (J) Nursery rhymes and riddles. She taught me how to darn socks and knit wash rags for the war effort in World War I.

Illnesses She Had: (J) She was healthy until cancer struck. Dora Openshaw, a family friend, cared for her without charge. (N) I'll never forget, after her umpteenth operation on a card from the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in Los Angeles, she wrote "Now I know what hamburger must feel like," in a card to Jack. (G) She had several operations. I was too young to understand.

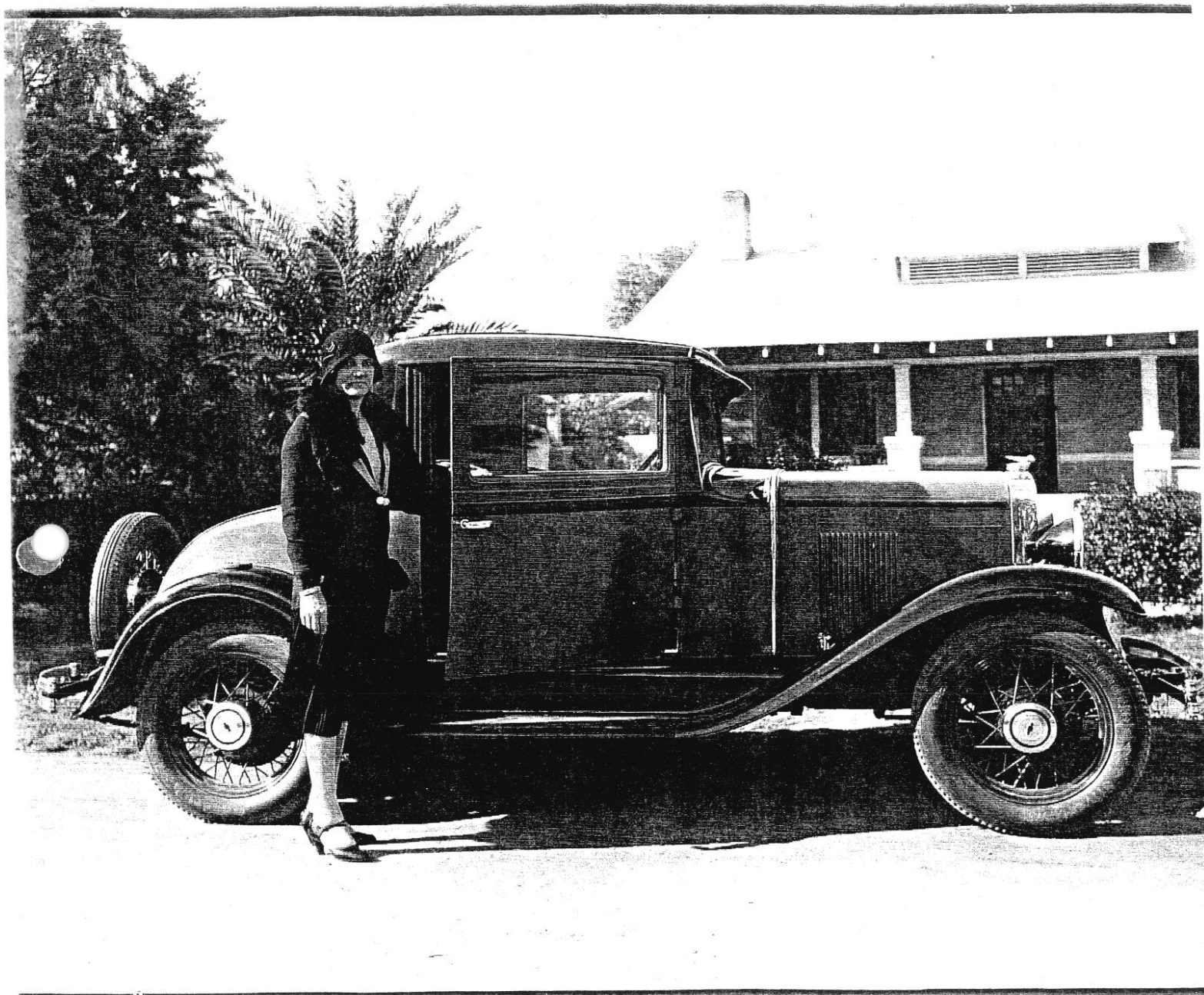
(E) One time she was sitting in front of the fire in the living room and she fell asleep and got her legs too hot. It burned her shin-bone and this caused a running sore that lasted for many months. I think they called it an ulcerated sore. I remember she wore a bandage on it for over a year, and it then did finally heal up. I had been going to Business College the summer I graduated from High School, for just three weeks when Pop said I had better quit and take care of Mama, which I did until she passed away in October. I never regretted this for I really got to know her in those few months. However, it was really hard on me watching her wast-away to skin and bones before she died. She was one beautiful lady, and always a lady, and I loved her with every fiber of my being. I honored her. We expected her to die, but it was still a big shock when she did pass away, quietly. One of the last things she said was "take care of Robert!" I guess we had been having a little problem with him about then. When Pop died, about the last thing he said to me was, "Eva, now I want you to see to it that the family stays together and gets together often."

Other Things You Remember: (J) She entered a recipe contest and won first price. It had rice, whipping cream and pineapple in it. She got her name in the paper. (M) How she fed "Lucy" the Indian on wash days, and gave her enough for her lazy husband and son who waited on the ditch bank for lunch time. (G) I would stand in the car in the front seat looking over the dash as we drove to California. Pop was driving and Mama was on the possenger side. Mama never liked to sit in the back seat. (E) The stories she would tell us were not about cowboys and Indians but about Kings and Queens and Princesses. She loved Queen Victoria who reigned as Monarch, with Prince Albert as her consort. She would tell us about the rich people she used to work for. (She was their maid.)



Dad Zena Jack Mother Mabel





MOTHER WITH HER NEW 'CHEVE'

January, 1930



Standing: Mabel, Zena, Mother, Jack  
Seated: Dad, Blain, Eva, Nadeen



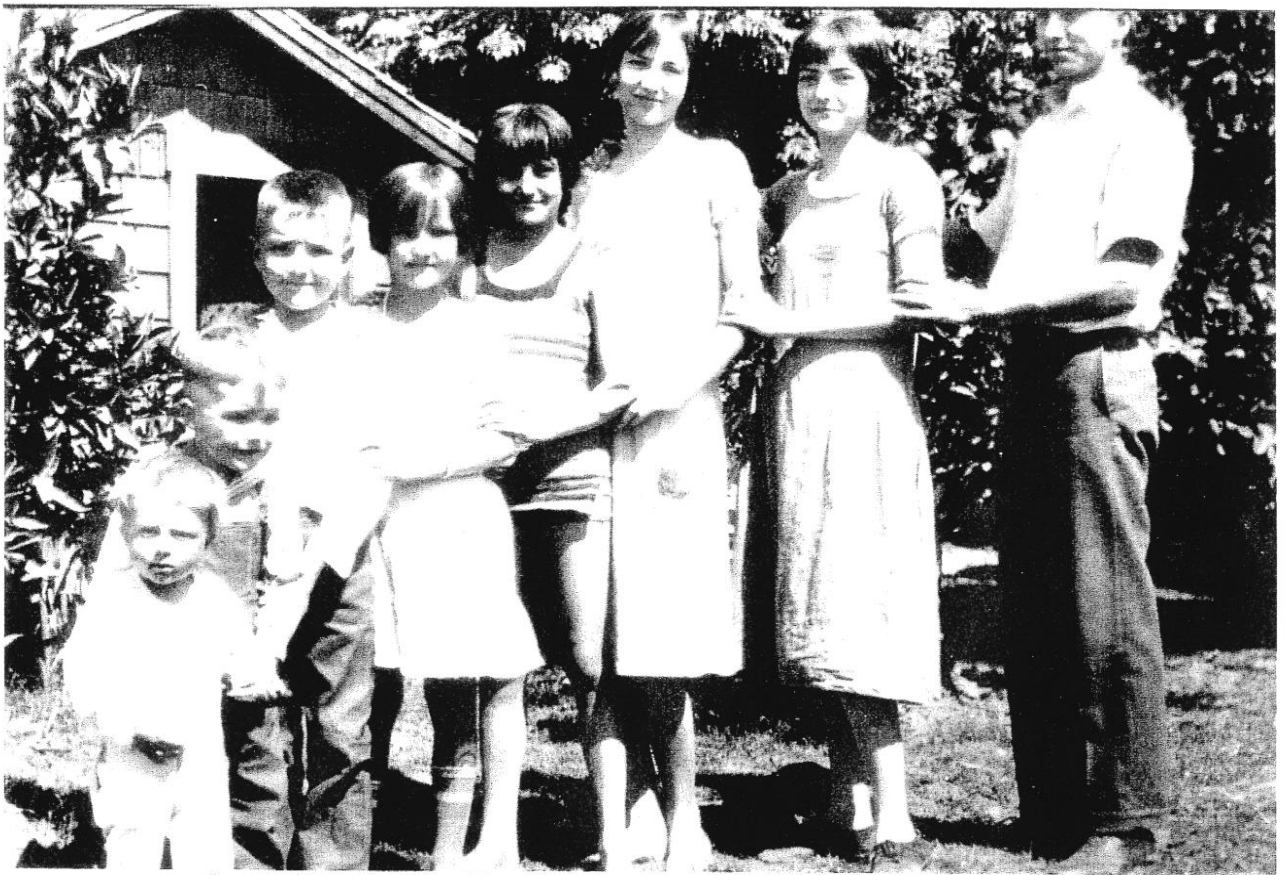
MA DEEN

MABEL  
EVA

ZEN



MABEL  
T. 1111



Gerald, Robert, Blain, Eva, Nadeen, Mabel, Zena, Jack



Jack, Zena, Mabel, Nadeen, Eva, Blain, Robert, Gerald

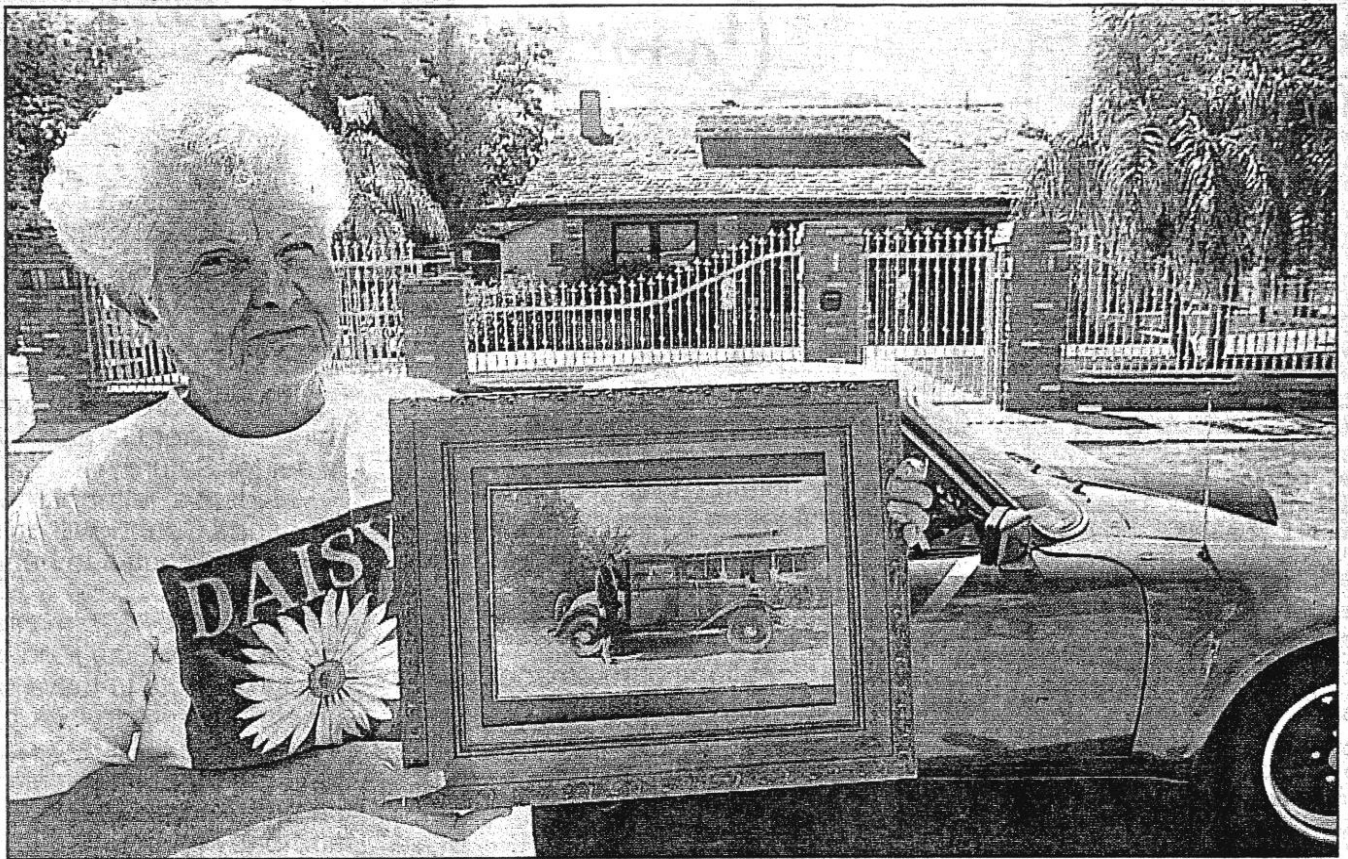
MAY 10, 1995

THE PHOENIX  
Gazette

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Mesa

# COMMUNITY



Daisy Cumnard stands in front of the home on Robson Street where her husband, Gerald, was

Randy Reid / Staff photographer  
born 67 years ago. The framed photograph shows the same scene in the 1920s.

# Haven lost in time

## Area rooted in friendliness

By Edythe Jensen  
Staff writer

### Mesa

**O**range nasturtiums hang over the curb in front of Gerald and Daisy Cummard's house, tickling ankles as a visitor steps from the car.

Neatly trimmed cumquat bushes and their dove-egg-sized fruit stand like decorated garden entry columns framing the roadside flower patch.

Curving concrete takes the visitor to the front door past lilies, magnolia trees and clusters of rose bushes dropping their fragrant pastel petals on dark, weedless soil.

When Gerald opens the door, the smell of cooking beans mixes with rose fragrance.

He points across the street to a tree as tall as a three-story building.

"One of those trees was planted in front of every lot in 1917," he says. "I don't know what kind they are, but only three are left. Those trees are the reason this neighborhood is called Evergreen."

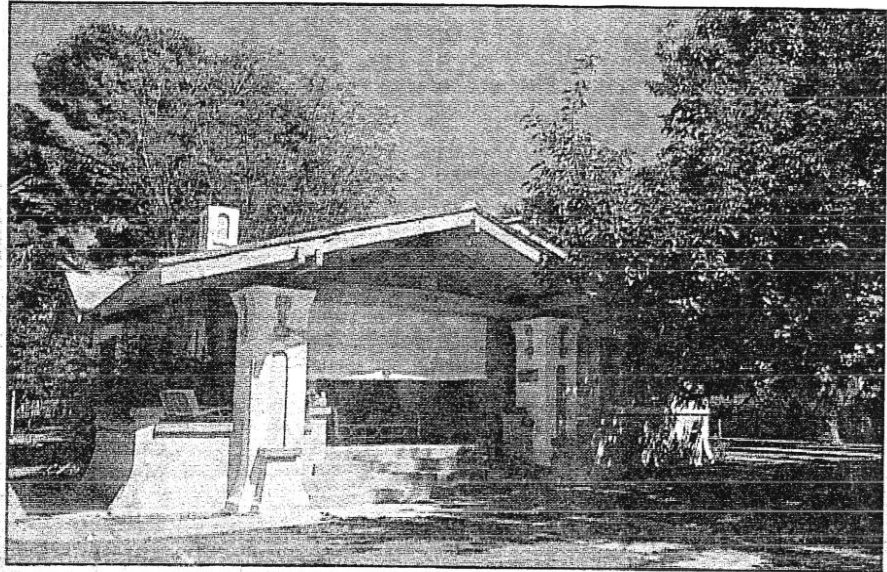
Evergreen is two streets — Grand and Robson — north of University Drive and a few blocks from Mesa City Hall. A drive through it feels like entry into a secret garden — another time — where neighbors are friends and families sit on front porches drinking glasses of lemonade at dusk.

When Gerald's father, John, moved to Evergreen, he was the real estate agent who sold lots in the subdivision.

"He sat at a card table underneath a mesquite tree selling real estate," Gerald says.

Houses weren't built until lots were sold. When they first went up during World War I, there was no air conditioning, no evaporative cooling and no garages. Residents didn't own cars.

Neighborhoods weren't built like they are today. No domino rows of particle board that quickly become a lineup of stucco and red tile.



Community

Daisy Cummard was raised in this home at 555 N. Robson St., a short distance from where husband-to-be Gerald lived.

In Evergreen, houses sprouted slowly through both world wars, the Depression, the optimistic '50s, the flower children '60s and the disco '70s.

Styles and eras meet at back fences. Gardens give shade and continuity.

One house's metal roof and overhanging porches are complimented by a neighbor's elongated rectangle ranch facade with a side carport.

Gerald Cummard was born in an Evergreen house on Robson Street 67 years ago. His son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren live there now. It's a block away from the couple's "modern" 39-year-old house on Grand Street.

"There were just a few houses when I was growing up. We had fields around the house and a couple of cows. When I was 5 or 6, it was my job to milk them. I could milk a cow just fine, but I was too small to carry the bucket full of milk. I had to yell for help when I was finished."

Daisy and Gerald were children when they met. Her family lived in the same neighborhood.

### Passion for gardens

Daisy's father, Sreeve Peterson, loved gardening. All it took to start him on a new planting was tell him you can't grow something in Arizona.

"He would grow it," Daisy says. "My father and O.S. Stapley were the first people to plant bougainvilleas in Mesa. Everyone said they wouldn't grow here."

Daisy's brother, Bob Peterson, continues the family gardening tradition on Grand Street.

Cars slow down or stop in the middle of the street to gawk at his gardenias, azalias, shrimp plants, camelias, ferns, roses, and lilies.

"I love this neighborhood," he says. "Many of us grew up here. Our brothers and sisters and children live here. When somebody new moves in, we get to know them pretty soon. We all spend a lot of time in our front yards."

Neighborhood history is part of the small talk. Gerald remembers his family's first phone number: 189.

# HAVEN

"There were so few telephones, you only needed three numbers. If you wanted to call someone, you'd pick up the phone, and the operator will ask you what number you want."

He still remember's Daisy's: 327.

Daisy wishes downtown Mesa, south of Evergreen, was still the town's hub. Forty years ago, she and Gerald walked there to dance on Friday night and shop on Saturday.

"I hate malls," she says.

The front porch of nearly every house in Evergreen cradles a chair, a porch swing or a cluster of patio furniture.

## Waving at strangers

One Friday morning, an elderly resident walked down his driveway and stepped into the street. A neighbor on the other side had summoned him.

A car drove near. The man stopped and waited for it to pass. As it did, he smiled and waved at someone he'd never seen before.

"That's just the way people are in this neighborhood. When someone goes by, we say 'hi,'" Daisy says.

Donna Paulk, real estate broker for Canyon Shadows Realty, used to live in Evergreen and specializes in selling property there.

There are more buyers than sellers, she says.

"Someone's always putzing around in the front yard or taking walks," she says. "That neighborhood invites people to walk. The vegetation is amazing."

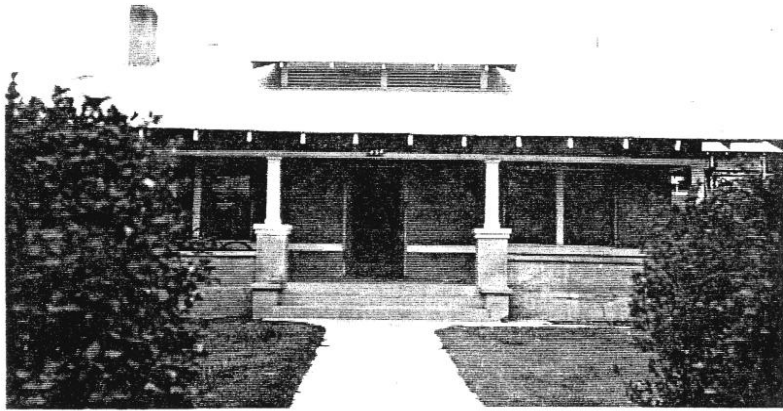
It's rare to find a house for sale, but when one does go on the market, it sells for around \$100,000, she says.

When she sold her 68-year-old house, she didn't have it on the market. The buyer knocked on her door and made her an offer she said she couldn't refuse.

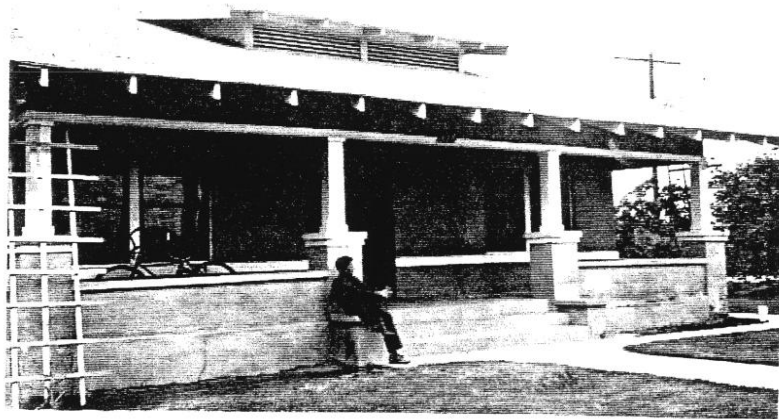
No buyer could convince Gerald and Daisy to move out of Evergreen. Grandchildren who live down the street open the door without knocking and hop on the couch next to Daisy.

Outside, the chattering of sparrows fighting over an insect is interrupted by a cackling hen that announces she just laid an egg. Gerald grinned. "Yes, we have chickens. A lot of us in this neighborhood do. We like fresh eggs."





456 North Robson





JACK

BLAIN

DAD

ROBERT

GERALD

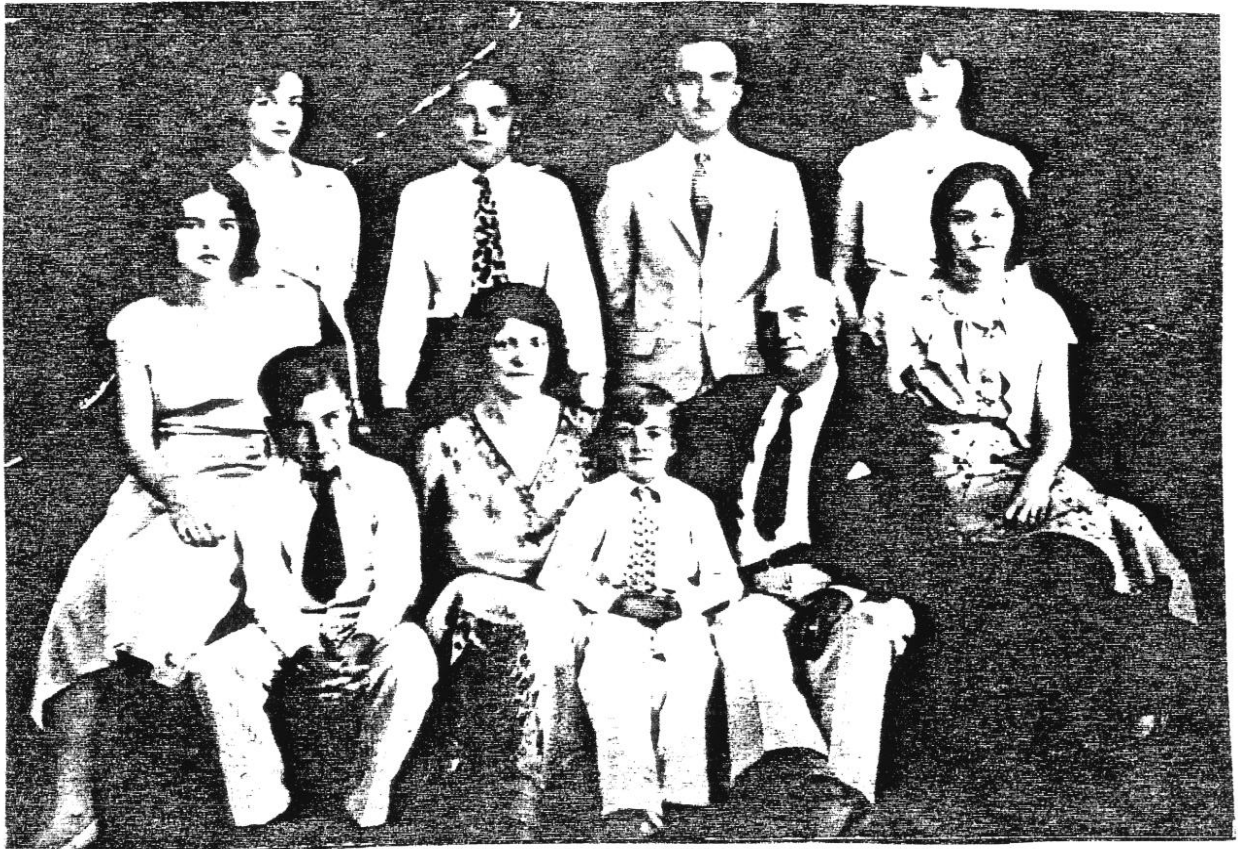


Dana Mama



Mrs. J. Papa Mama





Standing: Mabel, Blain, Jack, Nadeen  
Sitting: Zena, Robert, Mama, Gerald, Pop, Eva

