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4th
PLACE

Ethel Lakay Quilter
"Lucky"

By
Arlee Mortensen

Enoch Elementary School

Mr. Mario Johnson

Susie Mortensen

(435)-619-5530

sushatwork@gmail.com

I would like to share some things about my great grandma, Ethel Lakay Quilter.

In school, my grandma was called Lucky because a lot of things that someone wanted would happen to her. Her friends started calling her this when she started dating my great grandpa, Eugene because she had a boyfriend and they didn't. She was a secretary for the principal at her school and he called her Lackey. She was born in 1936.

My great grandma is still alive right now and she is 86 years old. She is a very sweet great grandma and is always wanting hugs and kisses from her grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great great grandchildren. Her parent's names were Lara, and Kay.

She had three siblings, she was the second oldest of her siblings. She had one sister, and two brothers.

She grew up helping her mother in the garden when it was the summer time, and when it would snow she would go sledding behind the school in Kanab.

Her mother stayed home most of the time to take care of her kids. In later years her mom cooked for hospitals in Page and Kanab. Her dad did road construction most of the time, and sometimes worked in old western

movies. He raced horses and did stunt riding for the movies. When he was younger he herded sheep and a snake bit into his chaps one day and he was lucky that he was wearing them, and I agree.

She grew up mostly in Cannonville and Kanab. She was born in Cannonville and moved to Kanab in second grade, moved back to Cannonville in fifth grade, then back to Kanab in sixth grade and finished eighth grade there, then she went to Tropic Highschool. She moved to Salt Lake to take care of her uncle's kids. She would take a bus to his house in Salt Lake and then return to Bryce Valley for school in the fall.

She and her friends would climb and roam the hills in Kanab. She lived on the red rock in Cannonville. Mostly everyone that lived in Cannonville knew about the red rock that Roy Willis built the house on. In those days people had wood stoves, quite a few people lost their homes to fire. At that time when airplanes flew over houses it was quite a sight, because it was rare to see an airplane then. When she was a kid there were a lot of 'tramps' that would pass through houses and beg for food, they had big overcoats, and big pockets.

Something that happened to her that affected her was when they bombed the Twin Towers. She also had 2 or 3 uncles that served in WW2. One of them got fungus on his face from being in the jungle. She had a

brother who served in the Korean war. She lost her little brother to cancer shortly after he graduated High School.

The inventions that changed her life were when she got power when she was 6 or 7. She also got water in the house in Kanab, but in Cannonville growing up she did not have water in the house. Before she had indoor water she would go down to the creek to get water with her grandfather. She would also put buckets on her roof to catch the rain water. To have a warm house her grandfather put in a boiler to make steam, but he did not have enough water to do it. Her favorite invention was when she got an inside bathroom, she hated going outside in the winter time to go to the bathroom. She did not have an inside toilet in Cannonville for a long time even after she was married. She had a cold water tap in the house and had to heat all of the water on the stove.

She was married to my great grandpa Eugene Quilter for almost 51 years.

What she did for a living was being a bookkeeper for Bryce Canyon Natural History. To become a bookkeeper, she took a correspondence course for bookkeeping in 1978. One of her accomplishments is when she was awarded money for the work she did at Bryce Canyon .

She grew lots of crops like tomatoes and cucumbers and sold them to grocery stores. Eugene planted a lot of peach trees (100 to be exact.) The peaches were as big as your fist. People would order the peaches in the springtime and she would sell them in the fall. They raised lambs, chickens, rabbits, pigs, and cows.

Her special skills are loving her grandkids, canning and pretty much all of the knowledge that she has that most people have forgotten. She likes to sew and is a talented quilter and she made her kids' clothes.

Her favorite moments as a parent were when she adopted her kids. She was proud to even say that she adopted them. She got them 19 months apart from each other.

She did not go on any vacations as a kid but they would go on picnics and check on the cattle with her dad and grandpa. When she was an adult she went to Pocatello with her kids to visit her brother. In 1990 she went to Hawaii, Texas and San Diego. She would go to St. George for conventions on natural history with her husband. She really liked the Polynesian center because the people there could really dance, but she did not like the food.

The hardest moment in her life was when she lost her husband, that was very hard for her, but she got through it by praying to heaven for help and got through it, but she still misses him.

She has 2 children , 7 grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren, and 1 great great grandchild.

Her favorite holiday is Christmas. Her mom would put up the Christmas tree about two weeks before Christmas, she would put a bucket of sand and water in it to help it stay alive. She would also leave it up two weeks after Christmas. She could open one present on Christmas Eve just like me. Usually she would wear the pajamas her uncle would give her some time before Christmas. Her mom always wanted to decorate the tree herself but my great grandma did it too. Her mom would decorate the tree very pretty. Her favorite christmas present was a stuffed bear, it was a big one too, it was loved very well and has an eye missing now. One year she wanted a baby doll that could move it's own arms and legs. But her sister got it instead. She got one but it was black, her mom ordered it by mistake from a catalog. They had to send it back but she still had a great Christmas.

Her favorite instrument is the piano. She liked listening to people play it and played a little herself.

Her favorite song is, "How Great Thou Art", it means a lot to her. Music means a lot to me too, my favorite song is "The Champion".

That is what I had to say to you about my great grandma, Ethel Lakay
Quilter.

The End