

**THE
FLETCHER'S**

THE FIRST FLETCHER FAMILY REUNION

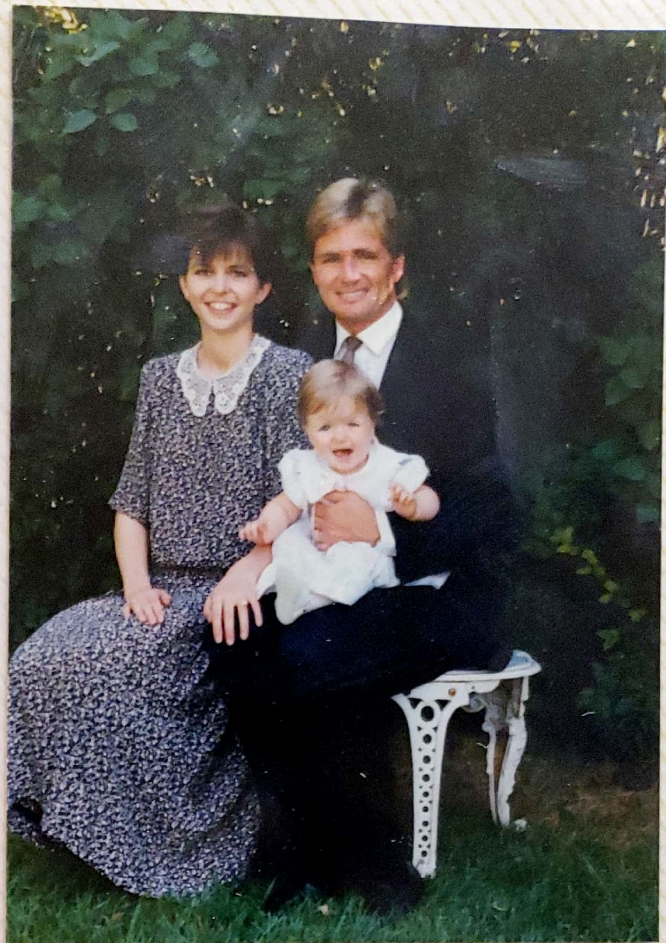
9-10-11 AUGUST 1990

AT PROVO, UTAH

1175 Locust Circle

THOSE PRESENT:

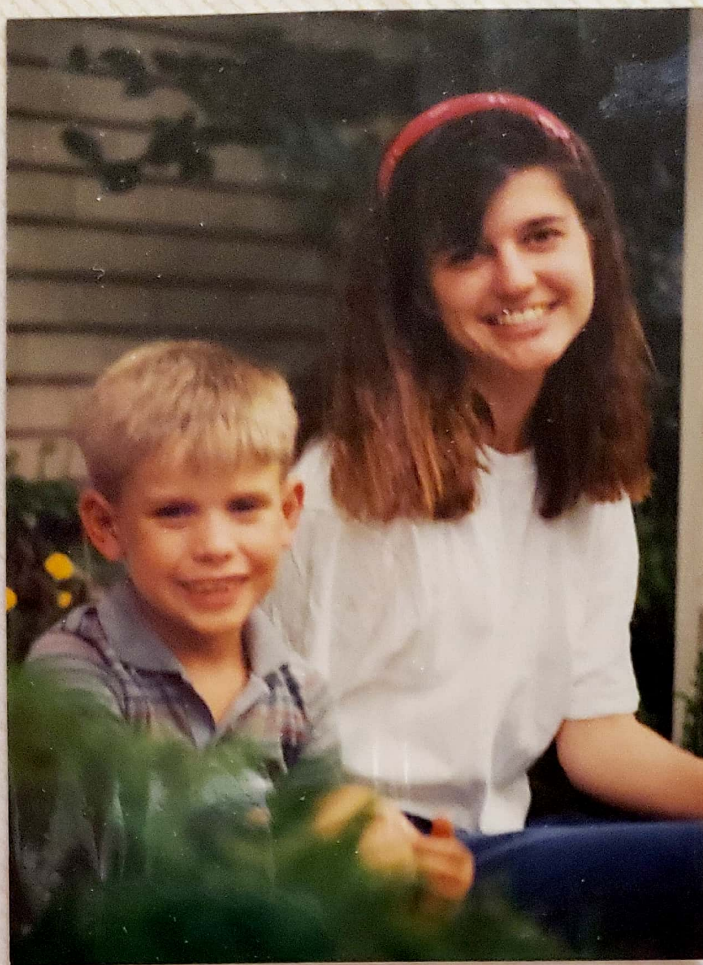
- 1) Grandpa and Grandma Fletcher (Harvey J. and Deah Tonks)
- 2) Mary Lyn/Dennis Perryfrom Rolla, Missouri.
Richard -- 11 yrs They drove for 3 days in
Emily -- 9 their new station wagon. In
Michael -- 8 Grandpa's house they stayed
Becky -- 5/6 in Mary Lyn's old room.
Kirk -- 4 months
- 3) Tom/Beth from Tracy, California.
Daniel -- 7 They drove in their van and
Jenny -- 6 stayed with Uncle Steve and
Jeffrey -- 4 Aunt Dot.
- 4) John/Terri from Cheyenne, Wyoming.
Kristine - 9 They traveled in their van
Mark -- 7 and stayed at Grandma and
Brian -- 4/5 Grandpa Brown's.
Mindy -- 1 1/2
- 5) Deanna/Peter from Lexington, Kentucky
Travis -- 7 Deanna and the boys flew out
Kyler -- 3 3 wks. early. Peter flew out
for the last week. They
stayed in Deanna/Amy's old
room.
- 6) Amy/Doug from Auburn, California.
Sydnee -- 9 months Amy and Sydnee flew out 3
wks. early. Doug came on
Thurs. 9th. They stayed in
Tom/John's old room.
- 7) Judy Provo, Utah.
She stayed in her room.

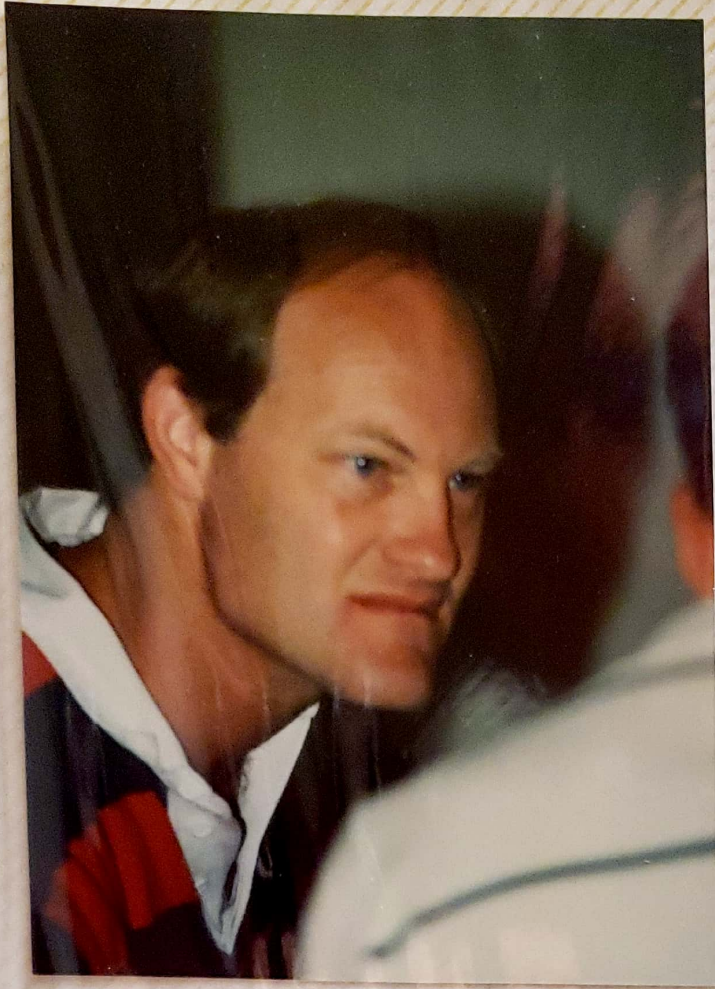












WHAT WE DID AT THE FAMILY REUNION

1. We found out that our family:

had: 28 people:
6 - granddaughters
9 - grandsons
2 - grandparents
6 - aunts
5 - uncles

2. MEAL TIME;

2 tables in the kitchen
1 long table in dining room
-lots of laughs
-lots of jokes
-lots of "noise"
-lots of dishes

Good Food:

Lots of fresh fruit
Corn on the cob
Lazagna
Fish (we caught them)
Turkey
Grandma's animal pancakes

3. FUN AT GRANDPA AND GRANDMA'S:

- ran through the sprinklers
- played in the blue swimming pool on the patio
- watched T.V. / ate popcorn
- played games from the game closet
- enjoyed the "new" games Grandma bought for us
- drew pictures/colored pictures
- looked at family photo albums
- the adults talked for hours after kids went to bed

4. BEDTIME!!!

- Emily slept on the top bunk in Judy's room
- Becky slept on the floor in Judy's room in a sleeping bag
- Michael & Richard slept in Grandpa's study/on cot & couch
- Travis slept on the top bunk in Deanna's old room
- Kyler slept on the bottom bunk " " " "
- Deanna and Peter were good_sports/slept on mattress on the floor in Deanna's old room.
- Kirk slept in the porta-crib in Mary Lyn's old bedroom and Mary Lyn and Dennis slept in that room.
- Sydnee slept in the crib in Tom/John's old room, and Amy and Doug slept in that room too.
- Grandma and Grandpa slept peacefully in their own room.





1st DAY - THURSDAY
Pioneer Memorial Park
5th N, 5th W - Provo

Grandma prepared a picnic lunch of sloppy-jo buns, fruit, cookies. We ate in a big covered pavillon on long picnic tables. Afterwards we played and played:

- Aunt Deanna and Aunt Terri planned games for the cousins:
 - 3-legged soccer
 - Duck-duck-goose
 - Water baloon games
- After everyone was soaked from the baloon games, we went swimming at the City Park Pool and had fun going down the green, covered slides. How many times did we all go down?
- We ate a Lazagna dinner at Grandma and Grandpa's house, then:
 - 4 baby sitters, videos and games
 - all the adults went to the Provo Temple. This was the first time that all the children were present, as Judy had just returned from her Mission to the Anaheim, California Mission.







2ND DAY - FRIDAY
FISHING - PAYSON LAKES

We got up very early and had breakfast. It was a happy surprise to find that Uncle Doug had arrived in the middle of the night. He was able to get off work after all. After breakfast we:

-Met at 9:00 A.M. at the Payson Fish Farm. We fished until 10:30 A.M.

- all of the cousins caught 2 BIG FISH, used poles/nets
- Aunt Judy took the fish back to Grandma's house and put them in the refrigerator, then she went to work at the M.T.C. (Missionary Training Center)

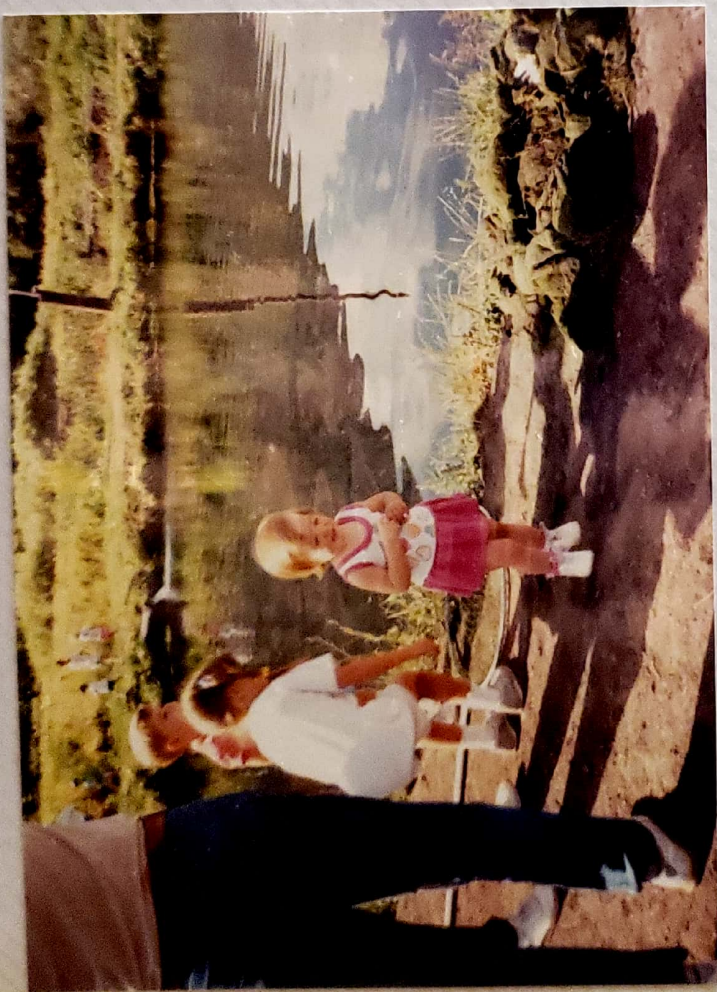
-The rest of us drove up in the mountains to Payson Lake:

- Uncle Tom/Joh/Peter had to "inflate" a large rubber raft.
- We had rented 3 rafts and took rides on the lake/ paddles/life jackets.
- the beach was MUDDY. We washed our feet in a bucket of water.
- We had hoagie sandwiches, fruit, salads, on a blankets spread under some tall pine trees
- some of the cousins went on a walk all around the lake with Grandma and Grandpa. Aunt Deanna/Uncle rowed across the lake and gave Kyler a ride back in raft.

-When we got home, we cooked the fish we had caught. YUMMY!

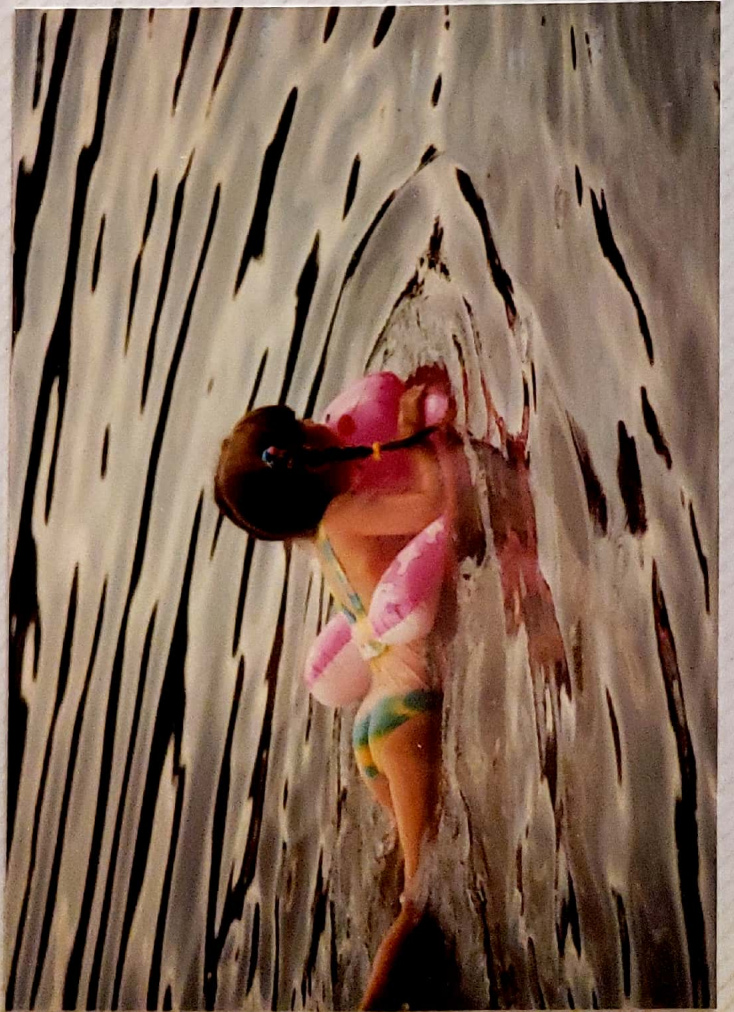
-That night Uncle John was Master of Ceremonies at the Talent Night. Everyone did something:

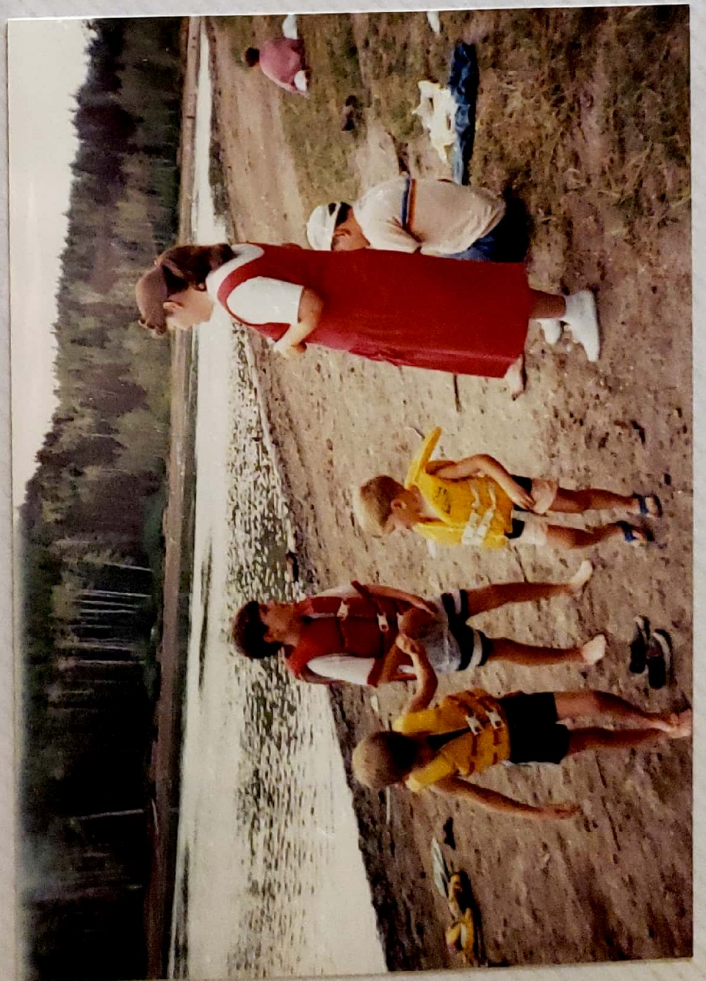
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|--|----------------------------|
| -Tom Fletcher's--bells | John Fletcher's---songs |
| -Pilling's--organized charades | |
| -Amy - Simon Says | Mary Lyn - Italian words |
| -Dennis - Rock 'n Roll Dance | Emily - piano solo |
| -Richard - sang a song | Kristine/John - piano duet |
| -Grandpa - "Three Wood Pigeons" | |
| -Grandma - "What she loved about each one of us" | |













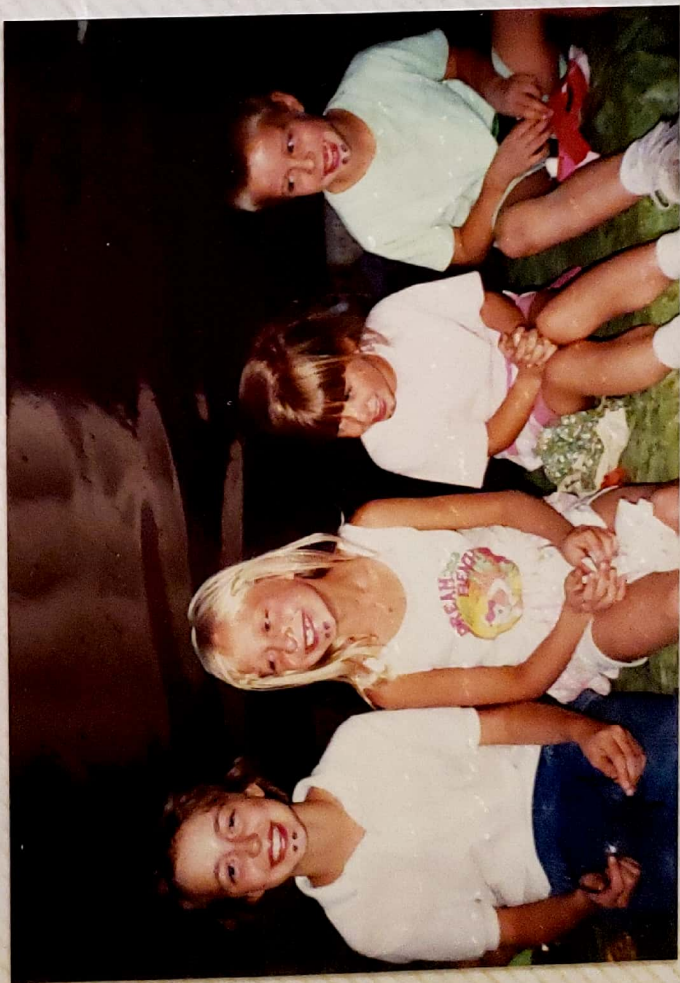
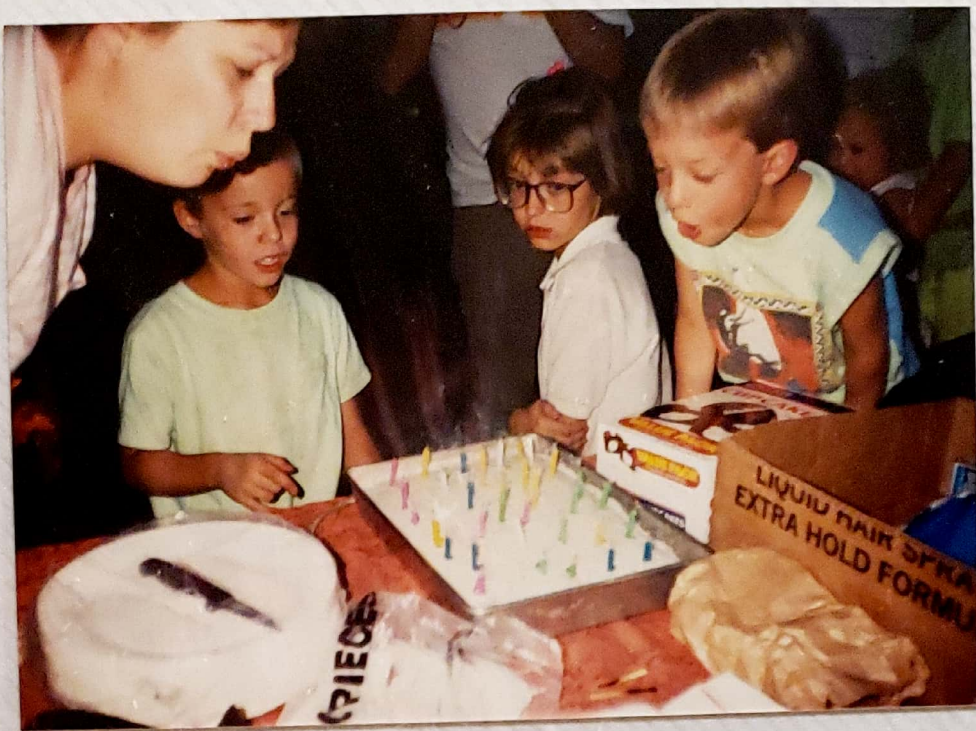
3rd DAY - SATURDAY
TIMP HIKE - CANYON GLEN

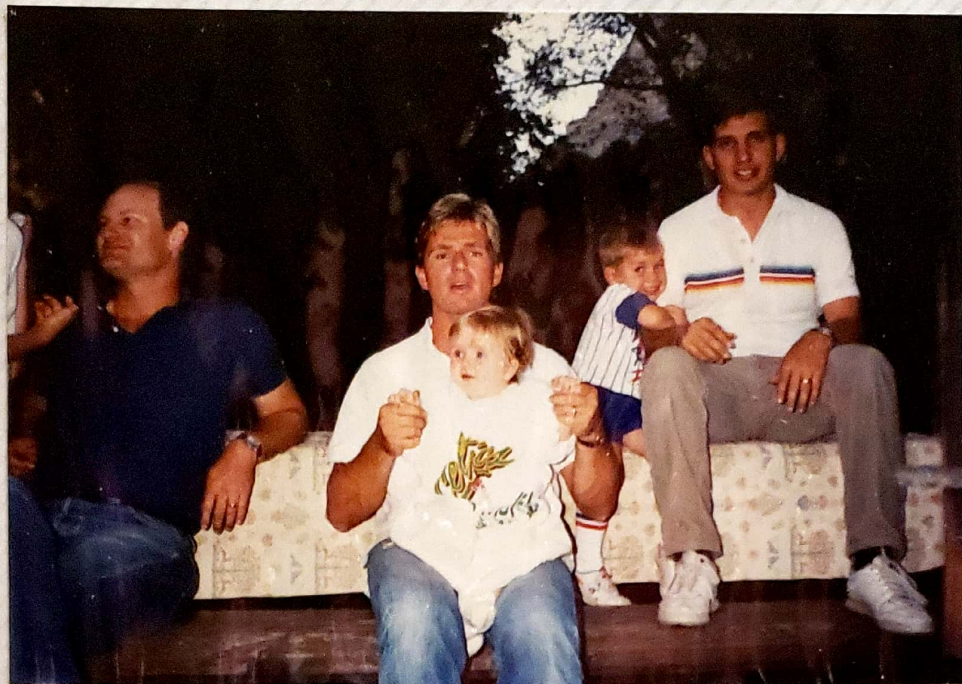
1. Some climbed up Timpanogas to the 1st waterfall, then came back to Grandma and Grandpa's house for lunch.
2. We met at Canyon Glen Park, in Provo Canyon, at 3:00 P.M. where we had made reservations for the picnic area, ball diamond, and stage area.
 - We played soft-ball for about 1 1/2 hrs, Uncle Peter was in charge.
 - Uncle Dennis, Aunt Mary Lyn, and Aunt Beth were in charge of the skits on the stage area.
 1. Uncle Tom--"Big Mouth Frog"
 2. Uncle John--kids acted out things mom & dad said. Audience guess which parent it was
 3. Aunt Judy/Michael--"Who sneezed"?
 4. Aunt Deanna/ cousins puppet show-dress up.
 5. Grandma & Grandpa - "How they met, courted, and got engaged."
3. Uncle Doug took the family picture, and recored on the video camcorder.
4. Grilled hamburgers, weiners and marshmallows cooked over the campfire. Fruite, salads.
5. We had to move to another campground to finish our party.
6. We had a surprise birthday cake/celebration for Aunt Beth and Brian.
7. Grandma and Grandpa received a special gift--a scrapbook with "love notes" from each family, with space for pictures.
8. Grandma and Grandpa gave their testimonies and need for strong family unity. They had all the grandchildren stand by them and sang "I Am A Child of God" to their parents.
9. We all stood in a circle and held hands around the campfire, did the "Hokey/Pokey", Sang "As I Have Loved You", Family Prayer.











4th DAY - SUNDAY
CHURCH - LEAVING FOR HOME

1. Some went to the Oak Hills 4th Ward, where many of the classes had "swelled" attendance because of all the cousins.
2. Dinner at Grandma and Grandpa's.
3. The Tom Fletcher family had left about 8:00 A.M. to go home to Tracy, California. Too bad most of their family were ill.
4. The John Fletcher family left at noon to go home to Cheyenne, Wyoming. They think they might be able to be transferred to Salt Lake City. They will know in a week's time.
5. The Pilling family drove up to Park City to stay until Wed. night, and will leave at 6:30 a.m. Thurs. for Lexington, Kentucky.
6. The Perry family left at 4:30 a.m. Monday to drive back to Rolla, Missouri.
7. The Wilson family flew home to Auburn, California, on Tuesday afternoon at 6:30 p.m.

SUMMARY

The Family Reunion was a great success. Cousins became acquainted for the first time, brothers and sisters (moms and dads) renewed "good old times" and fell in love with each other all over again. Grandma and Grandpa became ever prouder of their wonderful family. WE ALL DECIDED TO HAVE ANOTHER FAMILY REUNION AGAIN SOON.

August 1990

My Dearest Family:

My memories of our wonderful family reunion would not be complete without expressing my thanks to all of you for the effort you made to come, and for your help in making it a success. I love all of you so much and count you as some of my richest blessings...my "pearls" in this earthly life. Thank you for living righteously, honorably, and for following the path of the Gospel as outlined by our Saviour, Jesus Christ--and for teaching our grandchildren to do likewise.

I am so proud of all of you, and know in my heart that we are all on the right path towards being a Celestial Family in the Kingdom of our Heavenly Father and our Redeemer. My prayer is that this will be our family goal and that there will be no "empty chairs" in our Forever Family -- that we will love each other, help each other, and stay close to each other even though geographical miles keep us far apart.

As a child, I seemed to always know that the church was true, and that a loving Father in Heaven heard and answered my prayers. I trusted the testimonies of my parents and leaned on their faith. When I was sixteen years of age, I decided to read the Book of Mormon and try to find out for myself if it were true. I received a personal and sure witness that this book is true and that Joseph Smith was a true prophet of God. I have never wavered from this testimony and it has been a guide throughout my life. I have also been blessed to have received a knowledge, through some special and sacred experiences, that God is our Father, that Jesus Christ is our Redeemer, and that they live and love me and all of you and that they are aware of our family and have a loving concern for us. I have been so privileged to have them send their Holy Spirit, the Holy Ghost, to be my friend, my teacher, my comforter, and my companion during those times in my life when I have been in need, and when I have been worthy to have His presence abide with me. My father, Howard, Tonks, used to teach me to "so live that the Holy Ghost can be your guide every minute of every day". It is a goal for me each day to try to do this. I should like to pass this excellent counsel on to all of my posterity as a worthy course to pursue.

My life has been so richly blessed because of Harvey, your father and grandfather, and you my posterity. I have enjoyed the privilege of being his wife and sweetheart, and your mother and grandmother--even though I have not always fulfilled my role adequately. Your accomplishments have thrilled me, I have hurt when you have hurt, my heart loves you when you give of yourselves to others in love. May all of you be blessed with love for each other, enjoy good health, and have a determination to follow our living prophet--staying close to the Lord and His teachings and trying hard to develop the talents and gifts that have been bestowed upon you from your loving Heavenly Father. If we do this, and endure to the end, we will have succeeded in our purposes in this life and will be assured of a place together in the eternities.

Love always,

Mom

August, 1990

To my Dear Family:

I should like to write a note concerning my testimony. I could talk to you about my life starting as a boy and experiences that I have had--and lessons that I might have learned--but, maybe I should talk about my faith and how it fluctuates over the years.

I guess I always prayed even when I was very small and never doubted that Heavenly Father was listening to my prayers. I felt loyal to the Church up to high school; but, I didn't have any knowledge of the doctrines or basis for knowing we had the only true church. Being the only one in my high school that was L.D.S., I didn't feel better than other students, rather I felt a little inferior. One Catholic student ate lunch with me every day and we talked religion quite a bit. He said he knew that the Catholics had the true church. This startled me. How could anybody be so blind. He said that Jesus was baptized by sprinkling, and the Eucharist was a literal transformation to Jesus blood at communion. I started reading many of Dad's books in our home library. All of the scriptures and books seemed to indicate that my Catholic friend was wrong on most of his doctrines. When I explained my point of view, he talked to his Priest and was told not to talk religion any more.

I asked myself "Do I know that the 'Mormon' Church is true?" I told myself I wanted to know for sure. I prayed and received a strong testimony of the truthfulness of the church. I was living a good life at the time and was sure Heavenly Father would never deceive me. To this day I have never thought that the church was not the Church of Jesus Christ.

I can't see why I, who am lucky enough to be born in the church, have a better chance to get to the Celestial Kingdom than someone that isn't. However, I have always loved the church. loved the temple, and the leaders of the church and feel that the church is the only church which has the authority of God. I have always enjoyed working in the church.

I believe that blessings will attend us according to our behavior. Some of us have more trials than others, and I think compensation will be made in the hereafter if we meet those trials in a Christ-like way. I think I could love everyone on the earth if I could get to know them. The few that I have known, I really like. I have always felt a desire to help people--but the opportunities or courage have limited my effectiveness.

I have loved Deah, and have always felt she is my eternal companion through thick or thin. I love my children--but like most father haven't been very effective in showing it. I admire my children--for the lives they are living--and the paths they are pursuing. I would like them to know that the gospel is true, and that I love them.

With love,

Dad

