

MEMORIES OF JUNE BERNICE SMITH HALLMARK AS GIVEN TO CHILDREN

June Bernice SMITH born to Edward Vern & Grace MICHAEL SMITH on August 11, 1923 in Pilot Rock, Umatilla Co, Oregon.

A picture of Pam & Dianna in pigtails given to Dianna – a memory: “One day many years ago, I got my two girls all dressed up, ready for Sunday School - 1 was Dianna. After I finished, I went in to get ready. When I came into the livingroom, there weren't any little girls, but under the rug & pad were two humps. They decided to play tunnel, I guess, & went in under the rug and pad. You can imagine what they looked like after I had worked so hard to get them already.”

Mom's testimony as given to Dianna: “When I was a little girl, I always went to Sunday School. Of course, because I was young, I thought that the church I went to was the right one. One day, I grew up big enough to go to high school. I met the only Mormon boy that was in the school. I started coming over here to Walla Walla from Milton and going to Sunday School, Church & Mutual. I started studying the Gospel & listening to others talk in meetings, & I realized after about six months, that this was the right church. I joined the church about ten years ago and also my parents. I have never been sorry, & I hope my children grow up & love the church & what it stands for, as much as I do.” Signed, June Hallmark

1992: Mom's favorite song: “Wind Beneath My Wings.”

June Smith Hallmark memories of her own life to Pam: “In Pilot Rock, I went to the Presbyterian Community Church up the hill. My family lived in Pilot Rock until I was in the 8th grade. When we moved to Milton Freewater, I went to Presbyterian Church, but people were different, so I went to Christian Church, then to the Baptist Church.

Grandma & Grandad Smith homesteaded in the canyons of Buttercreek, Umatilla Co. When Aunt Peggy was living in Echo, we were so poor. Mom was only granddaughter. Grandma Smith made her a cradle, pillow, pillow slip...elephant embroidered on pink pillowcase.

Dad & I prayed in privy when Mom was in labor so long with my sister, Janice. It was a dry birth. Dr Smith got there long after.

2 boys in neighborhood, Donald & I played football on the front lawn with them in Pilot Rock. She tackled one.

Mom sang solo for community club that Grandma went to.

Mom and Dad were going to a church conference in La Grande. I woke up with mumps on one side, the second time for me. You & I both had mumps before going to Salt Lake City. [1948-going to Logan Temple]

Went to see Letha Richardson in Blackfoot (LV) on way home from Salt Lake and Temple.

1996-March: Some memories given to Pam by Mom: I was born in Mrs Reynold's house-she was a midwife - we didn't have a big house, no garden, in Pilot Rock. I remember that we had chickens out back next to that bluff, cellars for canned stuff & potatoes. The year that dad was sick with typhoid, he was not able to shear sheep & had to live on relief. He came home & bucked wheat (worked in a warehouse sacking wheat, filling & packing). Mother's home teacher talked to her about shearing sheep, “My dad did that many years...would kill me off stooped over all day. Some sheep were better than others, some kicked.” When we would go to Montana, we had a home ranch at Hardin on the Indian Reservation. We turned off at Garyowen, could smell oranges & lemons, which was the only kind of fruit we could have until we came home where we could get apples, etc.

As a girl, I would pick wild flowers, played on the bluff & in the creek, had swimming lessons in Pendleton & would be starving when we got out. We had no money to get even a hamburger but would stop & get one. Mrs. Jensen lived down in Pilot Rock took us in. I played tag football with the boys in the neighborhood.

At Lehman Springs, I couldn't swim that good, & I panicked while in the deep end. A boy jumped in and fished me out [said she was afraid of water after that].

The Church: I wanted to join, but the folks were not sure. They went to a Church Christmas dance. Dad thought that was something. He used to go to grange dances—would put me on the bench & I would

watch or sleep. Dad drank & got sick -he worked at a service station, Rayer's. He had gotten wine in the house. June went home & told Mom that Dad was drunk. Mom & Dad drank coffee & tea. That all went out the window when they joined the Church.

We didn't move much in Pilot Rock, but we moved from Hermiston. We would always have to see about the stove pipes, as there was a different bend in each house. We bathed in once a week or so in a tiny tin tub, which we washed after one another: first me as a child, then Mother, then Dad. We would build a fire to heat the water on the wood cook stove. Remember the oil burner stove - stove pipe caught paper on fire.

We had high water, & the house was on stilts - not sure how we got out - the mud was so deep. My mother was 10 or 12 when her mother was pregnant, & she did not even know it. They came & got her & told her that she had a baby brother. At that time, you didn't go out much. They had no maternity clothes, just wrapped something around. Grandma didn't have good control. She would go someplace, like the car, stand beside the car and laugh & wet her pants.

When Pam was a baby she was in a buggy, sometimes to be able to rock her. Her fingers would be ice cold. She would heave and heave curds the shape of her throat. We would lay papers out all over the floor, her stomach would rumble, then she would shoot the curds halfway across the room.

I had 7 pregnancies and only one time did I have post-partum blues, and that was with Kristie. I didn't want to take care of her. I would stand at the kitchen window and cry. One day, I was stirring something on the stove & then I began to bathe her.

The night that Dad died, your Dad & I were at a United Air Lines party. Melvin Ord called & said we had better come home, that there had been an accident. We couldn't figure out why we were to go to Jan's and not the hospital.

One time we were over to Jill's & everyone went upstairs to see the computer. Jill & I didn't go. We talked. Jill remembered how I made hot breakfasts before Seminary & her kids always got cold cereal.

My feelings when my own mother was pregnant. I asked her if Daddy knew. It was wonderful when we had a new baby for a while, but I was not used to someone getting into my things.

In Hermiston, we had a sleeping porch. All would go who could at Christmas. Grandma took the egg money...

Aunt Net's kids: Jean & Lincoln built a home in Ukiah & lived there, Rachel & Howard Reeder, Arvine [Tucker] died. Ted Michael's kids: Bonnie & her husband died in a car wreck. I talked to Justine - Muggins had cervical cancer & died - she went to Muggin's funeral.

5 Jan 1991: Mother's description of Temple with Mark before mission: "Lisa & Les were there - were witnesses for the live session. Me - it was the first time for about a year or more to go to the Temple - went through just fine. Dad & I plan on going every Wednesday morning. We stayed with Steve & Janalee while in Salt Lake. They also went through a session, also Bob & Pam. I had my oldest daughter on one side & the youngest daughter on the other - gave me confidence that I could do it, made it mostly on my own. What a special day. Had a good time with Lorrie & Kirt. Really enjoyed being with them."

2003: A memory from Jan Smith Hankla Griffiths to Pam: "June worked with a woman on Chase Street in Walla Walla. She cooked & kept house for her, as she had arthritis in her hands. She also took care of her child, either a baby or a little older.