

INTERVIEW WITH SHEILA GORDON

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US History
7th period
April 1, 2006

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My interview is with my Grandmother, Sheila Gordon. I am glad that I got to interview her because it gave me more of an insight into her life and I learned a lot of things that I never knew about her.

Andy: What is your full name?

Sheila: My name is Sheila Anne Tucker Gordon

Andy: Are you also called by a nickname?

Sheila: When I was little I was called blondie, because my hair was so blonde. Now I am just called grandma, because I have children and grandchildren.

Andy: Who calls you by that name now?

Sheila: All my grandchildren and even my husband calls me grandma.

Andy: Who gave you the nickname blondie?

Sheila: The kids just started calling me blondie when I was little. But I don't know who really started calling me that.

Andy: Where do you live?

Sheila: I live in Huntington, Utah.

Andy: Have you ever lived anywhere else?

Sheila: When I was young, I lived in Elmo.

Andy: Have you ever traveled anywhere?

Sheila: When I was young, we traveled quite a bit. We vacationed every year and went different places. I remember going back to Illinois when my brother was on a mission back there,

and we went to Cartridge Jail, and places of interest in the Church. We went to Nauvoo and traveled around back there. We saw a lot of the church sites back there at that time. I was twelve years old then, about twelve. We also went to California and just places not too far away. We traveled a little bit when I was young.

Andy: Where were you born at?

Sheila: I was born in Elmo, Emery County, Utah.

Andy: When were you born?

Sheila: June 2, 1944.

Andy: Are you married?

Sheila: Yes, I am.

Andy: What is your spouse's name?

Sheila: His name is Earl Gordon.

Andy: Where was he born?

Sheila: He was born in Price, Carbon County, Utah.

Andy: When was he born?

Sheila: He was born October 5, 1944.

Andy: Do you have any children?

Sheila: I have three children.

Andy: What are there names?

Sheila: My oldest daughter is Janell Gordon Haskell. My second daughter is VaLynn Gordon Sitterud. And I have one son, Kevin Earl Gordon.

Andy: Do you have any grandchildren?

Sheila: Yes. I have eight grandchildren. Shailee, Chad, Dustin & Layne Haskell, Andy Sitterud,

Erin, Ty and Race Gordon.

Andy: What kind of work do or did you do?

Sheila: I was a secretary when I got out of high school. I went to work for two attorneys in Price. Their names were Frandsen and Keller. And I worked for \$1.25 an hour.

Andy: Man, you were racking it in.

Sheila: That was good wages at that time.

Andy: Now it ain't.

Andy: How old were you when you first started working?

Sheila: It was just after I got out of high school. I was seventeen.

Andy: How much schooling have you had?

Sheila: I graduated from high school. I was valedictorian of my class. And I went to college over to Carbon for a while. I didn't complete a full year. Then I just went to work full time.

Andy: Are you a member of any clubs, organizations or churches?

Sheila: I belong to the Church Of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. I also was part of a barbershop quartet. There were three of my good friends and I. We would practice every Wednesday afternoon. And we sang at many occasions throughout the county. It was a lot of fun. We not only enjoyed singing together but also talking about our families and our kids and about the things that were going on in our lives. We were really good friends and also enjoyed performing and developing our talents.

Andy: Do you have any brothers or sisters?

Sheila: I have three brothers.

Andy: What are their names and residences?

Sheila: My oldest brothers name is Vearl Ray Tucker, and he lives in Altamont, Utah. I have a

brother named Jared Tucker. He lives in West Jordan. And I have a brother named Robert Allen Tucker, and he lives in Sandy.

Andy: What is your father's full name?

Sheila: Vearl Dee Tucker.

Andy: Where was he born?

Sheila: He was born and raised in Cleveland, Utah.

Andy: What is his birth date?

Sheila: August 16, 1911.

Andy: What kind of work did he do?

Sheila: He was a carpenter.

Andy: What is your mothers full name?

Sheila: Emma Loa Ward Tucker

Andy: Where was she born at?

Sheila: She was born and raised in Cleveland, Utah.

Andy: What is her birth date?

Sheila: June 14, 1916,

Andy: What did she do?

Sheila: My mom mostly stayed at home, but, she did, I remember her working through my childhood. She was janitor of the school in Elmo. She was kind of the secretary of the town. She read water meters, and sent out water bills, and collected water bills. And some things like that, but, she did it out of her own home. And she also worked in the post office in Elmo, for quite a while. Fact is, in our home in Elmo, we had the post office in our home for a while.

Andy: Where did your ancestors come from?

Sheila: On my mothers side of the family, our ancestors came from Iceland. On my dad's side of the family, I don't know where they came for overseas, I can't remember but, a lot of his ancestors were from North Carolina.

Andy: What languages did they speak?

Sheila: English

Andy: Do you recall any stories about the history of your family?

Sheila: I remember stories about the Thordersons, coming from Iceland. I have a history of one of my great, great grandmothers that came from Iceland. I remember them coming over and going into Canada, then they came through the Church, or because of the Church. And they were converted to the Mormon religion. And then eventually came into Utah. They didn't really come across the plains, but they did migrate from Canada down into Utah. And it was because of their affiliation with the Church.

Andy: What do you remember about the house you grew up in?

Sheila: I grew up in just a little house in Elmo. Fact is that was where I was born. It had two bedrooms, a kitchen, a living room and a bath room. And when I was just little my three brothers occupied one bedroom. My mom and dad the other one and I slept in a little, what I called a trundle bed, in my mom and dad's room for quite a few years when I was young. And finally, my dad built another room on to the front of the house for me. Then I had my own room and I was pretty privileged because I had three brothers and they had to share and I had one by myself.

Andy: What was your favorite thing about your house?

Sheila: My own room.

Andy: How was it different from the housing you live in today?

Sheila: The house I live in today is not really a lot different than that one. The house we live in, we moved in from Dragerton. After we got married, and set it up where it is now. And we added on to the back of it to make it larger. And I was glad that my dad was a carpenter because he'd come up and work on the house for me when he wasn't driving the bus. That was one thing I forgot to tell you was that he was a school bus driver. And loved driving the bus for until he was really pretty old. He drove it for a lot of years, too after he quit being a carpenter.

Andy: What do you remember about the town or community where you grew up?

Sheila: Elmo was a very small town, we knew everybody that lived there. I was really good friends with the kids my age, but there wasn't a lot of them. One of my best friends lived kitty corner through the block from me. We had a trail that went from our place over to hers. Her name was LaRae Jones. And the Jones and us were very good friends all the time. We'd cut through the field down through the pasture and into their pasture and over to their house to play all the time together. It was a lot of fun. We were a close community because everyone knew everyone. And did things together and enjoyed each others company. We visited more than we ever do now.

Andy: How is it different from the community you live in today?

Sheila: Now I live in Huntington it is a little bit larger town but not a big town. However, now I don't know all the people that live in Huntington, like I did when I lived in Elmo. But you know Elmo has grown too, and I don't know very many of the people who live down there anymore. So, I guess it's not a lot different. It's just that we've had a lot of people move in to Huntington and into the area more than when I grew up. Then it was mostly

just a farming community, and people were very relaxed and didn't really worry about a lot of the busy things that you do now days.

Andy: What are some of your favorite family stories that include your parents or your siblings?

Sheila: I remember picnics and things like that when we were young we used to go on picnics a lot. And just do fun thing together like that. I remember going to my grandpa's farm, in Cleveland. My Grandpa Ward. And we'd go out there and he had a team of horses. He'd pull the wagon and we'd load hay loose onto the wagon and my brothers would get up and tromp the hay, so you could get more onto it. And that would be the way they would haul it in. And then after that he got a round bailer. And we thought we were really uptown then because he would make these little round bales and then my brothers would go help him at hay time. And they would stack them and it would stack up into a tepee shape, I mean, you know, because they were round and would have to start wide and then go up. And they were kind of fun to play on, too. We used to go out to his farm and play. I also remember that he raised a lot of chickens. We'd go and help him gather eggs. And my Grandma Louise would, they had what they called the chicken house and she had a little room there where she would clean the eggs. And they would gather them and she would, they had like a little sander, that she would clean the eggs with and sand them and put them in boxes and they would take them over to IFA, in Price to sell them. And that was one of the ways they made their living then, besides being a farmer is they would sell eggs for extra money.

Andy: What are some of the special occasions in your family and community?

Sheila: In Elmo, the Fourth of July and the Twenty-fourth of July were always big occasions down there. They would have a big community celebration, with a parade and games and

fun things like that. They would in the night usually, they'd have a dance. Most of the people would come and they would do square dancing and round dances and things like that, that we learned to do as kids and had a lot of fun doing. That's one thing that I don't think that they do much anymore. Because we learned those dances and everyone enjoyed, young and old, I mean, whether they were kids or older people they would all square dance and have a good time together. In the old church that had just kind of a big cultural hall and would participate together having fun times like that. As a community not just individuals or families.

Andy: What of these special occasions are still celebrated today?

Sheila: Well, they still have Fourth of July and Twenty-fourth of July celebrations, but I don't think they are exactly the way they were then. They do some of the same things. Play some of the same games. They have, sometimes they have foot races. And sometimes they do softball or baseball tournaments, and things like that. But, not so much as a community as a whole, but more divided out by age groups I think than when I was younger.

Andy: What are some of the special homemade foods you ate as a child?

Sheila: My mother always made really good soup, and I have always liked soup and I like to make soups. She was a good cook though. They just made basic foods. Mashed potatoes and gravy. My dad loved milk gravy. It was one of his favorite things so when we would have milk gravy he would either like it. Sometimes we'd have it on mashed potatoes, but he liked bread and gravy too. I think that one thing that my family still likes. I still make that. And we can make a meal out of some meat and bread and gravy. I think that is one thing that has carried through. But she was a good cook. She made good cakes. She

made good desserts. And we enjoyed mealtime at my house. She always made three meals a day. We always had breakfast in the morning. She had bacon and eggs. Pancakes and toast and things like that, just basic foods. But, it was always nourishing and good tasting.

Andy: What were some of the foods you only ate on special occasions?

Sheila: Hot dogs on Easter. That is the only time I would eat them. They had to be roasted over the fire. I did not like them any other time. Although, my dad ate them cold right out of the fridge, with mustard on them.

Andy: Do you have any special recipes that have been handed down in your family?

Sheila: Yea, I have a lot of recipes from my mom. And from other people. That I have accumulated over the years. Some of the soups, I learned to make from my mom and I enjoy those still today.

Andy: Name and describe some of the games you played as a child.

Sheila: I liked to play jump rope when I was a child, and we did it a lot. We did it at school, during recess, and at home. I remember my mom would go outside and one of my brothers would be on one end of the rope and it was a long rope. It wasn't just a one person rope size. It was a long one and we'd have two people who would twirl the rope and we played jump rope and I liked to do that. We played hop scotch. And we played, when I was more of a teenager, we'd go on hay rides, and play kick the can, and games like that. We played softball a lot. When I was a teenager we'd have like a girls softball team, and I enjoyed that, and games like that a lot. We didn't play so much basketball and things like that but, we played. Oh, and I remember during the winter we played, what was it called, the goose, chase the goose thing. I don't know we'd make a big circle thing

in the snow out on the baseball field. It had like two tracks and they could connect in places. It was a chase game. You would have to get in and out and not be caught. But, it was fun and I remember playing it and when we played it I remember our teacher would come outside with us during recess and we would play these games in the snow or in the springtime we would play softball and the teachers would come out and be the umpires. And we would play together during the recess time and the during noon hour,. We would play games like that. And it included all the age groups form usually about 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grades would all play together. We'd have recess together and all play a game of softball and I remember the teachers would be the umpires and the base umps and the one behind the plate. We had a lot of fun doing that.

Andy: Did anyone in your family ever make homemade toys?

Sheila: Yea, when I was a child, my mother made rag dolls. I had some rag dolls when I was little. But, I thought, one of my favorite toys them was a little Baby Tears Doll that was bought. And I remember that I really liked that little doll. But we did have homemade toys too. My dad was a carpenter and he made things for us to play with.

Andy: Did your parents have any special hobbies or crafts?

Sheila: My mother did. She crocheted, she made quilts. Lots and lots of quilts. And doilies and things like that. And embroidered. She would embroidery dish towels and dresser scarves. And doilies for the back of the chairs. She always did crafts and things like that. She also taught me the love of family, and taught that to be important to me.

Andy: Do you have any favorite hobbies?

Sheila: I like to crochet and I like to quilt. I like to do scrap booking. I think my most favorite hobby is spending time with my children and grandchildren. I really enjoyed the time we

all took a vacation together to Sea World and Disneyland. I really liked Sea World. We made sure that we got to see all the special performances. And the kids always made sure they got to sit in the soak zone. When we went to the Shamu Show the grand kids were in the soak zone. And their look of surprise and their thorough drenching, from Shamu's tail splashes, brought them running up the stairs to where the rest of us were sitting for comfort and a dry towel. Didn't take long in the warm California sun for them to warm up and dry out. Then the days that we spent at Disneyland, were exciting and fun. And I'll always remember the looks of happiness and anticipation of the next thrill seeking ride. On all of my grandchildren's faces. Sometimes when we went on some of the rides a couple of the youngest grandchildren were too short so I got to spend time with them while everyone else went on that ride. And occasionally, my children had to spend the next little while trying to find us. But we knew where we were all the time.

Andy: Where did you learn these hobbies?

Sheila: From my mother. My mother taught me to crochet and to quilt. Also to cherish the time spent with my family.

Andy: Do you remember any stories that were told to you as a child?

Sheila: My mom always read to me and told me stories. It was one thing that I grew up with, and hopefully passed on to my children. Because I have learned to love to read. And I think it was from my mom. She always liked to read and she always read to us.

Andy: What was your favorite story?

Sheila: My favorite story as a child, I don't know I have lots of favorites. But I guess I don't remember any one particular story that my mom always told me, but I remember some I have told my children and grandchildren. One of them was The Poky Little Puppy and the

other was Mr. Meyers Cow. Mr. Meyers Cow goes like this: Sally Ann is a big black and white cow. Her face is all black, and she has one white ear and one black ear. There is a black spot on her tail, too. Sally Ann lives on a big farm, where there are many more cows. The farm also has pigs, sheep, chickens, geese, and ducks. The cows sleep in a big white barn. Each one has her own stall. Sally Ann likes best of all to be out in the field, where she can feel the warm sun and the cool breeze. Sometimes she takes a nap in the shade of a big tree. She likes to eat the green grass, too. When the flies bother Sally Ann too much, she swishes her long tail and they go away. Sally Ann belongs to Mr. Meyer. She is different from his other cows. She is more friendly and gentle, and likes to have boys and girls come to see her. Mr. Meyer has a little girl. Her name is Judy Meyer. Judy likes to help her daddy with his work. Sometimes she likes to watch her daddy milk Sally Ann. When he gets his little stool and milk pail and sits down to milk Sally Ann, Judy runs over and stands near him. One day, while watching him milk Sally Ann, Judy asked: "Does it hurt Sally Ann when you milk her, Daddy?" "No, Judy, it doesn't hurt. Sally Ann is glad that I milk her twice every day." "I didn't know that you milked her twice a day, Daddy. I watch you milk her before supper, like this." "I milk her every morning before breakfast, too. You are sleeping then." Sally Ann swished her tail just then, and it tickled Daddy's nose. Judy laughed and jumped back. Soon Judy's daddy finished milking Sally Ann. The pail was filled with milk. He gave Sally Ann a gentle pat on her back. She turned her head and looked at him. He smiled back at her as he picked up the heavy pail of milk. Judy took the little stool, and together they walked over to the milk house. Judy put the stool down near the door. Then they went inside the milk house, and Mr. Meyer emptied the pail of milk into the big milk can. Judy watched him. "What

happens next?" asked Judy. Daddy explained that the big can would be taken to the dairy and there the milk would be put into bottles. Then the bottles would be delivered to the people who lived in apartments and houses in the city. "Oh," said Judy, "Sally Ann's milk will go to the boys and girls in the city." Just then they heard a bell ringing. Judy knew that her mother was ringing the bell to tell them that supper was ready. Hand in hand, they hurried back to the house. "Here we are, and we are very hungry," they called. "Come along then," said mother, smiling. "Oh, look, Daddy," Judy called as she ran to the table. "There is my glass of milk. I know where the milk came from, do you?" Daddy smiled. "No one can fool you, can they, Judy?" he said. And we had a book that was called The Farm Book. And it had a lot of stories in about living on a farm and things on the farm. That my mother told to me and my children. And that I have also read to my children. I got that book now.

Andy: Do you remember any jokes or riddles from your childhood?

Sheila: Don't remember any particular jokes. No.

Andy: Do you know anyone who sang?

Sheila: My mother sang to me all the time as a child. She liked to sing. A lot of the songs we sang were nursery rhyme song or primary songs. One of our favorites was the three little kittens. It goes: The three little kittens they lost their mittens and they began to cry. Oh mommy dear, see here see here, our mitten we have lost. What lost your mittens you naughty kittens then you shall have no pie. And so on. And she sang to me a lot. One thing that made her feel bad was, when she got older, she had to have her throat operated on. And it kind of affected her voice box. And she always felt bad after that because she didn't think that she could sing as well anymore. But up until the time she was quite old,

she liked to sing and she liked to lead the singing. She lead the singing in church and in relief society a lot and it was something she really enjoyed. She is not any professional singer or anything, but she liked to sing and I think I gained a love of music from my mom too.

Andy: Did you know anyone who played musical instruments?

Sheila: Yes. In our family we all learned to play a musical instrument when we were little. I took piano lessons for many years. My oldest brother Vearl Ray played the accordion.

Andy: Cool!

Sheila: My brother Jared played the accordion and the piano. And at that time when he started taking piano lessons we didn't have a piano in our home. And so, he wanted to so badly that he would go down to the old church. And at that time, when he was little, it was an old wooden church, that only had a big wood burning stove in the center of it. But it had a piano in it. So he would go down there and practice the piano every day, after school. And learned to play the piano, and was very determined about it. After he had done that for a year or two, my mom and dad said that if he was going to be that dedicated to learning to play the piano that they were going to get one. So we got one in our home. After my mom and dad died Jared got that piano. I think it was because of his love of that piano and our mom and dad's willingness to get one in our home that we all learned to play and develop that talent. My younger brother, Bob, also learned to play the piano. He played the trumpet, and he played the guitar. And in the band my brother Jared also played the trombone. I played the clarinet.

Andy: Did you do any kind of dancing?

Sheila: Yes. When I was young, like I said before, we learned to square dance. And my mom

taught all of the kids in town to square dance. We had a lot of fun square dancing. We also did ball room dancing, and you learned to really do the dances. We learned the waltz, and the fox trot and a lot of different dances, that we did together when I was younger.

Andy: Are you still doing any of the above?

Sheila: I still play the piano. I still like to sing. I always liked to dance, when I was in high school, at our high school we had a dance every Friday night. If they had a ball game there was a dance afterwards, and I always enjoyed ballroom dancing, and it's one thing that I miss a lot, but I don't do it so much anymore.

Andy: Where and when do you sing, play or dance today?

Sheila: I play the piano for the primary in church. And I have a keyboard in my home that I play. I like to sing with the church choir and whenever I can.

Andy: Do you remember being sick as a child?

Sheila: No, I was healthy as a child. The only thing that I ever remember being sick, was that I got the chicken pox and the measles.

Andy: What kinds of medicines did you used to take when you were sick?

Sheila: I haven't ever had any medicine.

Andy: What about your brothers and stuff, were they ever sick?

Sheila: No, we were a healthy family. I do remember being told when my brother was born he was so small that they wrapped him in cotton. Put him in a shoe box and put him on the oven door to warm him. A little different from the technology they have now in the hospitals, but it worked for my family then.

Andy: Do you remember any sayings or beliefs concerning the weather, good luck, bad luck, dreams, marriage, birth, etc?

Sheila: My mother always said it was bad luck to wash clothes on anyone in your family's birthday. I never did understand why, but that was her belief. She thought that would bring her bad luck, so she didn't do it. But I do remember she said when I was born, that that morning before I was born she did some washing and hung it out on the line, was going to empty the water out in the yard, but before she could get that done my three brothers were playing in it and made some mud and each of them got scolded and sent into the house. Then she emptied the wash water and a little bit later I was born.

Andy: What was the most valuable thing your parents or other adult ever told you about getting along in life?

Sheila: My mom and dad always told me to be fair and honest in my dealings with everyone. And, I think, they taught me that everyone was important. That everyone was to be respected. And that you should treat others kindly, the way you would want to be treated yourself.

Andy: What are some of the things you remember about school - school friends, teachers, recess, after school?

Sheila: When I was young I went to school in Elmo. It was a little four room school house. One of those rooms was the cafeteria. And the first and second grade was in one room. The third, fourth and fifth was in another room. And the sixth, seventh and eighth was in the other room. And we learned, I think, basically all the thing that were important to know. I learned to read early. I love to read. I remember my first and second grade teacher was Mrs. McNeill. My third, fourth, and fifth grade teacher, I had a couple of different ones. One of them was Duane Jensen. I can't remember who the other one was. My sixth, seventh and eighth grade teacher was Mr. McNeill. And they, Mr. McNeill and Mrs.

McNeill, the first and second grade teacher, and the sixth seventh and eighth grade teacher were husband and wife. And they were really kind of older people when I was in school I remember, but they were really good teachers. And I had a lot of respect for them. Mr. McNeill was one that served as the umpire when we went out to play softball in the field at recess. And I mentioned that before, that it was a fun thing to do. But, they participated with us and they had fun with us. We not only learned together but we played together. And I think that it was an important thing for me to learn. When I went on to high school, It was kind of a different world for me, because in my class, there were only eight kids in my class. That was mostly through elementary school. But like I said, there were two or three grades in one room. But, we still got individual attention, and I think the teachers saw to it that each child was important and that each child learned. When I went to high school I enjoyed the association I got with other people there. It was a much bigger school. I learned to make new friends. And I had a lot of fun through high school. It was a good experience for me.

Andy: What is the most amazing thing you have ever seen?

Sheila: I don't know as there has been any one amazing thing that I have ever seen. I enjoyed seeing the Grand Canyon. I thought that that was amazing. I enjoyed seeing a lot of the old, old, old, old monasteries and cathedrals in Spain. When I went to Spain. I thought they were pretty amazing. There are a lot of wonders of the world that I think are really great.

Andy: What historical events do you remember?

Sheila: I guess the main historical event I remember most was in 1963, when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. I remember living through that event. And thinking what a

tragedy it was and how it devastated the country at the time.

Andy: Alright. Tell us more about Spain.

Sheila: When my brother, Bob, was in Spain. He was a mission president in Spain. While they were there they had a little baby. And, my mother and dad went to Spain just after the baby was born, so they could get to see the new baby. And then a year later than that, the next October, he called me to see if I wanted to come to Spain and take care of his new baby and his older brother while they went to Geneva to a conference. The mission president and his wife had to go. So, Bob and Diana were going to go to Geneva and asked me if I'd come to babysit. So, I went to Spain. I went to Spain and took both of my daughters, Janell and VaLynn, with me. And we went over, we flew over there. And spent a week there. Had a really good time. I took care of the babies, or the two kids, while they were in Switzerland. And then Janell and VaLynn also got to go with the lady missionaries around Spain while we were there. And then when they came back, they were gone for, I think, three days. And when they come back, my brother, Bob, took Janell and VaLynn and I touring around Spain quite a little bit. It was great to be able to see a lot of the sites. And also having an interpreter in the family that could interpret for us and tell us what was going on. We visited a great big museum there in Madrid. It was called the Prado. And we went to several points of interest. And saw a lot of the old monasteries, and castles and things like that that were really old. And went on some of the tours there. It was a lot of fun. We got to see a lot of special thing while we were there. It was really a neat experience. We also went to the Madrid Zoo. We visited the kings palace and courtyard. And some of the Spanish men were quite taken with your mom and her long blonde hair and presented her roses along the way. It was fun to see all

the sights of a different country. We also brought back some things to remember the trip by. We have some fans that were made there and depict some of the culture there. We also brought back some Lladro. We also went by the arena where they had the bull fights. But we didn't get to see the bull fights because there weren't any going on at that time. We went to see the grave site of Franco, who was the president of Spain. And we went by a ski resort, we didn't realize there were ski resorts in Spain but there are. They also have a Burger King. It was an interesting and fun experience. Something we will treasure always. We did take another vacation with my mother and dad. We went to Bryce Canyon National Park, and stayed that night in Panguitch Utah at a KOA campground. The kids wanted to go swimming in the pool, but when they jumped in the water was so cold that they didn't stay long. They decided a campfire and roasting marshmallows would be much toastier than swimming. At Bryce Canyon the kids wanted to hike the trails, but my mom and dad didn't think they could make them all so they took just the short trails. But the kids and I hiked the trails until they were all worn out. Then we went to Zions National Park and saw the wonders there. Our next stop was St. George. Then on to Glen Canyon Dam. And took the tour down through the dam where they told us how electricity was produced there. Our next stop was Grand Canyon. It was really an amazing wonder of the world. And the kids wanted to take a burro ride to the bottom. But grandma and grandpa spoiled that idea. Then we went on to four corners, the only place in America where four states meet at one point. Gave us another great photo opportunity. The next stop on our trip was Mesa Verda. It was really fun to see all the Indian ruins and hike through the cliff dwellings. While we were camped at the KOA campground there, we saw herds of deer that certainly weren't afraid of all the visitors.

The next stop on our trip was Hole in the Rock. Which was a home that was chiseled out of the mountainside. And we took the tour through it. Our last stop of our journey was Arches National Monument. We loved hiking the trails, taking pictures and climbing up in the windows. Finally it was time to head home. But I'm grateful for the opportunity of having my kids get to know their grandparents and get to spend time with them in this type of a situation. I thought it was great.