**Chapter 73 - BLESSINGS I HAVE HAD DURING MY LIFETIME:**

* The gospel in my life and the knowledge that my Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost love me and help me.
* Born & raised in this free land of America
* Being raised by good, faithful parents who loved me and taught me the gospel by word and example. They also taught me how to work and the value of work.
* Growing up in my family –. wonderful siblings. So thankful for my brothers and especially that I was blessed with a sister too.
* Growing up in the “”40s” & 50s”
* Getting married in the temple to my wonderful husband & eternal companion, Kenneth H Browning, who holds and honors the Priesthood of God
* Being a mother to 6 beautiful and special children, who I love very much.
* Our son’s missions and children’s temple marriages
* Being a mother-in-law to 4 beautiful & wonderful daughters & 2 handsome & great sons-in-laws, Gary & Roy
* Being a grandmother and great grandmother - I love them all very much.
* Finding doctors or people to help us when we needed their help
* Going on two missions with my sweetheart to the Philippines from 2003 to 2005 and to California from March 2009 to March 2010.
* Many “Tender Mercies” from the Lord
* Many answers to prayers
* Service in the Church and community
* Reasonably good health
* Good friends throughout my life
* Nice homes, food, clothes, gardens, animals, vehicles, recreational vehicles
* Vacations all over the world & Road trips – Some with Ken, some with Ken & our family, and some with friends – Hawaii - Ken & I with friends Ron & Audry Shumway, and second time with Sandi, Shellie & Roy. Paris France with David, Shauna and Shauna’s parents. London England – Ken & I, we took a day from Paris. Frankfurt, Germany with Shellie, Roy & sons and also Roy’s parents for a day before going on to Israel. Washington DC- Ken & I, Boston Mass – Ken & I. Mexico with friends, Larry & Tammy Braithwaite, Church History sites – Nauvoo & Kirtland – Ken & I while we were visiting Jeff who lived in Ohio at the time. Yellowstone Park with Scott, Mishelle & family. Road trip with Sandi & her grandson, Dawson, Shellie, Roy and their sons to Jackson, Cody Wyoming and Flaming Gorge. Road trip with David, Shauna & their family and Shauna’s parents to the coast in California, Yosemite, and St. George. We went on a road trip with Jeff, Gail & children to the Redwoods in California and then to Oregon.
* Camping & Fishing trips – Some with Ken and some with Ken & our family. Ken & I went to Payson Lake a couple of times by ourselves, and a few times with most of our family and once lately with Scott, Mishelle & family. Ken & I also to Fish Lake once by ourselves, twice with Sandi & Nick, once with friends, Ron & Diann Graff and another time with Sandi, Gary & Shellie. Chelci’s family met us there for a day and then stayed longer. We went to Causi Reservoir and camped in the campgrounds with Scott, Mishelle and Family. We have gone with Jeff, Gail & family several times to Zion’s canyon. We have our Kenneth Browning Family Reunions every summer and we love those.

**THINGS KEN DOES FOR ME TO MAKE ME HAPPY**

* He has always been very courteous by opening doors for me, helping me on with my coat, pulling out the chair for me at meal time and at restaurants, etc.
* When we go shopping together, he always insists on carrying in the groceries or whatever we have. If there is too much for him to carry in one trip he might let me carry a little, but not much. When we go camping I pack the food, clothes, etc., from the house and he gets the camping gear, fishing gear, etc., ready and then he packs it in the car or truck and when we return home, he carries it all into the house (at least what goes in the house) and I unpack it. **We work together as a team. We do this in most things.**
* When he calls me on the phone he always greets me by saying “Hi doll”, or “Hi good looking” or “Hi beautiful”, Kitten, Love, Sweetheart, Hon, etc. And when I call him, he greets me the same way. He always acts excited to talk to me.
* When he has to get up early in the morning to take a bus route, do handyman work at someone’s house, etc if I haven’t slept well that night, he has me sleep in and he gets his own breakfast. Always if he is leaving early to go fishing, I fix his lunch the night before and he has me sleep in and he gets his own breakfast.
* Whenever he does leave early in the mornings and I haven’t gotten up, there’s a cute note for me where he tells me to have a good day and expresses his love for me. I love those notes and have kept many of them.
* He loves to show me affection by hugging, kissing and holding hands. I love that too.
* When he has time, which he has never had a lot of time on his hands, he helps me with the dishes or does them himself
* He lifts heavy things for me, feeds the animals each morning unless for some reason he can’t and then I do it. He helps me in many ways
* Elder LaGrange Richards, an apostle at that time and my dad’s second cousin, gave us good advice when he performed our marriage ceremony for us in the Salt Lake Temple, which we have tried to follow. He told us we should have a Friday night date each week even if it was just to go for a walk or go get an ice cream cone. He said we should get away by ourselves, without the children, at least once or twice a year, and at least for a night or two. He said by doing these things we would keep our love alive and grow closer together. We are thankful for this advice as it has done this for us.
* He compliments me on the way I look. He is always saying “You’re beautiful!” even when I don’t think so. He praises me for the things I do.
* When I have callings or presentations to give, many times he helps me or gives me good ideas. He did this for me when I worked at the school district office also.
* Sometimes he surprises me with flowers, or other small gifts. He always brought me flowers when each of our children were born, and many times for our anniversaries, etc.
* He likes to take me shopping on my birthday or anniversary or Christmas sales and if he sees more than one dress, pants, blouse or outfit that both of us like, he wants to buy them all for me. We can’t afford that, but sometimes he has bought me at least 3 articles of clothing

**SPECIAL COMPLIMENTS FROM CHILDREN:**

**I don’t know what year the boys gave this card to me, but it was before any of them were married. The card says: Mom, putting up with us can’t be easy…unless, of course, you compare us with dad. Happy Mother’s Day.**

**They wrote: Dear Mom, you are the greatest! We are all so very proud to be your kids! Even as we grow up and leave, we will always love you and remember all the unselfish acts of love that you gave to us! We will always be in your debt. You’ve done a great job of rising us, we just hope we can do as good when we have kids! We love you. Your boys, they signed their names: Michael Ken Browning, Scott, David Browning**

**MIKE: Mother’s Day 2011**

**Dear Mom, Happy Mothers’ Day!! When we saw this book “Women of Character”, we thought of you! You are, and always have been a “Woman of Character.” Thanks for all the patience, time and energy you put into helping me become the son I am! Thanks for being such a great mother and grandmother! We love you! Mike, Becky, David, Paige, Maddi & Jessica.**

**SHELLIE: Her trip to Utah - May 2017**

**Thank you for the wonderful time I had in Utah! I loved every day!! You guys are awesome!**

**MIKE: Mother’s Day 2017**

**Happy Mother’s Day!! Sure love you. Thanks for being such an amazing mother, grandmother and great grandmother! You’re the best!**

**(The other children have written beautiful sentiments in their cards, so if I find them, I wil put special ones in here. When I read them, it makes me happy, especially)**