Caroline liked her nurses training very much and she made lasting friendships there. She was the only Christian in the class. All of them the rest of them smoked, except one. She was a doctor's daughter and didn't smoke because of health reasons. Her father wouldn’t allow her to as long as he was paying her way so she had to wait until she was out of school. Smoking was the big thing in the fifties, sort of a status symbol.

Bruce was working for Floyd with potato planting, cultivating and so forth and then in the warehouse in the winter. He went up and stayed with Jean for awhile and worked for one of her neighbors. In the spring of '58 he had to have hernia repair surgery so he came home.

Caroline was dating some. She came home for 3 weeks in the summer and also several weekends during the year and she worked for Gladys Pawling those times again, helping her with filing and so forth. Bruce had odd jobs at farmer’s market and Birdseye some.

In July of that year Kristal Maureen was born to Jean and Jumbo. She was a cute little thing. She looked like Jean more than, some of the rest of them looked more like the Pawlings. They were all nice healthy little girls and we loved them.

In the fall of that year Dick and Gerry came back to our area. He took a job teaching at the Canisteo school. He took the new math teacher's job. The other one had retired.

On December 31 that year the churches in the area had a watch night service. That was held at the Canisteo church. Caroline and the young people from our church went to that. And there she met Lloyd Prentice. And that was, made a big change in her life. She was in her senior year in nurse’s training. And they wrote all back and forth, and he came up on her days off and so forth. In along the last part of January she called home and said that she was engaged. I said, "So soon?" And she said "Oh, we're not going to be married until August." I told her to be happy there on Cloud Nine because she wouldn't always be there. Later she told us that she told Lloyd she couldn't say yes until she had to tell him something. I've tried to imagine what must've gone through his mind. And then she said I have false teeth. She said he laughed and laughed. I suppose partly because of relief and partly because he thought it was so ridiculous for her to be so concerned over something like that. But it always been very dramatic thing to her and a very hard thing for her to take and she didn't think it was funny at all.

As I said before mother was in bed all the time now. Dad took a great deal of the care of her and that helped so much. She was always so sweet and easy to take care of. She had angina and back then, they gave nitroglycerine but you couldn’t give it to them until you know for sure that it was an angina attack. And so the pain would get so bad before the pill would take effect. I always felt so bad about that. Nowadays they keep nitroglycerin in their system all the time and that way they don't get that terrible pain comes with it.

We were making plans for Caroline's wedding all the time. It was set for August 15. She graduated from nurse’s training that year. And we went to that service. And that was a nice graduation program. They gave just one award instead of several as they did in Jean’s class. And she received that one award; it was called the Ideal Nurse award. It covered all the different points of nursing. We were more proud of her and I'm so glad we could be there to see if the ceremony and meet her other friends and so forth.

In July Mother died. It was so hard to see her go and it was hard for my father too. They would have been married 60 years in December. But of course we know she was out of her suffering so we were thankful for that. We knew she was in a far better place with Jesus than she ever had here on this Earth.

Now plans had to go ahead for Caroline's wedding. Invitations of course were out. The church had had a shower for her in the spring. I had a new dress and so did Debbie and the little boys had the proper clothing. The men all wore dark suits so that was easy to take care of.

Jessie Isseman, the lady in our church, took care of the flowers. She did a beautiful job of that. Gerry Jack had the ceremony. Rebecca Prentice, Lloyd's sister, was maid of honor and Doris Alsheimer and Pat were bridesmaids. Roger Rider was best man and Arthur Drake and Dick were ushers. For the reception they had pistachio ice cream and strawberry ice cream to carry out their pink and green color scheme. And cake, of course, served with that and punch.

The temperature was in the high nineties and Caroline has kept track of it every year since then and that day August 15,1959 had set the record for heat for that day up until last year, last August. After their honeymoon, they got a house in Rochester and Caroline went to work as a nurse in the hospital where she graduated, Highland. And Lloyd registered in the University of Rochester to finish his college.

For a number of years my mother had had a picnic in the summer to celebrate her family’s birthdays. She had two brothers and a sister that lived in Hornell area. So they all came and Aunt Myrtle cooked and her husband Clarence and Uncle Will Matthews and his wife Ginnie and Uncle Harry Matthews and they all came up for this picnic. And my father's birthday was in the summer, too and of course my mother's birthday was in August along with Aunt Myrtle’s. So it was nice, as a young girl I remember we had these every summer.

And then after they passed away I continued to have a picnic there at my house in the summer for my family as they married and had children and they came back. We usually set a Sunday that they could all come and they would all go to church that they had come here to church to begin with so it was a chance for them to get back in the home church for one day in the year.

It was very nice and then we would have the picnic and they would play games in the afternoon in the yard, crochet or Softball or something, or just sit and visit. They didn't see each other very often.

In the fall of 1959 the beginning of Pat's senior year at Avoca. Sometime before this there had been a Youth for Christ organized in Avoca. The large area there was one in Avoca, Bath, Jasper, Arkport. And they in these different they organized Bible quiz teams. They were each given a section of the Bible from which the question would be taken and they studied those. And the different quizzes were held on the Saturday night when these Youth for Christ's met in these different areas. They were judged on speed and accuracy mostly; there other things they judged on too but that was the main way they were judged. Pat work hard on the study. They'd be so happy when Avoca won. At the end of the year in the spring they would announce the quizzer of the year, one who had answered the most questions correctly. In the Jasper church it was held, this award service was held this year. Pat won the quizzer of the year award. That was a nice way for her to end her last year in quizzing. Only high school students could be on the team.

She had always wanted to be a teacher so she applied at Geneseo teacher’s college they called it then and she was accepted but she really wanted to go Houghton. She had majored in homemaking and not college entrance courses so the school didn't think she could get in. But she had, several had told her that they would write letters of recommendation. So she applied and was accepted. She was so very happy, I remember, over that.

I was working at Birdseye still. I worked nights and Pat started working days so between us we managed to keep the fires at home burning correctly.

Floyd had always wanted to go through the western states on a trip and so we planned that maybe we could go this winter. He'd like to go up through Washington state down through California but we knew there wouldn't be time. He only had two weeks off in the winter so we went through Illinois and Missouri and that way west, and back through Texas and Louisiana and Arizona so we covered a lot of states. We stayed in motels and took our food with us. The most we ever paid for a motel it's $7 most of them were $5 a night. There were no signs up saying no cooking allowed so we took an electric fry pan. Fern had made a big batch of beef stew and put it in pint cans and so we had that several times warmed up in the electric fry pan. We had eggs for breakfast. Cholesterol with not a word in our vocabulary at that time so we ate eggs for breakfast and rich food for supper but all of it we took with us. We ate restaurant food two different meals on the whole trip.

When we got out to California we stayed overnight with the pastor and his wife that married us. That was a nice time. They had been gone from there for many years. 30 years, in fact, since they left there; they left shortly after we were married. We called home every Sunday night and Wednesday night. Everything was all right there. We sent a lot of postcards and took a lot of pictures. It was nice but way too short time for all we wanted to cover but we did cover a lot of states and had a very, very good time.

Now I got ahead of my story again. In June of 1960 Colleen Lynette was born to Jean and Jumbo. So there was five little girls. Debbie made six and Dick and Gerry's three made nine so when they got together there was quite a crowd of little girls and still one lonely boy, Mark.

Jean and Jumbo moved back to Dansville so we get to see more of them. They used to come over every once in a while. Geneiva and Kenneth Pawling, Jumbo's parents had a dog named Pal. So sometimes Jean would say that “We're going to Grandma's” and they'd say “Where are we going? Are we going to Pal's house or Debbie's house?” We used to laugh about it. Geneiva said, "Well, I guess we know where we stand."

In September Cynthia Ann was born to Caroline and Lloyd. There is quite a contrast in their looks. They all had blonde hair except Kris. She had dark brown hair from the time she was born. Five of them had brown eyes, five had blue eyes. Now Grandma's talking again. They were all very nice looking children. Debbie had brown eyes, too. She looked quite a lot like Karen. There was a family resemblance there too. She looked like some of the other children too. They got a big kick out of calling Debbie “Aunt Debbie”. It was comical because she was the same age as most of them. Dick tells the story and I can't verify this that one day Karen come in and says “Aunt Debbie has wet her pants”.

Pat finished her freshman year of college and went to work at Birdseye again this summer. Bruce worked for Floyd. He had a car and a series of girlfriends. He also had other boys that he did things with and they were not Christians. He knew the things he should do and should not do. He had been brought up in the church but he chose to go the wrong way. They got to taking old iron and tin roofing and kind of things like that and sold them at places where they bought old iron. He was very naive. They got him to sell it so his name would be on the bill of sales so he was arrested. He was really scared. I guess sometimes God has to make us hit bottom before we wake up. Dorothy Jones from the church and Dick Snavely from Youth for Christ both went to see him. He was ready and waiting to get things straightened out in his life and get back to serving God. He went to court several times but he was finally put on probation. The others got prison sentences because of past troubles they had had with the law.

He began going to Youth for Christ and into our church and in the spring of '62 he met Erin Dillon there at the Youth for Christ. He also went to work it down Gunlock’s in Wayland at about that time. They wanted to marry right off so we talk them into waiting till fall. And they were married in October.

The wedding took place in the Southside Baptist church. That was very Erin went to church. Cheryl Dillon, Erin's sister, was maid of honor. Pat and Alice Franklin were bridesmaids. Dick was best man, Jumbo and Lew Errands were ushers. They had a reception there at the church for them. They went on a wedding trip up Rochester way. And when they came back they rented Loren Rider's tenant house. It was a cute little place and they set up housekeeping there, Lived there for quite awhile.

Erin has this inherited condition where walking is difficult for her. She had to use crutches always and when it was time in the next year for, in the summer for Paul David to arrive they moved down to Graham and Dylan's in Canisteo for awhile. He came here as I said in August. He was is a healthy nice little boy. The stayed at Grandma Dillon’s for awhile but then they came up to our house for awhile and he worked for Bernard Jones and they bought a trailer and set it up on Bernard's land. They stayed there for some time and then this was in 63.

In the fall of 63. Andrew Henry was born to Caroline and Lloyd. They were close in age and they were always good friends. They didn’t see very much of each other but whenever our family gatherings came, they would always go off themselves. They seem to have lots in common and they grew up enjoying each other. As I said not very often but when they did they always had a good time. They went hiking up mountains together in the Adirondacks and did things and when they’d come to the family gatherings, they'd always be off to themselves, just chatting away like old gentlemen.

Bruce worked for Bernard Jones for a while and they bought a trailer and set it up on his property. They lived there until the fall 64 and then they moved up to Rochester. Erin had a job doing filing and typing and so forth. Later she worked for Xerox. And a lot of the time Paul David stayed with us and they'd pick him up weekends. He was a lively, healthy little guy and we just enjoyed him. Floyd always loved babies anyway. And he was there and we had a good time. Bruce had a job driving trucks in Rochester. Erin worked at her job there. Then they moved down to the Dyer Hill farm and bought a house that belonged to Floyd and they stayed there until in November 1970 when they bought a house in Wallace. That's the home they still have now.

In the summer of '66 Noelle Dorotha came. She was a pretty baby and we enjoyed her a lot too. She stayed with us quite a lot of the time during the week and they'd pick her up weekends.

In June of '64 Pat graduated from college. She worked for Birdseye and she also helped Gladys Pawling with her filing and so forth, the same work that Caroline had done. And she got a job teaching school in Saugerties New York, that's down on the Hudson. So that was a lot of planning to go into that. She had to plan to take a lot of clothes with her as she wouldn't be coming home very often. And they same summer Jean and Jumbo moved back to the Adirondack area. It was going to be different not having them there but it would be nice for Pat and Jean to have each other close because of where they lived wasn't too far from Saugerties where Pat was going to teach.

I got ahead of my story again. Floyd was working for Dick Goodrich putting in potatoes for him as usual but he also bought a farm from the Alsheimer's up on top of Dyer Hill. It had not been worked for many years; they told him it would take seven years to get it into production. But he worked hard at it and got it so it produced good in 4 years. The first year we put in was one of those years that comes a very early hard freeze so we lost the crop that year; there was too much frozen to save. Then the next year we did well. He bought tractors and farm machinery and still worked for Dick Goodrich, too. Bruce worked on his days off. Dick came up from Canisteo to help sometimes on Saturdays and so forth.

In the early sixties he bought a harvester. We had had colored people come up from the south to work and pick potatoes in the harvest. He built a labor camp for them up on the Dyer Hill farm there. And we had to get that ready every fall for them to stay in while they picked potatoes. But it was getting more difficult to get good help to come up there because so many of them would come just because they wanted to come north and they weren't much workers but most of them were real good workers and Floyd enjoyed them.

He also bought a farm up on Jones corners. The Coons Farm that was called and that was a nice farm, too. It had fruit trees on it and a big pond that someone else had dug before. We put trees all around that pond and went up there once in awhile to have a picnic dinner. It was nice. It wasn't too far from our plsce.

The first year that Jean and Jumbo were up there in the Adirondack area, we went up there for Thanksgiving. Pat came up from where she was teaching school. That was nice. We enjoyed that.

There was one interesting thing about that area up there. One of the houses that they live in had housed people that were running away from slavery. They called it one of the houses of the Underground Railroad. In this house one of the upstairs bedrooms had a closet and out of that closet was a trap door in the ceiling where there had been a stairway. They could see where a stairway had been attached to the wall. It wasn't there then. But they climbed up that stairway and went through the trap door and stayed upstairs until the next leg of the journey was ready for them. Jean's kids and ours a lot of fun figuring out how to get up there and see what it looked like up there. It was a task because there were not stairs there then.

Brian and Gerry were 13 and 15 at that time and Robin and Debbie were 9 and of course the other girls were eight and seven and so forth. They had all studied about the Civil War in school and so it was especially interesting to them.

Jumbo had been the nickname he went by in the Avoca and Haskinville area and we always called him Jumbo down there. But when he moved up in the Adirondack or Champlain area as we called it, he went by his real name, which was Shirley. So we tried to comply and once in awhile we'd forget but most of the time we called him Shirley.

They had for some time wanted to go west and travel and take their children. They said they should do it then while they were still home. Once they went to college it would be hard to do it. So they began figuring ways they could do it and they bought a delivery truck. I've tried to remember what it would have been but it was like a bread delivery truck. Jean was the carpenter of the family. She put windows in it and made bunk beds and cupboards to store their, and clothes closets for their clothes and made a table for them to eat at. It would fold up when they weren’t eating. She had it all planned. They each had one outfit for Sunday and the rest of the time they just had play clothes that kept in boxes in the clothes closet. They each had one church outfit.

They would always plan to stop on Saturday to do their laundry for the week and find a church and stay there overnight and then go on Monday. They had invited Pat to go along with them. It would be a help to Jean some but it would be very nice for Pat to have this trip out west too. So Pat had certain duties ascribed to her that she was supposed to do each day and, of course, Jean had the brunt of all the work. They planned this for the summer of 1965. It was very carefully planned. The details and the route and everything was planned.

In the spring of 65, Pat met a young man church named Robert Krein. And every letter after that was full of Bob says this and Bob thinks that and I think Bob thinks and so forth. And we could see him is becoming very important to her but she was going to go on this trip during the summer and that was going to interrupt their courtship quite a bit because it was going to take all summer.

They gave us a route so we could send letters for general delivery in different places where they knew they were going to stop. And Pat wrote to Bob regularly and he wrote back. So she got letters from him and from us on the trip out to California and saw sites all the way along there. She wrote in detail and so did they so we kept up with them that way. They called home occasionally so we knew they were all right. It was a nice summer.

Then in August of that summer Floyd was very busy with planting potatoes and so forth. He got very ill with pneumonia. He was in the hospital for between two and three weeks. He was real bad. We had written them and told them. They were on the way home because they had to be home the last of August and so they were on their way home anyway but they hurried up the last part of their trip so to get there for Floyd. They were real worried over it.

His men that worked for him took over the work and reported to him every so often all that's going and he got home and he still couldn't go back to work for a while. He was very weak. He had bought a potato harvester by then and he didn’t have the colored people anymore. And the men ran that.

Floyd got back to work to sort of oversee the thing. He couldn't work too hard for awhile. He was still real weak. Pat went back to teaching in Saugerties where she was teaching. Jean and Jumbo back went to their regular routines.

Around the Haskinville/Neils Creek area there was a big group of young people there from nine or ten up to 15 or 16 and they used very often meet at Evans's house next door to where we lived. They had a big pond in their yard. And they always invited the kids to come there and go swimming. And they did that real often. Earl had made a raft and they would go out in the middle of that and use that for a diving board and they just had a great time. The ones that were good swimmers did that and the ones that weren't so good swimmers wnet from the shore and they had a nice time doing that.

Earl had trouble with coons eating his corn so he had put out a wire around the corn field that he hooked up directly to the 110 Volt from the house to try to kill the raccoons as they came to eat the corn. I didn’t know about that 110 Volt. Helen had told me about the wire but we had a six Volt fence around our cow pasture and I just assumes that's what it was. I didn't give it another thought.

On the day of September 21 it had been a very hot day all day and so on the way home on the bus, the kids all agreed they would meet at Evans's to go swimming. It would probably be the last hot day where they could all go together and swim. So they all met there and swam quite a while.

Then in the middle of it -- that day I had forgotten that day-- Brian got word that he had passed his driver's test and that was a big, big thing to a 16-year-old. That's what he was then. And he was so excited about that. He had bought a little car with his savings. A real cheap little car but it was special to him. He painted it very carefully and was waiting until he got his driver's license so he could drive it.

And he was down there swimming with the rest so I never knew why he did this but all at once, he left the pond where they were all swimming and jumping off the raft and so into the corn patch where Helen Evans was gathering corn. And he tripped on that wire with his foot and reached down with his other hand to pull the wire off. I suppose it burned. And it killed him instantly. We didn't know for sure that at the time but Floyd had been to the doctor that day so he was home just resting; he was pretty tired out.

And so we called and he came and took him to the hospital but they couldn't revive him.

That was a tragedy cause we just felt so bad for the Evanses; they was just thought so much of all the kids in the neighborhood and of course it was a terrible loss to us.

My father was in bed all the time now. I got him up a couple times a day to sit in a chair so he wouldn't get bed sores and to rest his back and so forth.

Pat and Bob's romance was running along like I would expect it to. So they had sort of decided to be married in December. But then when this happened Pat was so heartbroken over it. She thought so much of Brian, that she didn't want to get married until later so they postponed it till spring.

The funeral was on Friday that week. The whole neighborhood turned out to come to our house and offer to help in any way they could and furnished food. People I didn't even know about sent in casseroles. Of course it was good because the family all came home.

Caroline and Lloyd and Jean and Shirley, so that we needed the food that was sent in and I just appreciated it so much. Everyone was so good to us. I never realized how much it helps when someone comes just to offer a word of comfort at a time like that.

The next week my father died. So it was hard to have that at the same time and we just felt bad because it seemed like we didn't mourn him the way we should because Brian's death for so much in our thoughts. But life had to go one. We had the funeral on Saturday of that next week.

Floyd had begun going to church regularly after Brian's death and studying his Bible. He realized that he needed to get closer to the Lord. Brian was a strong Christian so I have no doubt where he was. It was the one thing that kept me in balance because I knew that someday I'd see him again.

I had Thanksgiving and Christmas at my house that year and all that could come came. It was getting back and trying to get back to our normal way of living. We still mourned Brian and my father but life has to go on.

New Year’s is a time of beginning again and we began planning for Pat's wedding which was to be April 2nd. Pat made most of the arrangements from where she was in Saugerties. She ordered the flowers and wedding cake and everything from there.

April 2 came. It was a bright sunny day but very cool. The wedding was to be held in the Haskinville church same as Jean's and Caroline’s had been.

Harry Barringer was our pastor at that time. He performed the ceremony. The maid of honor was Sandy Schank, her roommate at college. Trudy Krien, Bob's sister, and Joyce Kinney, a close friend were bridesmaids and Debbie was junior bride's maid. Paul Westerbrook was Bob’s best man. Gerry Alderman and Harry Krien, his cousin, were ushers. And Stephen Zimmerman, his nephew, was junior usher. Erin Alderman, Bruce's wife, played the regular familiar wedding music on the organ.

The reception was held in the basement. Everything went off very nicely down there and they left right after the reception. They didn't open their gifts there that day because it would make the day too long. They were going to Florida on their honeymoon and they left in Bob's brand new car.

So we got back to our regular routine. Gerry and Debbie got back into school. Floyd got back to planting potatoes again and Fern stayed down a few days with us so that made it nice.