

I feel lucky to have known Grandma the few years that I did. Grandma is one of the greatest examples that I have had in my life. During the few years that I knew Grandma, she taught me skills that will last me a lifetime. The first thing that comes to my mind when I think of Grandma is her cooking. Grandma loved to cook, but more importantly she loved to cook for her family and she did so often.

I felt Grandma's influence when Derrek and I were just dating down at BYU. Derrek always talked about this chicken pie that his Grandma always use to make. He even got the recipe for me so I could make it. I thought I was up to the challenge, I was feeling pretty good about myself until Derrek saw it and told me I put the crust on wrong, I didn't do it like Grandma did. I wouldn't be honest if I didn't say I was a little put out. Why did it even matter how the crust was put on? I have since given up trying to do it any other way, but Grandma's way!

After we were married Grandma was always making sure I was feeding my boys o.k., especially during busy times. She would drop off bread, cookies, soups, buns, just about everything and anything. And not just once in a while, you never left Grandma's house empty handed. She taught me how to make her infamous turtles, her peanut brittle and her homemade doughnuts. I remember the afternoons I would spend over there helping her and learning her secrets.

Up until right before she went to live with her daughters, Grandma would insist on having us over for sunday dinners. There was nothing like a sunday dinner at Grandmas. She would make a feast. After we were all done eating, it would look like we hadn't even made a dent in the food. She would get right up and do the dishes. Wouldn't rest until they were done. The boys would go off and have a nap and Grandma would have pie and ice cream or root beer floats ready for when they woke up.

Grandma loved her grandkids and her great-grandchildren. When Thomas was born, Grandma was in the hospital recovering from pneumonia. She was quite anxious to hear when the baby had finally come. Grandma was one of the first to hold Thomas. As soon as he was born, Derrek took him to meet his great-grandma and receive the official "grandma approval". I think Grandma even got to hold him before I did, Derrek was so excited to show him to her.

Grandma was always calling me during the week just to see what I was up to. She always told me to quit working so hard, when in reality, she was the one who worked so hard. I enjoyed my trips to Lethbridge with Grandma. She would talk to me the whole way down. Often times we would talk of personal things and spiritual things. She had a great understanding of the gospel and I could tell by the way she lived her life that the gospel was very important to her.