

## Grandma Smith - March 17, 2004

*By: Laura Lee Poynter*

Grandma is a woman that has impacted all of us by her great example and service to others. Even though Grandma has left us here on earth we still feel her presence and love in our lives. I am so grateful for the choice opportunity to grow up so close to Grandma.

Grandma was an example of selfless service. I think we can all remember those great Turkey Dinners our ward would host. I can remember going to the church after school and watching her dip chocolate after chocolate and she had been there all day. In fact I thought that it was easy to make chocolates that I took it upon myself to teach my BYU ward relief Society how to make chocolates. I had Grandma on speed dial to ask many questions. I quickly figured out how much work was involved. Grandma made everything look easy. I never heard her complain. Mom said that you could never get ahead of her with an act of kindness, when you did something nice she did the kind act in return 2 fold. I can never remember not having a couple of Grandma's pans in our hall ready to return.

We all know how fabulous her baking was. As children when we took on a baking project at home we would look for a recipe and with no luck mom would just say call Grandma and she would rattle off the recipe by heart. Many of her recipes I know are famous to all her grandchildren. One of Sean's favorites is her 7 layer casserole and chocolate Easter eggs to name a few. Sarah Jane had to distribute her Sugar Cookie recipe to all the mothers in Hannah's kindergarten class. That would make Grandma proud.

Grandma always liked to be involved and lend a hand wherever possible. When Morgan had his accident we were able to stay with Grandma. Our teachers at school always knew we were there because she braided our hair and made the most large and delicious lunches. We loved staying at Grandma's house there was always such a sweet spirit there. Mom told us Grandma loved taking Sarah Jane and I to Lethbridge. People would stop her and ask if we were for sale and Grandma would say sorry not for sale - they are my girls. Morgan and Grandma always shared a special relationship. She took the time out to sit with him and help finish his seminary. She called him everyday to make sure he stayed out of trouble. The thoughtfulness and care for others Grandma exemplified is something that I would like to carry on.

Just 1 week before Grandma left us Tania I had a sweet visit with her. She was still very with it and didn't miss a beat. We looked rather travelled, Tania felt a little self conscience seeing Grandma with straight hair. And sure enough she had a comment. Close to the end of our visit she told us that we needed to curl our hair. She almost sat straight up in her bed and said you go get those pink curlers. We informed her that we were going home to get ready for Sterling's Baptism and would curl it then. She insisted no I don't trust you go get the pink curlers. Aunt Lorraine said wow one might take offense. Of course it was not offense to me. To this day I don't dare -- not put curlers in my girls hair for church. I see it as a tradition that I hold dear to me.

I will miss Grandma a great deal she has always been a constant in all of our lives. She attended most events that us kids were involved in when possible. She will be missed by all but her ~~love~~ will be lived through her children and grand children.