

## Audrey Arlene Marie Elizabeth Barthle 1927

### By: Sheldon Williams

My great grandmother was born on July 6, 1927 in Wadena, Minnesota. When she was born the doctor told her mother that she could not have any more kids. She felt bad because she still had three more names she wanted to use. Therefore, my great-grandmother got all the names! She was baptized Audrey Arlene Marie Elizabeth Barthle! My great grandmother was the youngest of four children.

When she was growing up, at about age 5, she showed that she could sing and dance. Her mother arranged for her to perform at county and state fairs. She won a lot of talent shows, performed in musicals, and even sang on the radio. Also, she made three records. They were called "78's". My great grandmother continued to perform until she was 12 years old. We have pictures of her in her costumes. She also sang in the church choir.

She got married right after high school. My great-grandfather's name was Chester. He was in the Navy and got wounded in the attack on Pearl Harbor. After the war my grandfather got a job at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and they moved to Bremerton Washington. That is where my grandmother was born. My great grandmother worked for a pediatrician for 20 years. A pediatrician is a doctor who takes care of children.

My great grandmother was talented in many ways. She could knit, crochet, macrame, do pottery and was a very good painter. We have 3 pictures she painted. She could also water ski on one ski! She was a very fun grandmother to my mom and my Aunt Lori. They would do crafts together and go on adventures and do lots of fun and crazy things. My mom said that is why she got the nick-name of "Crazy Grandma Aud".

When she moved to St. George she lived by a golf course. She would take my Mom, when she was my age, walking around the golf course and would find golf balls. Then she would sell them for 25 cent each. She saved a lot of money that way. Now I walk the same golf course with my grandmother and we find golf balls. One time we found 32 of them! I got to sell them to save up for our trip to Disneyland.

My great grand mother was a volunteer at he hospital for a long time. She was called a "pink lady". She did a lot of charity work. My great-grandmother died in 1996 from brain cancer. I was not born yet so I never got to meet her. My grandma said that I would have really loved my great grand mother Audrey. She was happy all the time and loved to play with kids.