

# My Great Grandmother

## By Ethan Allen

My great grandmother was born December 13, 1928. Her name was Barbara McGregor. She was born in the family farm in Mound, Valley Idaho. Her siblings were mad because she was the youngest of ten children so they thought they should give her to the bishop for tithing because she was the tenth child. She was a healthy at birth, but later that morning she was found in a pool of blood because her bellybutton was untied. Her sister said she looked like a balloon when the air was squeezed out. No one thought she would live, but her dad gave her a priesthood blessing and she lived.

Growing up, great grandma's closest neighbors were her cousins. Her favorite games were hide- and- seek, kick the can, blind man's bluff, and run sheepy run. She also played baseball in the front yard.

She went to church every Sunday, "rain, shine, or blizzard, or 32 below zero." One Sunday the car would not start and her dad made them ride in a grain wagon. They "looked like refugees" covered in heavy quilts. It was the only time we were late.

She graduated from high school when she was sixteen. She then went to Idaho State University and graduated from with a teaching certificate in two years. She taught third and fourth grade at Thatcher elementary until she had enough money to go to U.S.U. at age nineteen. She received her Masters in Speech Correction and Elementary Education at age twenty-one.

Great grandma married H. lee Hales December 31, 1951. She had four children, taught at U.S.U., and wrote poetry. She was also known as "the book lady" until the day she died. She died August 31, 2009 when she was hit by a car. I miss my Great-grandma who sent me books.