

# Maggie May Meacham Baker

Maggie May Lee

## My remarkable woman

My great grandmother Maggie May Meacham Baker was a remarkable woman. She married my great grandfather Edward Lester Baker. They were married July 20, 1916. My great grandfather had already married. His wife died of the birth of their first child. My great grandmother Maggie was the daughter of William Bates Meacham and Mary Francis Littlefield Meacham. Ed and Maggie met when Ed was called home to take care of his mother who was very ill. As Ed stepped into his mother's home he was greeted by the sound of young Maggie singing and rocking his sister Elizabeth's baby Lizzie. Ed darned right on the spot he would marry Maggie, and he did. Their first travel was a celebration of their honeymoon. They went to Buck Board Road. Their first dinner was an amazing cook out by Ed. The following spring of 1924 they came back to Ed's ranch instead of their little home near the creek. Ed and Maggie rented the ranch from a man named Delark Black. They lived there until 1929. Then they moved into a man named Henry Haws old house. They lived there until 1932. Then they moved back to their homestead in boulder creek. There they had nine children Dena, William, Floyd, Don, Merlin, Jack, Cleo, Larral, and my grandma Emily LaNell. Maggie lived by faith. She did relate to other family. She had a dream about her two year old son Don. He was in a white romper and he had handsome white shoes. A couple days after the dream Don died pneumonia. Relatives came one brought special clothes for him to be buried in. Maggie said that those were the same clothes Don was wearing in her dream. Finally things started to work out for Ed and Maggie to start work on their new home. They designed a house that would fill their dreams. It was a two story house with huge rooms. The house was not finished when they moved in. And now they realized that now was the beginning of their dreams. Ed and Maggie worked together with their oldest boys. Ed could not rest. He wanted to see the house finished. Ed and Maggie were walking in the front of their house and Ed told Maggie he would die soon because of his heart problems. One day Ed went up on a hill to the lumber to get some wood. While he was getting wood he got terribly ill. They sent Jack up to get his father. Jack was 10 years old. He took a horse and went up the hill. He saw his father at the mill. He hurried over to him. Ed got on the horse. Just as he sat on the saddle he had a heart attack and died.

On the other side of the mountain there was a man named Percy Levitt he was steering his cattle up on the hill when his horse started to move the other direction from where they were. Percy didn't stop the horse it led them to where Jack and his dead father was. Before anyone came home Ed's Brother Claude came over. When Ed arrived home dead Maggie would not stop mourning. Every night when her children were asleep, she would go to the cemetery in search of Ed. When the family woke up she would be home and was always afraid she would die leaving eight kids without a parent. Her baby was only one years old. Maggie was frightened but she kept on moving. One summer the man made dam broke. Maggie panicked because Jack and his friend were by the creek swimming! She ran calling Jack! Jack! But she would never be heard over the rumble of the water. Finally Jack and his friend ran acrossed the bridge just as the big group of

water smashed the bridge. Maggie only had one good friend and neighbor Thriza King. She had also lost her husband. Maggie and Thriza would go on picnics after Maggie's children went to school. Finally Maggie started singing again when she went to church. After church she would go pick berries for her jam and pie. After eighth grade the boys had to move out to find a better education. Maggie's oldest daughter Denna was with her great aunt in Wyoming. Then she moved to her grandparents in Richfield. One day after they flood Maggie was walking were the flood happened and she saw a little wild iris trying to force its way out from under a big rock. And she thought if that flower could work its way out from under that big rock I can carry my burden. She then moved to Richfield sadly leaving the house she had her biggest dreams in. She moved on December 4, 1940. The next year the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Most of Maggie's sons joined the army. Maggie died July 2, 1984. Her daughter Cleo sent her this letter on her 80th birthday

Dear mama,

Do you remember all the things you did while you were getting to be 80? Do you remember all the good times we would take loads of clothes down to the stream?

Do you remember the big round tub we used to put coals under to boil the clothes clean? Do you remember when we would pick blue berries and go on picnics together and you told me you would never grow up you were right! I love you your Cleo 1975

I loved learning about my great grandma Maggie so much and I think my great grandmother Maggie was a remarkable woman and I think that having this program is wonderful for everyone and that everyone could learn and enjoy learning about their ancestors like I did.:)