

**MEMORIES OF FERN REDD  
LAYCOCK**  
by Hugh Laycock

We took mother on outings to Waterton, Logan Pass, Livingstone Gap country etc. She wasn't thrilled with the boat, but would ride in it.

She would run errands for me and help on occasion when something broke down. She once drove to Welling and towed the old Ford truck back to the farm when no one else was available.

For years we alternated having Christmas dinner at Livingstones' and at the farm, and turn about for New Year's day, always with mother there.

She and Brent went together to the Lethridge Sketch Club for a number of years.

In 1967, during the spring blizzard which tied up all Southern Alberta roads for a while, Bill, who had just returned from his mission, stayed at her home and accompanied many singers at the Music Festival.

When I played in the Lethbridge Symphony Orchestra concerts for several years, Audrey took her to the concerts.

In 1977, I took her up for a plane ride for her birthday. She did enjoy it and remarked over and over that she didn't have any idea there was so much land around here. A couple of years later, Lura and Vilo came to visit, and I took all three of them up and around over the Raymond area where they had grown up. They all really enjoyed that. Mother told me several times afterward that she had tried to get to them first and say that if I asked them to fly, they did not HAVE to go. She didn't make it in time. They all went, and to her surprise, enjoyed it.

## EPILOGUE

In May 1991, mother had a slight cold. At 3:30 in the morning of May 9, 1991, the supervisor at Extencicare called us to say that when they checked on her, she had passed away quietly in her sleep, at the age of 97. We were saddened that we would not be able to visit with her again, but knew how happy she would be to be with her beloved George again. Forty four years is a long time to be separated! She had a smile on her face, and we knew there had been a wonderful reunion.

Her memorial service was lovely — it was conducted by her grandson Brent Laycock, a brand-new bishop. It was the first service he had conducted, and he did a fine job.

All the children and their spouses were present, and all the grandchildren except Donald H. Livingstone, who was conducting a business seminar in California with 200 participants from all over western U.S. It would have been impossible to contact all those people and make alternative arrangements. He was very sad to be unable to come, as he felt very close to her. He was the oldest of the grandchildren, and had lived in her home for the first three years of his life while his Dad was overseas in World War II.

Many of our friends told us that the service was just wonderful, and we ourselves felt very satisfied with it. We knew that she and Dad were there and were pleased with the proceedings.

Bill Laycock played the organ prelude, and spoke, representing the grandchildren. All of the sons and grandsons (except Don of course) sang a male chorus "I Believe in Christ" which was written by her cousin, Bruce R. McConkie. Harold Laycock gave the biography, then Ralph Laycock spoke briefly. Ralph's daughters combined in a lovely musical number, one of the solos that Mother often sang. JoLane Jolley was at the piano, Linda Findlay on the flute, and Claudia Laycock, Kathrine Little and Elizabeth Farnsworth sang an arrangement done by their Dad.

Don Livingstone gave the gospel message and the closing number was a solo by Carol Laycock, again one of the solos that Mother used to sing "I Shall Not Pass Again This Way," accompanied by the four children, as we used to accompany Mom — Merne on the piano, Hugh on the violin, Ralph on clarinet and Harold on the viola. Prayers were given by Robert Livingstone and Christopher Laycock, and the organ postlude, "Going Home," was played by Lucy Laycock. The burial took place at Mountain View Cemetery in Lethbridge in the plot beside her husband. The grave was dedicated by Hugh Laycock.

Mother lived a long and useful life, was beloved by all who knew her, and is sorely missed by her family, but we know she is happy to be re-united with Dad, and we all try to live according to her teachings.