

Memories of Grandma

Things I remember about Grandma Tolman:

Her kind, caring, gentle spirit.

Her love...

Wanting to be like her.

Dinners at the old house.

The smell of bread baking and the sound of dishing clinking.

Strawberries, gooseberries, and raspberries.

Being allowed to make a building block mess.

Playing school.

Dominos.

Christmas...

(Kelly)

I remember when Jennifer and I would go and visit her in Oakley. We would always go out eat the strawberries and raspberries before they were ripe. Grandma always told us to not go out and eat the berries before they were ripe, but we always did. When we came in we always had stomachaches. Grandma always scolded us for not listening because she knew what would happen when we ate the berries. (Robyn)

I remember trips up Birch Creek to have a picnic. We would drive towards City of Rocks and find a good picnic spot and fix sandwiches. Grandma usually found some watercress in the creek to add to the sandwiches. She would eat it like lettuce. It was bitter.

I also remember going to Grandma & Grandpa's to visit and we would go up to Warm Springs to go swimming. Grandma would always go sit in the "warm pool." Grandma usually fixed a big pot of chili that would be ready to eat when we got back.

I remember playing spoons at the "old house" on Marion. We had to pull a couple of tables together to make room for everyone. We used the old metal cups for water and more than once they were spilled on the table as everyone dove for a spoon.

I remember the Idaho vs. Utah softball games at the "big" Tolman reunions and playing with Grandma & Grandpa.

At the old house, Grandma had big gooseberry bushes and we'd pick a bunch of gooseberries and Grandma would make a gooseberry pie.

One night Grandma and Rex came to Nampa to visit. Wayne and I arranged a date for Rex and we triple dated. We got back home really late, like 3:00 AM. It was Rex's fault as he and his date were looking at a tree house - Wayne & I had already taken our dates home. When we walked in the house at Mom & Dad's we tried to be quiet so as not to wake anyone. No problem - Grandma was wide awake and let us know as soon as we got to the living room, "YOU YOUNG MEN STOP RIGHT THERE." Gulp! Boy could Grandma read you the riot act.

I remember as Cindy and I built our house, Grandma would ride to Burley with Mom & Dad. Over the past several years, my kids would get really excited to see Grandma Great as she would come visit. She always had a hug and a smile for them as I know she did for all of her grandkids and great grandkids. (Brent)

There are so many memories of her love for everyone that it is hard to pick just one, However there is one thing that I will always remember and that is that she always had the pink mint candies for everyone to have when they came to visit. Our family loves and will miss Grandma & Great Grandma. (Wayne Tolman Family)

She always had the pink mints in a candy dish (This is also something my boys will always remember. Whenever we would visit her at her house in Nampa, my boys would ask for a mint. Grandma would always give them one and if they weren't all with me, she would send a mint home for whoever wasn't there.)

Grandma loved to crochet, often making gifts for other people. These included a bank that she crocheted and afghans.

One of my favorite memories of growing up, is when everyone was in Oakley visiting and we slept on the floor, pretty much covering every square inch of space. She often made chili when we visited them in Oakley. (Amie)

Grandma always had the pink mints. She seemed to be working on craft projects all the time, especially crochet. I remember her picking her raspberries, and not letting the grandkids into the berries very often. (Eileen)

It was always fun for us to visit with Grandma. Sometimes we knew she'd be in town and then other times she'd just show up with Dean and Rosemary and surprise us! She's shown up unexpectedly at Birthday Parties and Cheer Recitals and we've always been happy to see her there! She always tried her hardest to support all her kids, grandkids, and great grandkids, so she attended a lot of events!

We know Grandma loved to play games, but we found out last Christmas that "Wii Sports" (video game) and "Scattergories" (board game) are not two of her strongest gaming events! Nonetheless, she played them with us anyway and I doubt we'll ever forget watching Grandma do a little Wii Bowling in our basement. (Bryan Barton Family)

I have so many memories of Grandma in my heart that it would be impossible to list all of them. She is my hero. What an amazing example she was to her posterity!

One of my favorite trips to take when I was young was to Grandma and Grandpa's house in Oakley. It was fun to see the horses and eat the raspberries and gooseberries.

As I got older, I remember playing "eeny-einy-over" by throwing a ball over the top of the trailer. It was so fun to catch the ball and tag the other team members!

Although Grandma did not originally teach me how to crochet, she did help me enhance the knowledge that I had. I knew if I had a question about a pattern that I could ask her for help. One afghan I made really baffled me until Grandma explained a couple of steps for me. I have every item that Grandma ever crocheted for me, including a pink elephant that I received as a newborn. These are among my greatest treasures. My pink elephant has always had a home in my room, sitting on my cedar chest, even when I went away to Utah State. That pink elephant did become a little worn - the stuffing on the inside began to crumble. I took the elephant to the "doctor" (Grandma), where it received new stuffing.

Grandma told me once that she had always wanted to visit Europe. Unfortunately she did not have that opportunity in this life. I will be traveling to Europe in June with my students and I will take Grandma with me in my heart (and her picture of course!). In a small way she can be there with me. (Janiece)

Some of my fondest memories of Grandma are when we'd go up to Oakley and spend time up there. She would always have a bowl of raspberries for us to eat. I loved riding the horses while we were there. I also enjoyed picking the raspberries and the gooseberries. I really enjoyed the time when Janiece and I were able to spend a week there with just her and I. We had a lot of fun doing things. We had fun when we went fishing and Grandma protected us because Grandpa was going to throw us into the Oakley Dam because we kept catching fish and Grandpa didn't catch any. I love you Grandma and I will miss you. (Kristine)

Jimmy remembers how when you were with Grandma she was content to just be in the room with you. She always just loved to see you and she didn't need to carry on a conversation, she just was happy to be with you. He says she's just an amazing person and if you ever met her you would never forget her. I'm so glad for the time that I knew Grandma. She left a lasting impression on me and I will never forget that she was always so happy to see me. I love you Grandma and I'll miss you. (Jimmy)

Katlyn and Conner remember having Grandma read books to them. Katlyn remembers putting a puzzle together with Grandma. Annie was always so quick to run and give Grandma hugs when she would see her. One of the last times Grandma was visiting Utah Annie sat on Grandma's lap and just sat there content just being held by her. We love you Grandma and we'll miss you. (Conner, Katlyn, and Annie)

It is hard to come up with just a few things to say about Grandma. I love all the times that I would help her in the kitchen. I enjoyed the time Grandma came to San Diego and visited and we went to the beach. Grandma even got to ride in a wheelchair at the beach. I always enjoyed playing games with Grandma. I have always enjoyed watching Grandma crochet and it made me want to learn to crochet. I always remember having prayer with Grandma every morning and night. I always remember Grandma having her pink mints and M & M's. I remember this last reunion when everyone that was around went and made a line to give Grandma a hug. She was always happy. A year ago February I got to go and spend some extra time, just me with Grandma. It was great. When we were younger we would always sing, "We're almost to Grandma's house." We were always so excited to be there. I also remember picking gooseberries. (Deanna and Joe)

Morgan says she remembers sitting on Grandma's lap and hugging her. She also remembers running up to her and always giving her a hug. Morgan also said she enjoyed going to the store with Grandma at Christmas time. (Morgan)
Andrew loved reading stories to Grandma. (Andrew)
Emilee loved to sit on Grandmas lap and be read a story. (Emilee)

I remember always going to Grandma's and having a bowl of raspberries in the blue bowls. Fishing trips, especially the one at Little Wood. I remember driving by the potato cellar with the big hole and always joking that it was Grandma who drove over it. Grandma loved chocolate, especially M & M's. (Steven)

I remember playing cards and Grandma and I were play fighting. I said, we need to take this outside. Grandma told me she would wait until Alicia was born before she would beat me up. I had a nice talk with Grandma. She told me all about her life, raising kids, Grandpa, and many other things. She also bore her testimony to me. It was a very special time. (Magaly)

I remember going to Bryan and Ange's Christmas Eve and Grandma was there. I love our crocheted ball. (Maeva)

Grandma had asked me to mash potatoes by hand when I was 17 or 18 and it wasn't working very well. So Grandma showed me how to do it the right way, and I've done it that way ever since. It works great. I also love her raspberry jam. (Scott)

I remember Grandma's smile and laugh. Also we went to visit her and Jaren kept throwing the ball in the house I kept telling him to stop he was going to break something. The next time Grandma came to Utah to visit she had crocheted Jaren a ball and stuffed it with cotton. She told him now he had a ball he could throw in the house and not get in trouble. Jaren loves this ball. He slept with it for a few days after Grandma had her stroke. Grandma loved her family, and she was always doing things to make them happy and to serve them. (Karlinda)

Brooke remembers playing games at family reunions with Grandma. (Brooke)
Lakyn Remembers playing games with Grandma. (Lakyn)
Jaren remembers getting candy at Grandma's house, and she was nice. (Jaren)

I remember when I was probably 7-13 years old every summer Scott and I would go stay at Grandma and Grandpa's house. It was always the highlight of our summer to go and stay. While we were up there we would go fishing, to the City of Rocks, and to Warm Springs. As I got older we would go and visit Grandma and Grandpa we would work in the morning and then Grandma would always have a nice picnic fixed and we would go up to the City of Rocks and picnic. While we were there we would also climb on rocks and just have an all around good time.

I also remember one time specifically. I was walking around with my head down. I don't remember why. Grandma Tolman saw me and talked to me for a minute. She said, "Why are you walking around with your head down you are a Tolman." I have always remembered that. To me it was Grandma telling me I was special. It also let me know I had a lot to add to the world and could do anything I set my mind to.

As I got older and had children. I learned how loving Grandma was she had a way of making everyone feel special and welcome. My children loved when Grandma came to Randolph so they could play games with Grandma Tolman. We always had fun and came away with some laughs after playing games. (Glenn)

One of my most recent memories of Grandma is when she came with my mom to see Jacob at the hospital when he was born. It was neat having her there. As she was holding him she said something about how he knew Grandpa and Great Grandpa and wondered what would he tell us if he could. I have always enjoyed going to Grandma's but more recent was when we were up for Carolyn's funeral.

The songs in the primary book about mothers also applies to Grandma's too! Like I often go walking and Grandma dear . . . mother tell me the story.
Grandmother:

You give me a kiss. You give me a hug. You smile when you see me too. I wish every child in the whole wide world had a great Grandma just like you. You read me a book you sing me a song you whisper you love me too, ..I'll try to be good I'll do as I should. I'll whisper I love you too.

I thought the primary song covered it well.

I also remember the beautiful garden which we will one day have. Homemade jam and other scrumptious delights. Picking raspberries, having fresh vegetables out of the garden, fried squash, homemade pickles, the jar of candy, and cookies which we would try to snatch..

I remember the fun get togethers we had at their house and playing lots of fun games like Alma, Hearts, Pinochle, Golf, eeny-einy-over, and Croquet.

I remember once when we were growing up and visiting at Christmas, Easter, and other holidays. One time in particular we were watching TV and it was a Sunday and she came in and said something like " today is the Sabbath and we should observe it and turned the TV off." That has always stuck with me

I enjoy hearing her stories of her childhood, her Grandparents, and parents.
I admire Grandma for her hard work and service to her family and the gospel.

I treasure the beautiful afghans she has given me and my children and the ball she made for my kids and I still have the doll with the crotched dress that she made.

Her home decor brings a sense of peace and serenity and so does she. I am grateful to her for her example, compassion and caring.

Last of all I am grateful for her testimony of the gospel and testimony of her parents and ancestors who were great examples to her. I will try to continue that legacy which she left with my mother who taught me how to bear one another's burdens that they may be light through her service for that is what Jesus did. (Shirlene)

My boys Sean, Keith, Kyle, and Ethan all mentioned how they remember Grandma giving them hugs and her smiling at them and Sean remember playing cards with Grandma and they remember Grandma visiting us a few times. We also remember the birthday party at the park in Logan. (Sean, Keith, Kyle, Ethan)

Roger remembers Grandma bearing her testimony at Bear Lake. He remembers her pleading with all of her family to stay close to the gospel. Grandma taught the value of hard work. Grandma really cared about everyone. He knows he was loved so much because of the things Grandma made him. Every time he looked at the afghan Grandma made it reminded him of the love Grandma had for him and his family. (Roger)

I remember playing "eeny-einy-over". Grandma and Grandpa's house was perfect for that game. I remember playing that game more than others. After playing, we always looked forward to the great home cooked meals from Grandma, especially in the fall when the food was straight from their garden. It's hard to name a favorite meal that she cooked, but I was always a fan of squash and loved it when Grandma and Grandpa sent a large squash home with us (it was worth it have that at my feet in the station wagon all the way home).

I also remember playing games with Grandma. That was always something to look forward to after cleaning up the dinner dishes.

Grandma was also very caring, as demonstrated by the afghans that she made for each of the grandchildren. She and Grandpa always tried to make it to special events whenever possible. It always meant a lot to me to have their support.

I have many fond memories of Grandma. She and Grandpa will always hold a special place in my heart. I am looking forward to taking my family around Oakley and showing them some of the locations where I have childhood memories with Grandma and Grandpa. (Kevin)

I remember at the house in Oakley helping to pick peas, potatoes, and raspberries. Then we would help to make a delicious dinner with them. She was such a great cook! I also remember playing games with her. She was always so nice and had a smile on her face. I loved just talking to her about things because she always listened. (Brenda)

If I could use one characteristic to describe Grandma it would be thoughtfulness. Just think of everything she did for others. How many people do you know that have crocheted an entire blanket for each of their grandkids! I remember many conversations with Grandma in which she would say how she was naturally a bit reserved and thoughtful. She would always counteract this by saying how the Lord blessed her in her responsibilities, particularly on her mission, to be able to be uninhibited in her interactions with others. She always seemed to have some thoughtful advice. For example, when visiting us she would often remark, "Frank, if you slow down, you'll enjoy your food a lot more!" We had a lasting joke about that. I was always amazed at her intellect. Perhaps her mind stayed so sharp throughout her days because of her crossword puzzles. She seemed to know so much about everything. Furthermore, she was amazing at remembering things within the family. I would often say something like, "How's Carl doing?" She would proceed to spout off to me what Carl and Claudia were doing. Then she would tell me what each of their kids were doing. Then she would tell me about each of her great-grandkids and who lost their basketball game last week, and so forth. I don't know how she kept everything straight! I will never forget Grandma's love of her family. Like all Tolman memories, I remember playing games, especially pinochle, with Grandma. She would give me advice about how to analyze the game and know what to play. In doing this, she would often refer to Grandpa's love of games, and she would usually say his famous line, "a good score keeper never loses." Most of all, I remember Grandma's testimony. She knew the gospel was true, and it was diffused into so many different people through her influence. I have often thought about all of her kids, grandkids, and great-grandkids who have the joy of the restored gospel in their lives. Not to mention those who these people have influenced through their callings, missionary work, and friendship. Truly the influence is endless. Because of her testimony, so many people know about our loving Savior and a living prophet. Many people now and in the eternities will thank Grandma for her devotion to the gospel. (Frank)

Picking raspberries and then taking them in the house in Oakley and eating them with cream and sugar. Also, Grandma sending me down to the root cellar to get potatoes and he was scared to go down there. (Michael)

I will always remember her laugh and her smile. (Jennifer)

Going to Grandma's house in Nampa with my dad to mow Grandma's lawn. I stayed inside with Grandma and played with toys. Grandma and I watched dad mow. Also, when I was a baby, I loved to touch Grandma; her face, her hair, her arms, any part he could reach. (Olivia)

Paige won't have many memories of Grandma, because of her age, but she is named after her, so hopefully we will be able to teach her some special things about Grandma. She does remember the pink candy Grandma always had on her table. (Paige)

It is hard to narrow it down to just one memory of Grandma. But since I have to narrow it down to one, I will narrow it down to two. Now there are many memories that I have growing up and all the times we went to Oakley and visited them growing up. But I have to say, one of the best memories I have is when Grandma first held Carrington. Grandma was always loving in everything she did and it showed as she was holding Carrington. All I could do is smile. I couldn't stop smiling. It is hard to describe the feeling I had, other than proud. The other memory I have is that Grandma would come to a lot of our basketball games. Grandma was always good at supporting all of her children and grandchildren. And with as many as she had, I know it was not an easy task. But she always made time, and always had a smile on her face doing it. It was nice to look into the bleachers and see her there. Even though I didn't always show it, it really meant a lot to me. I love you Grandma. (Shane)

When I was about 10, we were at Grandma's house and she made fried summer squash for dinner. It was delicious, and it was the first time that I remember ever liking it. I told her how much I liked it, and I probably ate a lot. Almost every time we were at Grandma and Grandpa's after that, if it was in season, she always would make me fried summer squash. Even though Grandma had a lot of grandchildren, she had a knack for making us feel special, if even just that she remembered the little things that we liked! I feel honored and SO lucky to have had such a wonderful Grandma!! (Mistie)

I have really enjoyed mowing Grandma's lawn. I look back on last year and mowing her lawn gave me the opportunity to visit her. That allowed me to take time out of my so called "busy schedule" and spend some time with her. I will miss that. I also enjoyed eating the gooseberries and the sweet raspberries of Oakley Idaho. I love you Grandma:) (Steven)

I feel like the little moments, the small memories are the ones that mean the most to me. Even though she had so many grandchildren and great-grandchildren she still found ways to make me feel special, and like she remembered just me. She came to so many of my performances and events, she always asked about the things I was involved in when she saw me. How she kept track of it all, I'll never know! :) Robbie and I decided one day to learn more about our Grandmas by conducting an interview about their history. We asked her so many different questions, and her specific answers don't stand out to me as much as the overall feeling I had about her life. She didn't lead a super extraordinary life with amazing adventures and outrageous stories, but she lead a simple, full, satisfying life that was so full of love. I felt as though that love she expressed that day for Grandpa, her family, and her Savior are what made her life so special. She didn't believe in froo-froo things and she would laugh and call me silly whenever I tried to embellish her past to make it Hollywood-glamorous. It taught me that to live life to it's fullest you don't have to have all these worldly experiences and have all the material things. Being surrounded by the ones you love and making simple memories by being together is what makes a life worth while! I love you Grandma! Thank you for your example and for the memories you gave me! (Kara)

My memory is when Grandma came to my basketball games, and how she was always supporting all of my activities. (Rick)

Grandma always had the pink mint candies. (Travis)

Grandma always gave a picture of the temple or a picture of Christ when the grandkids got married. (Staci)

My memory for Grandma is that she had lots of toys. Lots and lots of toys. Every time I got to Grandma's house I would give her a hug and play with her toys. My favorite toy was the turtle. I love you Grandma. (Emma)

Abby remembers the singing duck. She loved to play with it when she went to Grandma Tolman's house. (Abby)

Giving Grandma hugs and playing with her toys. I also love to play with the ball she made us. (Isaac)

I remember all of the times I stayed at Grandma's house. Every morning when I woke up I found her sitting at the kitchen table. She was either reading her Scriptures or writing in her journal. What an example that was to me. I also remember having morning and evening prayer with her. She always prayed for her grandkids and great-grandkids. She truly cared about each one of them. It is great to know that in such a large family we are all so special. I am so thankful for all of the things Grandma taught me. I remember when I was little and they came to stay for a weekend. My bedding was washed and I had to make my bed. Grandma came in and helped me put the sheets on my bed. What a special time that was for me. I also remember eating raspberries with cream and brown sugar. When I have a bowl of raspberries now that is the only way I can eat them. I am so thankful that Grandma is able to spend some time with my baby before he comes to Earth. He will be truly blessed to have such wonderful great-Grandparents teaching him before he comes. I am truly blessed to have such a wonderful Grandma. I love her so much. (Charity)

Camilla's memory of Grandma Tolman is the many times she helped me out when I was struggling. One time, Grandma offered to pray with me when I was struggling with a tough decision. I was so grateful that I had a Grandma with such a solid and firm testimony of the gospel. Another time, when I was pregnant with Ava, Paxton and I went to stay with Grandma. I was so sick and Grandma took such good care of me and Paxton. She also grew the best radishes in her garden. (Camilla)

Paxton's memories of Grandma Tolman is the pink candies she always had and the toys. (Paxton)

I remember having breakfast in the morning before I went to school. It was such a special time for just Grandma and I. It helped me to have a great beginning of each day I got to start at her house. (Zach)

I was really touched when she crocheted a baby blanket for my daughter even though I had only met her a couple of times. She was very thoughtful. (Julianna)

She was always happy to see us. (Cammy)

I remember Grandma always giving me her famous pink mint candies. She would also tease me about always asking for help when I was little and playing with a little toy truck. (Daren)

Jessica remembers changing her first diaper with Grandma. It was a life long skill that has helped her for many years to come. It helped her with her jobs and it now helps her in her life everyday. She is so thankful for the many things Grandma taught her to do. (Jessica)

She was always happy and smiling whenever I saw her. She would occasionally write me letters of support while I was on my mission and it would brighten my day. I could feel her love fore the Savior and her dedication to His work. (Michael Hernandez)

I remember looking at all of the pictures on the refrigerator and seeing mine. It made me feel like an important part of the family. (Megan)

I remember Grandma always having pink mint candies. (Jared)

So as far as memories, there is always the pinochle, the creamed tuna on toast, and the mints in a bowl. These are always prominent in one's memory of Grandma, but I think that the one that I cherish the most happened just a couple months ago. It was when many of the Aunts and Uncles came down to Florida after I got home from my mission. Grandma desired a blessing and, as Frank was down as well, asked us to administer to her. It was an amazing opportunity. I anointed and Frank blessed It was a special experience. Her faith was truly an inspiration. (Ryan)

Remember those pink mints? The ones that Grandma had in the entry way growing up? I have a confession about those... I had my heartbroken because of them. It is true! One day I walked in and found Grandma putting the mints in a little jar and THEY WERE FROM THE STORE!! I was crushed. Heartbroken even. For the longest time I always thought that she made them. I really was crushed. :) I think that I will contribute it to the fact that she was a great cook. Mmm... delicious canned peaches, freezer jam, home made dressing and tuna on toast. Yum yum yum. She was always ready with a smile and a laugh. I will always remember the twinkle in her eye and the fun fun games. I will always remember just talking to her and feeling her arms... her lovely wrinkly arms... She really is so magnificent. She was always full of love and kindness. How blessed I am to have had the opportunity to know and love her so. :) (Rachelle)

She was my Grandma! (Josh)