

Memories' from a Daughter

Little Rock, AR

Monday, July 09, 2007

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone that knew my dad through the years. He loved to reminisce about the times when he was young, throwing a paper route through the Heights, walking to War Memorial Pool with his friends, swim all day long and walk back home. Going on a train ride to visit his aunt in Arizona, and how much he wanted me to ride the train one day.

He loved telling stories about high school and his first car, working at the Heights Theater and going to the Drive In. I remember hearing stories of working at the Ember's Restaurant, and getting to eat the steaks and baked potatoes that were not cooked to order. Dad loved telling jokes (sadly I did not inherit that talent!). Not many of you know, but he loved to dance. After mom died, I heard new stories of when he went to some bar, back in his college days, and danced the night away. Apparently, he could really cut a rug!

He gave me an appreciation for Rock & Roll music from the 50's, as he played Elvis, Big Bopper and Bill Haley and the Comets while driving me in carpool. (oh, how he loved to embarrass me in front of my friends!) Dad also loved working on model cars, model trains, and how he loved my mom! I'm not sure if he had her wrapped around his finger, or if it was the other way around. Also from my father, I learned what it meant to value a dollar, work hard for your life, and that education was the one thing nobody could ever take away from you.

Many of you may not know me, but just about everything I've done in life was for my parents. I'm just hoping that in heaven, Mom is putting her arms around Dad's waist like I remember her doing every day and saying to him, "Aren't you proud of what your daughter's become?" I can only pray that he's saying, "Yes, yes I am."

Thoma Thacker, Daughter