

Celebrating 90 years of life...

BETTY MAE McCARTNEY ROGERS





Ward and Mabel's wedding



Mabel holding Betty



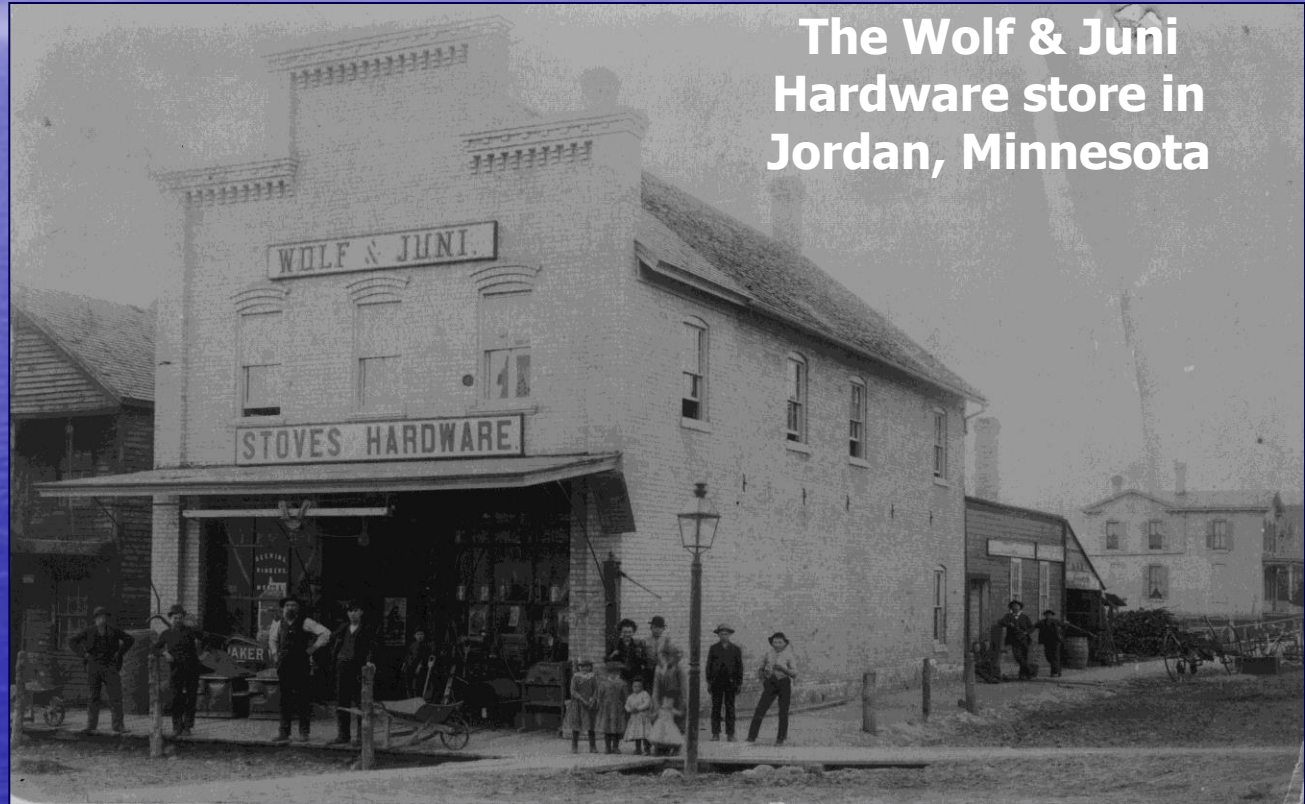
Betty, Priscilla, and Ward, Jr.

- Betty's parents were married on March 10, 1920, about nine months after her father returned from France, where he served as a Marine in the First World War. **Betty was born on Good Friday 1921, March 25th.** She was followed by a brother Ward, Jr. on March 21, 1923, and sister Priscilla, on June 16, 1924. Mabel washed her children's hair twice a week using pure rainwater!



- The **McCartney Family on Easter Sunday 1925**. From left: Ward, Sr., Ward, Jr., Betty, and Mabel, with baby Priscilla sitting on her lap. Mabel had jet black hair, which only Priscilla inherited.

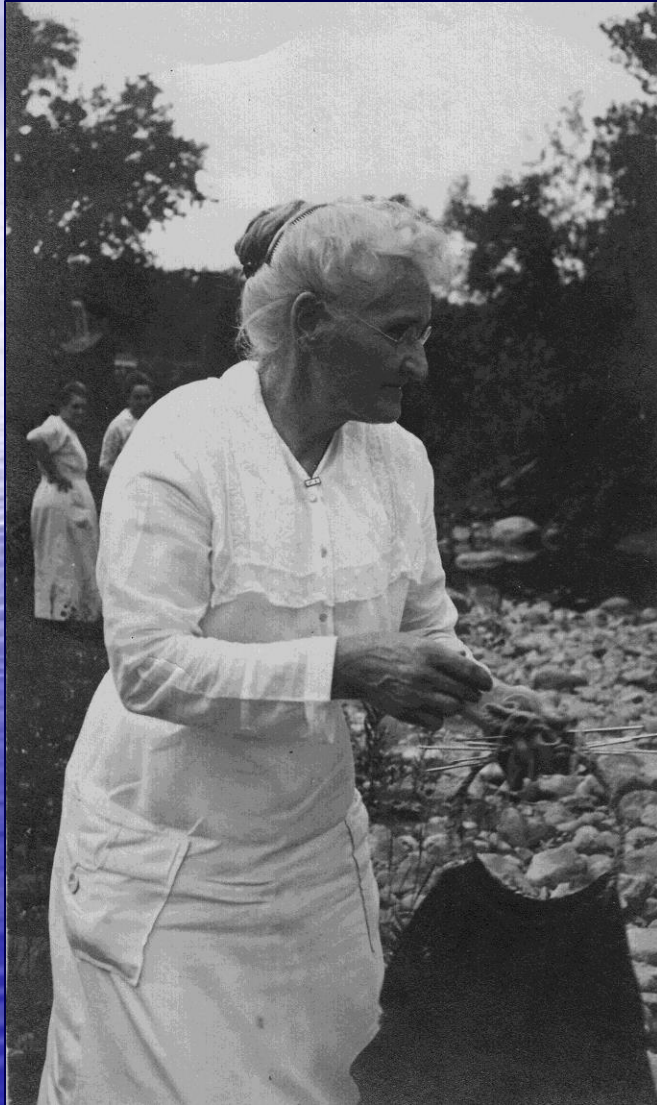
What did people in the sultry, humid Midwest do ... in the days before air conditioning?



The Wolf & Juni
Hardware store in
Jordan, Minnesota

- The girls went topless.....

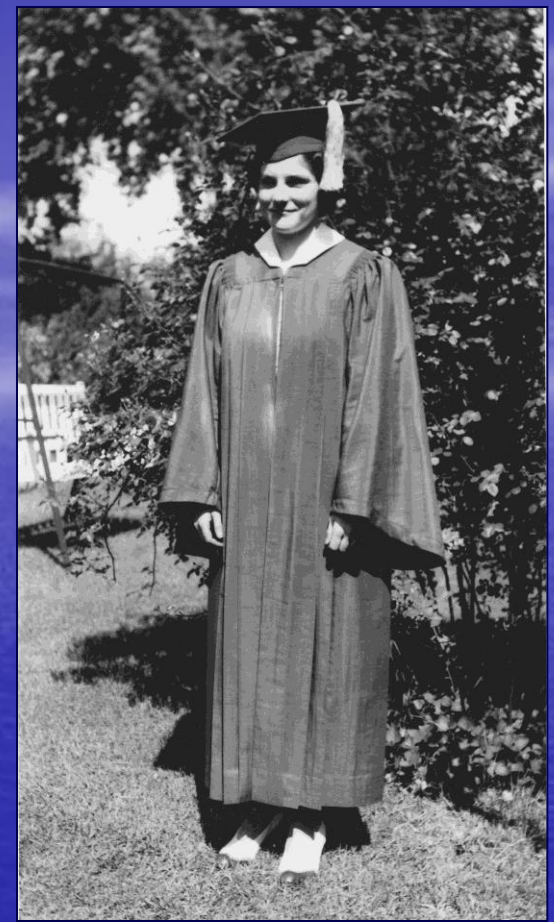
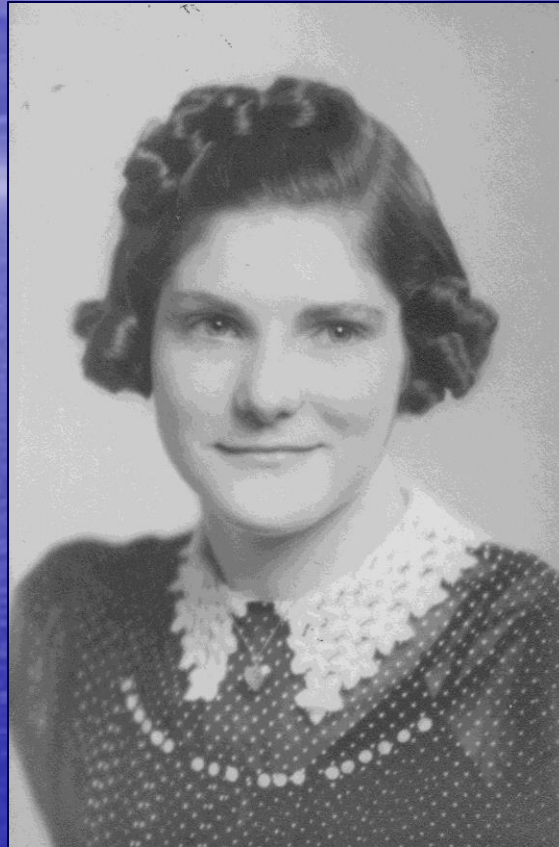
Another memorable birthday- in July 1937



- **Betty's Uncle Shan paid for her train ticket from Elkhart to Minneapolis so she could attend the 80th birthday celebration for her Grandmother Caroline Engler Juni on July 27, 1937**



Betty's First Date



Betty was Elkhart High's Salutatorian the following year, in June 1939.

- Betty's first date was with a young newcomer to Elkhart High named **Dallas Rogers**, for the Junior-Senior Prom in May 1938. They had attended Epworth League meetings Sunday evenings at the First Methodist Church for over a year, but hadn't spoken to one another.

Off to Purdue 1939-42



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Bristol, IN
Betty on Skis in high school

- Betty attended **Purdue University**, where there were five male students for every female. She worked waiting on tables and washing dishes.
- In those days Purdue's female students were mentored by Amelia Earhart and Lillian Gilbreth (stamps at right).



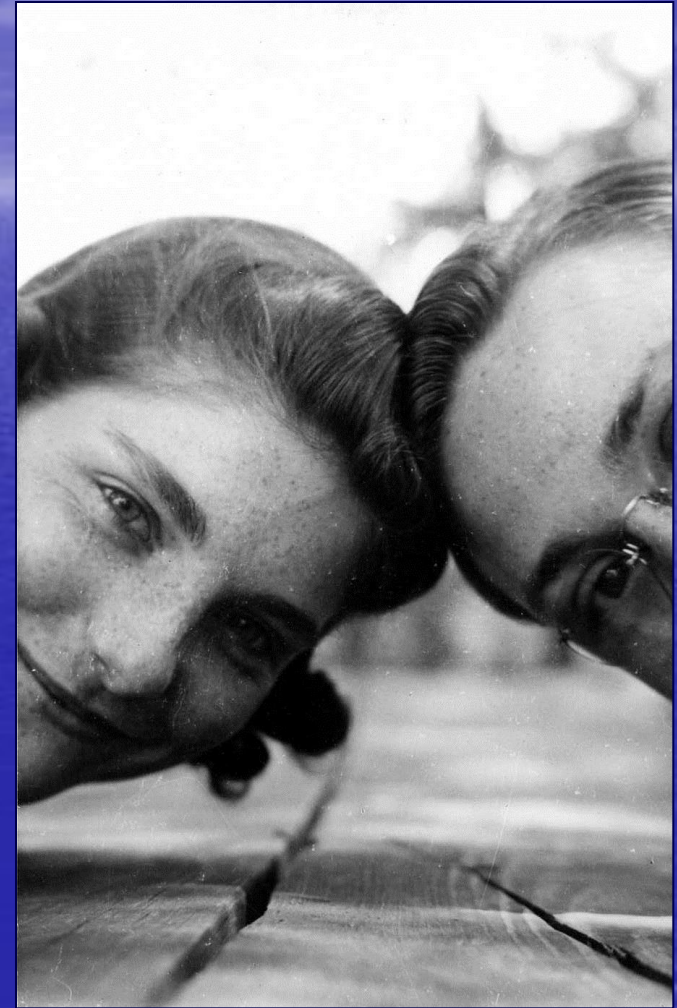
A long-distance relationship for 7-1/2 years



Betty at Purdue



Dallas at Ball State



**Summer 1939, while
Dallas was home visiting**

- Betty's mother Mabel fretted when Dallas purchased a heart locket for Betty for Christmas of her senior year in high school

Graduation during a World War



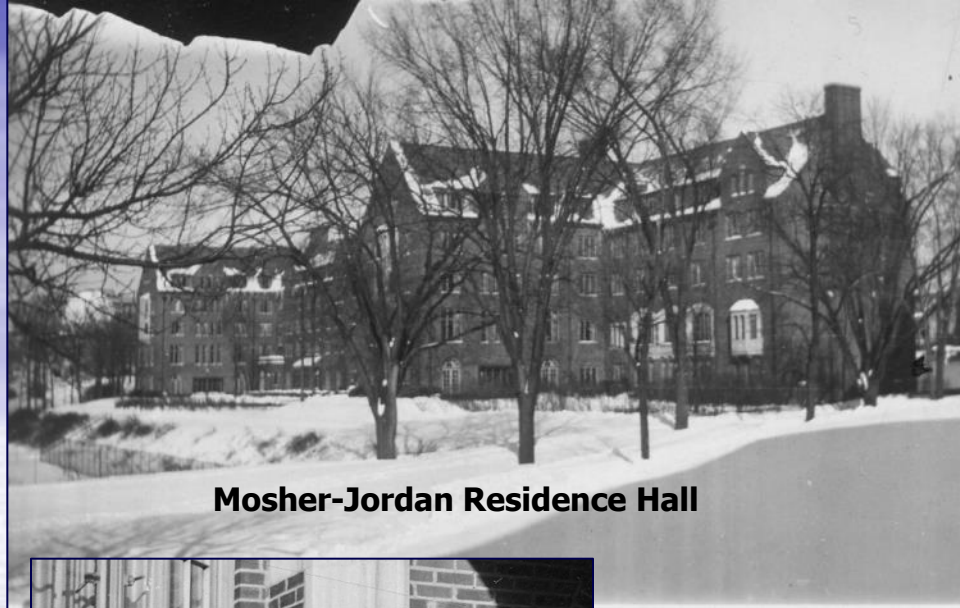
The young couple continued corresponding with one another, and Betty turned down several proposals of marriage from suitors at Purdue



Dallas graduated from Ball State in June 1942



Betty graduated from Purdue in December 1942



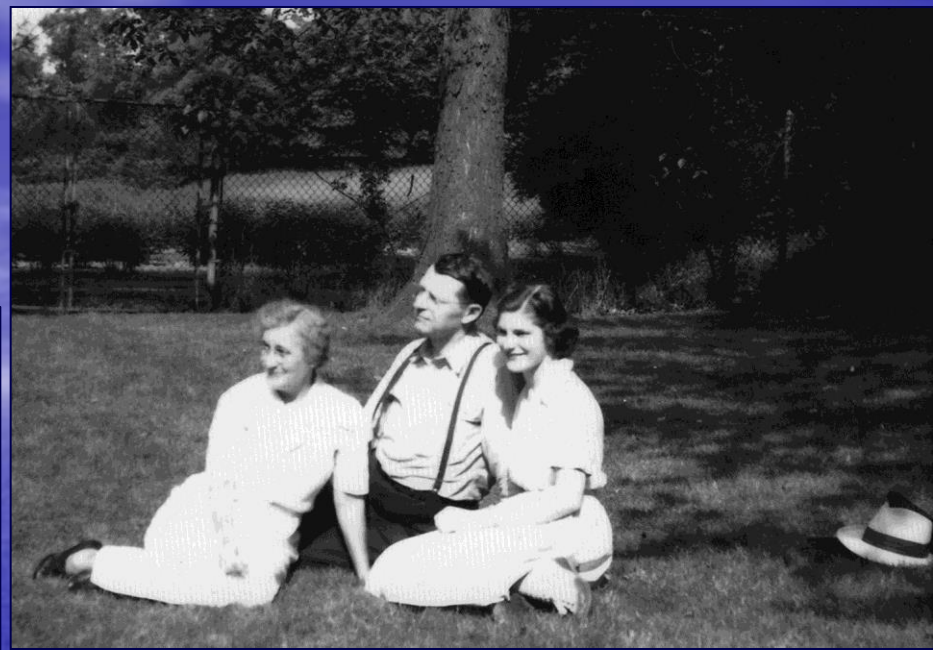
Moshier-Jordan Residence Hall



Betty , at far right, in her white uniform with the rest of the Moshier-Jordan staff

- **After graduation Betty found a job as a dietician for the Moshier-Jordan Residence Hall at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, which began in January 1943.**

Forging friendships, visits from family, and letters from Dallas

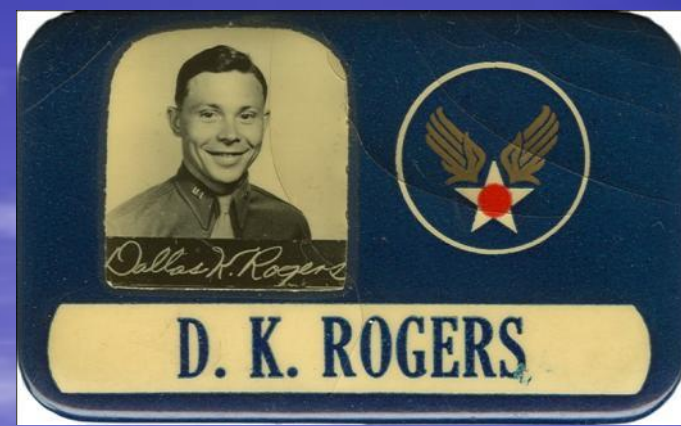


Above: Betty's favorite photo of her parents, during a picnic in Ann Arbor



- Dallas joined the Army in Sept. 1942 and was trained as a surgical technician at Brooke General Hospital in San Antonio, Texas. He was a great letter writer.

Dallas surprises everyone by joining the Army Air Corps



- In August 1943 Dallas passed the written exams to become an Air Corps cadet, and was sent to the College Training Detachment at Wichita State University and primary flight training in Piper Cubs



Betty's favorite wartime photo of Dallas, taken at the Santa Ana Army Air Cadet Base, Feb 1944



Dallas sent Betty this photo of him from Wichita, taken on Christmas 1943

Long-distance engagement, with no face-to-face contact for over a year



Betty receives her engagement ring from Bob Walker in Bristol, IN

- Betty flew down to Wichita to visit Dallas in Nov '43 and he proposed to her. They agreed to marry *after* he completed his training and was commissioned.
- They wouldn't see one another for more than a year, till just two days before they were married.



Dallas was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Air Corps on November 25, 1944 at Selman Field in Monroe, Louisiana. He and Betty were married on Saturday evening December 2, 1944 at the First Methodist Church of Elkhart, Indiana.

Two Day honeymoon



Visiting Betty's parents in Elkhart



- World War II honeymoons didn't last long, but the marriage blossomed for 50+ years



Pokagin State Park

VOX PROP

ARMY AIR FIELD, DYERSBURG, TENNESSEE, MARCH 10, 1945

The lonely life of an Air Corps wife in Dyersburg

OFFICERS' WIVES' CLUB MEETS ON THURSDAY, MAR. 15

Officers' Wives' Club, March 5 —The next regular meeting of the Field Officers' Wives' Club will be held on Thursday, March 15, at 1330 at which time Lt. Colonel William C. Musselwhite will meet with the ladies and change of policy of the club will be discussed, it was stated today.

At the last regular meeting of the Club held on Thursday, March 1, Mrs. D. K. Rogers won the \$25 War Bond which was given as a door prize.

Approximately one hundred guests were present at the tea



The Stutts home in Dyersburg





401st Bomb Group at Deenethorpe, England



Crew of Lt. E. J. Cairns, 612th Bomb Squadron, 401st Bomb Group

- **Dallas was the best dressed navigator in the 8th Air Force. He kept asking Betty to send him parcels of baked goods and wool clothes, because the winter of '44-'45 was extremely cold**

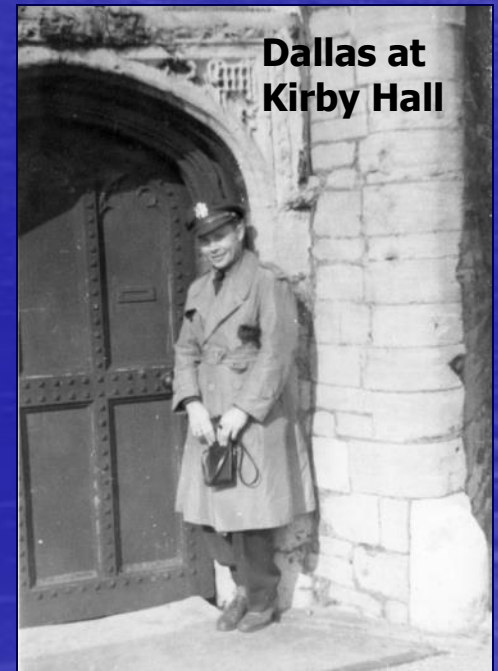
Scenes from Dallas' sketchbooks



Dallas' bicycling partner was pilot E.J. Cairns



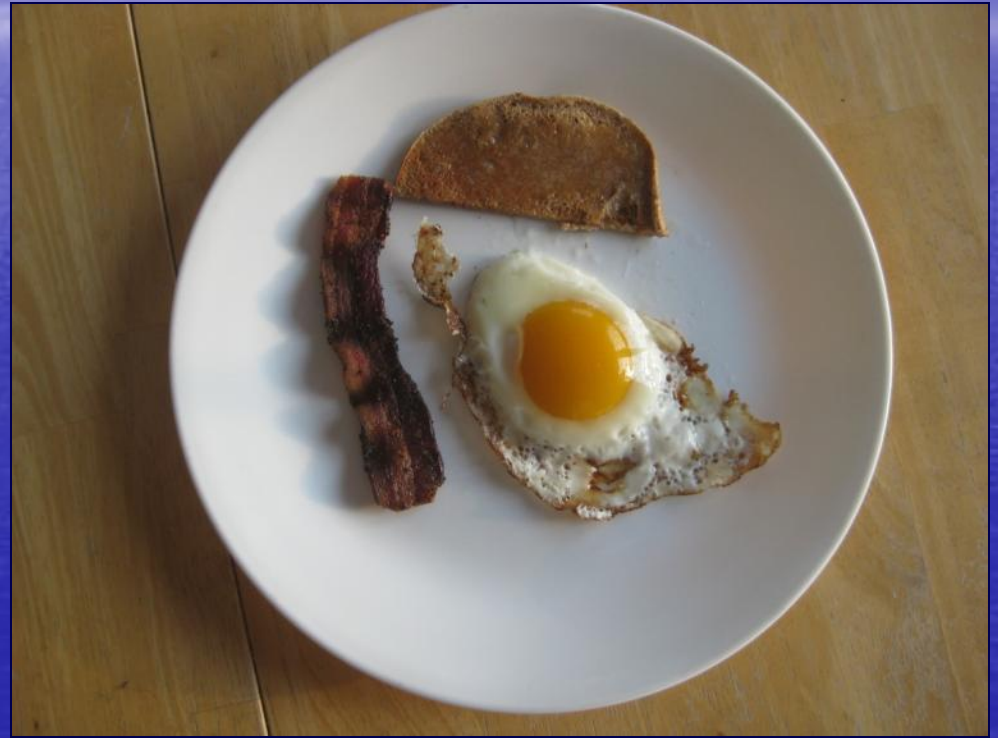
Dallas loved to stop, sketch, and talk to the English folks in Northants. This led to an invitation to high tea at the Singlehurst Manor



Betty's wartime no-waste diet.....



The winter of Betty's life: apart from Dallas at the University of Wisconsin, Madison with a boss who disliked college graduates and wartime brides



Her youngest son often referred to her meal planning as "*Betty's no-waist*," or "*Auschwitz Diet*"



The crew of *Diabolical Angel* returns to American soil at Bradley Field in Connecticut on June 6, 1945

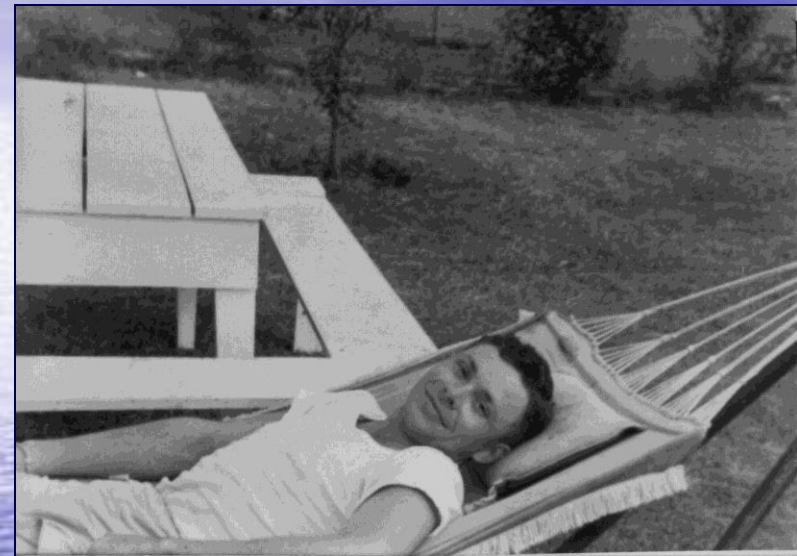
Betty's Prince Charming returns and they enjoy a month-long furlough



Dallas was sent to San Marcos AAF in central Texas, to await reformulation of the 8th Air Force on Okinawa for the anticipated invasion of Japan



Enjoying one another – Summer and Fall of 1945



The images of Dallas and Betty in San Marcos before kids show them lounging around, playing golf, going swimming, enjoying picnics and weekend trips to Austin and San Antonio. Their sons never saw them doing ANY of the activities pictured here ...



Dorothy, Betty, and Marty



Rags the dog came with the house they were renting



The couple's first car, a 1939 Plymouth Sedan, purchased for them by Dallas' step-father Bob Walker, in October 1945



Bob Walker, Dallas, and his mother Rachel in Kansas City

- Above: Dallas & Betty enjoined an **Easter 1946 Reunion** with John and Marty Hedde and George and Dorothy Tallman at the home the Rogers were renting in Dublin, Indiana.
- Left: In October 1945 Bob Walker purchased a used car, which he and Dallas' mother Rachel drove to Kansas City, where Betty and Dallas took delivery.

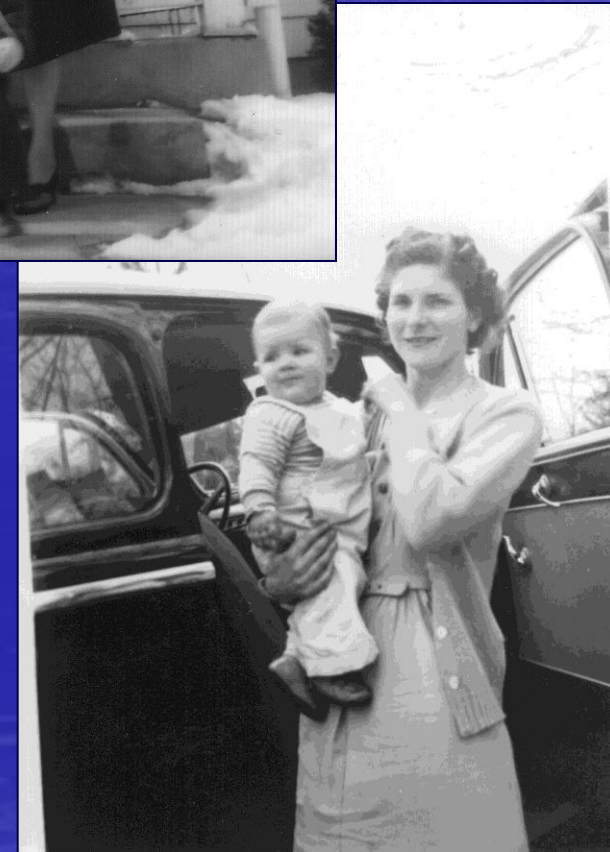
First home and child



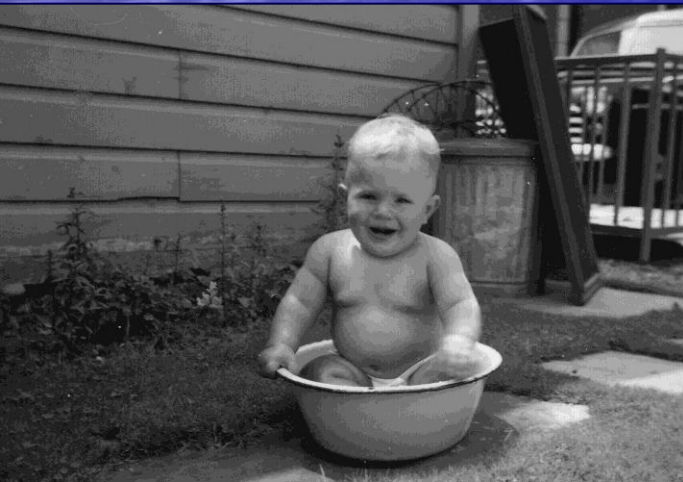
- In the fall of 1946 Betty and Dallas moved to a 500 sq ft prefabricated home on the west side of South Bend. Dallas taught art at Elkhart High, their alma mater. Their first child, **Robert Bruce**, was born on Aug 17, 1946, while they were living with Dallas' mother and step-father.

Four generations

Betty, Grandma Ida Sunthimer, Rachel Walker, and Robbie



- Parents take the most pictures of their oldest kid, then fewer and fewer of each succeeding child...
- Lower left: Potty training in 1947



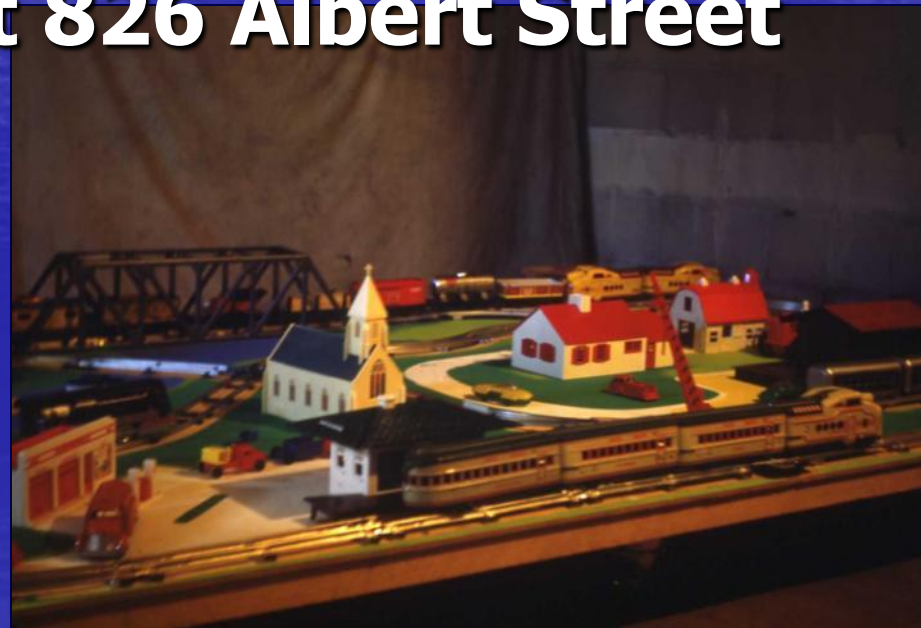


The young family in front of their prefabricated home in April 1949. Dallas bemoaned the cost of heating it in the winter, burning coal.





Christmas 1949 at 826 Albert Street



Ahh, the complacent second child

Betty, her mother Mabel, and mother-in-law Rachel, on Easter 1950

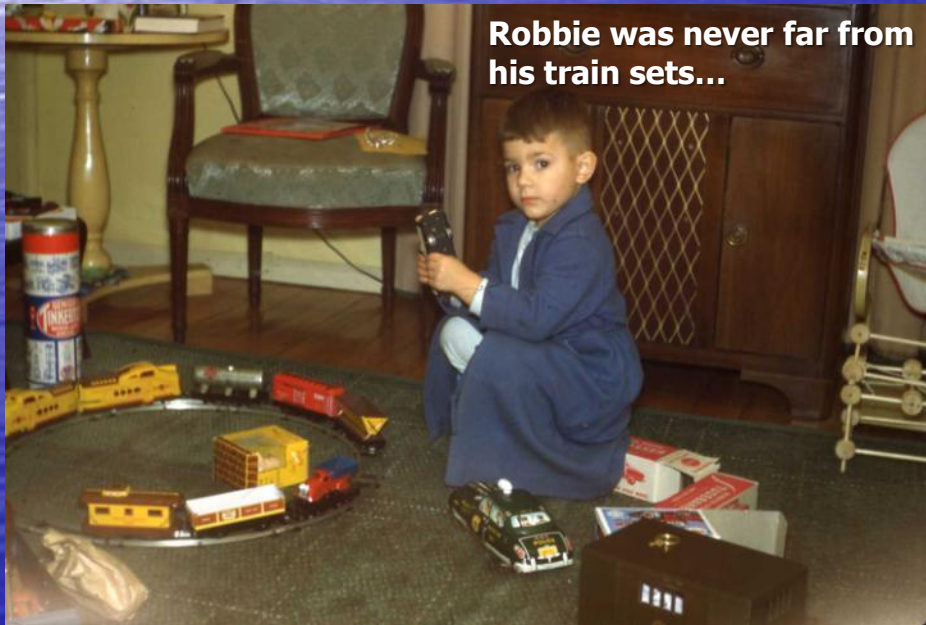


On August 26, 1950, precisely four years after Robbie, Betty gave birth to a second son, which she named **Brian Douglas**, who crawled across Robert's train layout (previous slide), breaking all the buildings...

1951-52



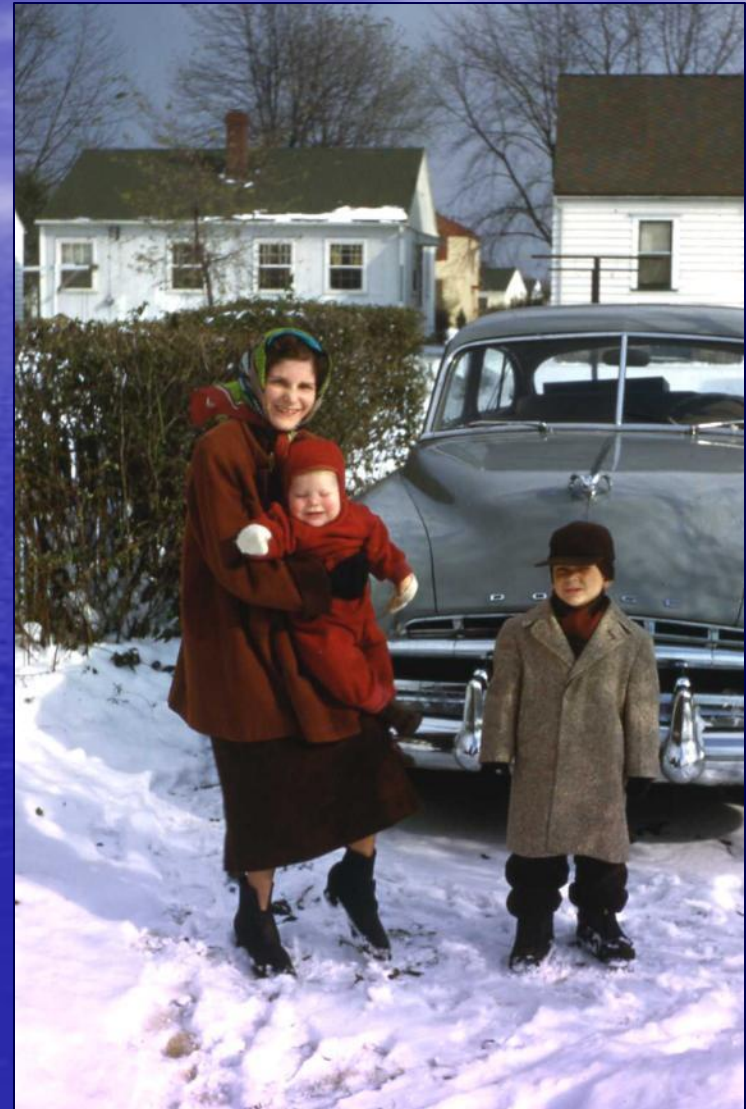
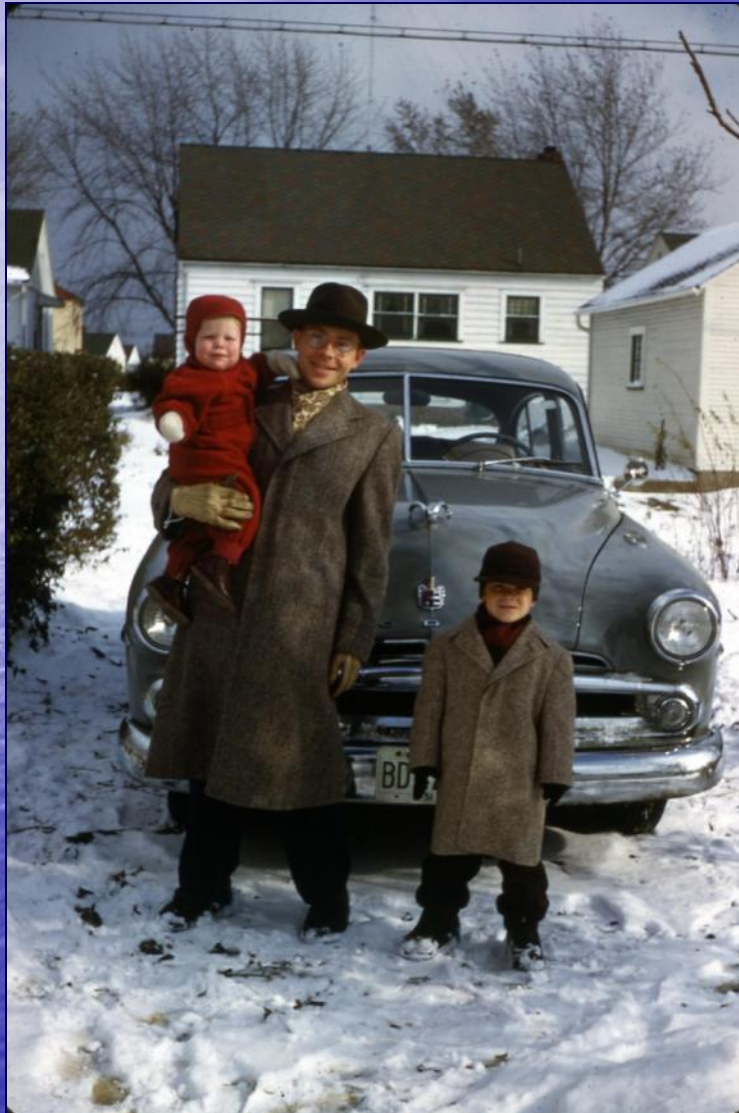
Robbie was never far from his train sets...



Christmas 1951

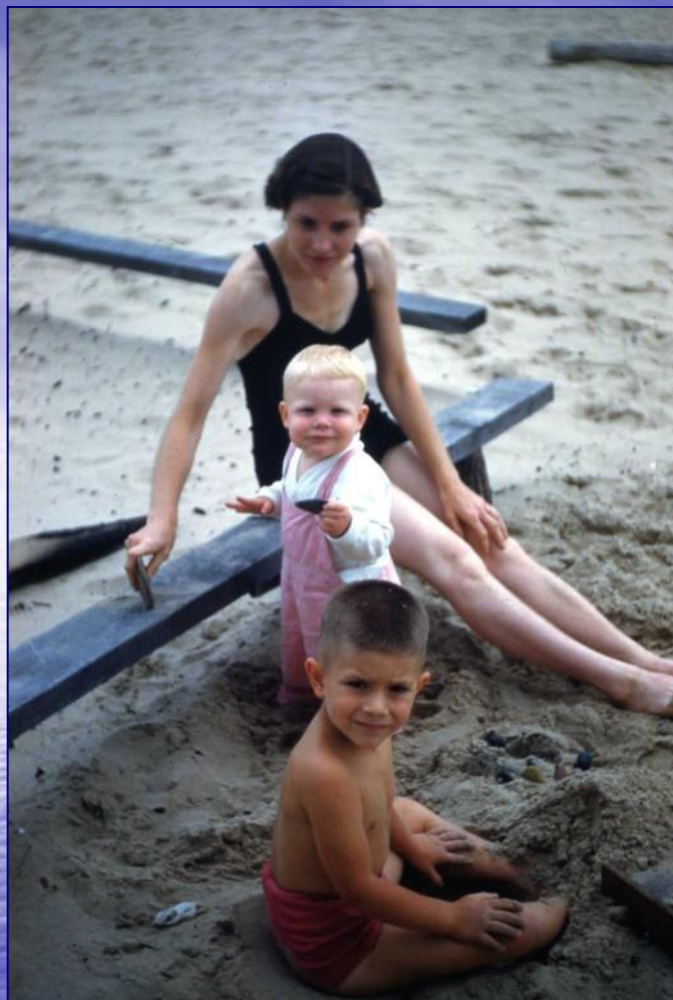


South Bend - Land of Snow



- For the younger sons who never saw their parents wearing bulky winter clothes, these images from Indiana appeared to be from the *"old country."*

Last year in the Midwest

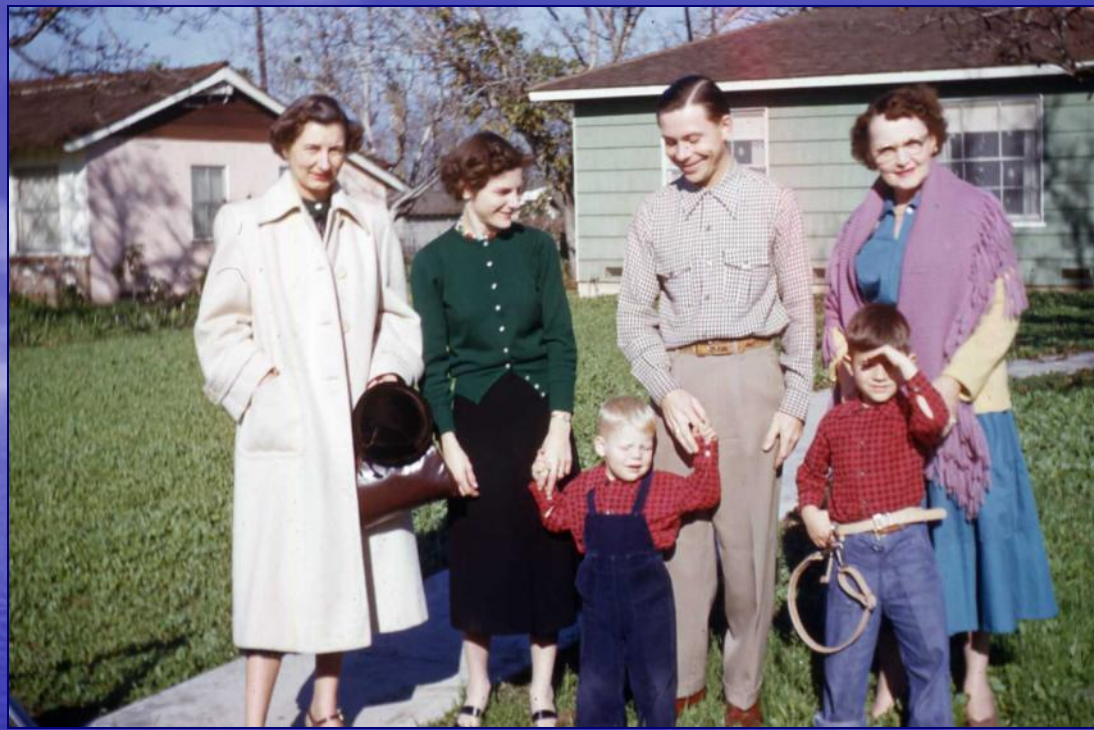


- **Images from a day at the beach along Lake Michigan in August 1951. 10 months later, the Rogers struck out for Roseburg, Oregon, where Dallas had a teaching job lined up. They stopped in Los Angeles County to visit Dallas' Aunt Marie in Covina and attend a relative's wedding, and ended up staying 38 years.**



- Betty, Robert, and Brian in front of their **new home**, in West Covina, California on Christmas Day 1952. Note the spacing of the English Walnut Trees - exactly 50 feet apart. For this reason, the lots were divided into 100 x 200 foot plats of about 1/2 acre each.

Christmas 1952 in a new home



Robert "Roy" Rogers and his
sidekick Brian, the famous
"Singing Cowboys"