

Living Life!

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My parents will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this year!



my mother and father on their wedding day, 1957

Both of my parents grew up in strong evangelical Christian homes. My mom is the oldest of two kids in her family and my dad is the fourth out of five kids. They met each other when they were in college studying the Bible.

They came from really different backgrounds!

My mom's ancestors were Dutch, Irish, and English and they immigrated to America a long time ago (1650). My mom grew up in big cities in southern California and my dad grew up on a small farm in western Oregon. My mom's father always bought the latest car and was one of the first people in the family to buy a television when they were made. They enjoyed eating out in restaurants occasionally.

My dad's ancestors were German. His great-grandfather emigrated to America around 1875. My

dad's family spoke German at home until he and his younger sister when to school, and then they switched to English. My dad's family was on the poor side. His siblings and he only had two sets of clothes each when they were growing up. They drove an old car. And they hardly ever went out to eat.



my mother's parents

my father's parents

My parents were both 21 years old when they got married. Two years later my brother was born; 18 months after that my sister was born; and 2½ years after that I was born. My dad worked and went to school when they were first married, and our family moved a lot. Eventually we moved to Texas, and my parents have been there ever since.

When my parents got married, they said their wedding vows before God, their families and friends, and they promised to stay with each other until death – whether rich or poor and whether in good health or poor health. They've been faithful to each other – in private and in public – and are fulfilling their vows. Their love has matured over the years. They've been through a lot of hard times, a lot of fun times, times when they didn't have very much money, and times when there was money to save and give away. They've had good health and times of poor health. They worked hard to raise us kids, and they've served other people faithfully in many ways.

My Dad has always been a strong spiritual leader. As a family we always read the Bible and prayed together every day for each other and for others.

Happy Valentine's Day, Mom and Dad!

Congratulations on 50 years of loving each other and honoring God in your life together! ☺