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In Their Own Words

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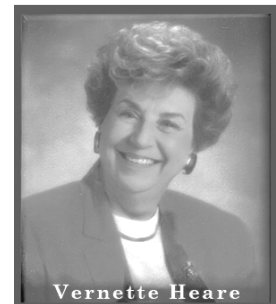
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Vernette Heare has been a generous supporter of both the Eagle and the Palmyra Historical Societies for many years. The Eagle Historical Society recently completed an addition to the museum which gave us a much-needed conference/meeting room on the first floor. Without her initial donation, a new room would have been impossible. It was named the “Vernette Heare Conference Room” in her honor. In 2022, Vernette recorded some of her fond memories of her childhood growing up in this area.

Memories of Eagle and Palmyra by Vernette Heare

Eagle will always have a special place in my heart! Both of my grandparents, the Amanns and the McGills, lived in Eagle most of their lives.

My dad and mom grew up in Eagle. They lived a couple of houses from each other. They fell in love, married, and moved to Palmyra. My dad had his barber shop in Palmyra for over 61 years.



As a little girl about five or six years old, I would pack my little suitcase and my mom would put me on the train in Palmyra and my Grandma Amann would pick me up in Eagle. The conductor always knew I was to get off in Eagle!

Grandma and I would go to the butcher shop and I could pick out the meat we would have for dinner. Then off we would go to Sherman’s for the other groceries.

Grandma would let me pick out a yard or so of any material that I liked. She always found time to make me a new sun dress or shirt while I was there! Before we left the store, Vinton Sherman always had a special treat for me.

Not because we were sick, we would always stop over to see Dr. Schmidt and his wife. Just being good neighbors, I guess.

I usually spent about four days with Grandpa and Grandma and then my mom would come and pick me up! This was a big adventure for a little girl.

Nearly every Sunday night, my dad and mom and I would have dinner at Sasso’s! I always sat in the kitchen and watched Mom Sasso prepare our dinners. What a great Italian cook she was!

This postcard is of my Grandfather William McGill's barber shop. It was taken in the 1900s, maybe about 1914. The picture is my grandfather on the bench and my dad, Virgil W. McGill, standing up. My grandparents lived in this house, and the barber shop was on the front right side. This building was on Main Street, and hopefully is still there. My grandpa was a barber in Eagle from about 1901 until his death in 1929. My dad started working in this shop when he was only 14 years old as an apprentice with his dad.



In 1918 my dad opened a barber shop in Palmyra. In 1919 my dad and mom were married and lived all their lives in Palmyra. My dad was a barber in Palmyra for 62 years until his death in 1980.

How thankful I am at 92 years old to have all these wonderful memories of Eagle!