

Chapter XIV

Finally a Bride

June 15, 1958 – January 2, 1959

The next day, Sunday the 15th, was Father's day. Craig had a special gift for Sheffield. He had found a scale model kit of the Reprisal in the variety store. He bought the kit and the supplies he needed and took several days to put it together. When he was done he had a good representation of the ship that had been so much a part of his dad's life.

Sheffield was very pleased when he was presented with it. "Wow." he said. "This is nicest thing you could have done for me. You did a great job, it looks just like she did in forty two and forty three."

"I know just where to put it." Ramona said. "I'll clear off the top shelf of the curio and you can put it there."

There was more celebrating later that week when Geoffrey and Teresa turn three years old on the 19th and 20th.

That same week, Janet got the long awaited response for Jerry Gover. In it, he told her that now that he was at the end of his mission and would soon be home he was glad that she was available. He said that he wanted to come see her and pick up were they left off. Janet was sure that she had done the right thing and couldn't wait to see him again.

During June, work on Craig and Edith's house progressed and was on schedule. Sheffield and Ramona enjoyed having them live with them. Even after their house was finished, they would be just a short walk up the road.

As it got closer to Edith's due date, the more she had to stay down. When she did go into labor she was unable to get up for the ride to the hospital. Ramona determined that it would be best to deliver the baby at home and take them both to the hospital afterwards.

As her labor progressed, with Craig's help, Ramona prepared everything that she would need and had it ready. She called for an ambulance to be standing by to take them to the hospital.

At ten minutes after three on the afternoon of Wednesday July 2nd, with the assistance of his grandmother and two ambulance attendants, Todd Lewis Brason was born at home and everything went well without any complications. Edith and baby Todd were then taken to the hospital. Being a trained nurse, Ramona felt that there they would get the care and rest they needed there. When it was time, Dr. Mendon released them to come home. Little Geannie was thrilled to have another baby in the family, she just wished that it was a baby girl.

During the third week of August, Jerry came to see Janet, as promised. She met him at the airport and brought him home. Since Craig's family occupied the upstairs and Janet was in the guest room, Jerry

was given the couch in the family room, as usual.

Fresh from his mission, he was full of excitement and shared his experiences with the family. He also talked about his future plans which included graduating from the Utah State University and work with his father on their sheep ranch and one day when he retired, take over the operation. But more importantly, he spent a lot of time with Janet. The spark was still there and it was as if the last two years were only the blink of an eye.

Two days before he was to head back, they approached Sheffield and Ramona with what they had decided. "Dad, Mom," Janet began, "I have decided to go back to Utah with Jerry."

"Oh, I see." Ramona said. "Just what are your plans?"

"I'll fit my stuff into my Studebaker and we'll drive back." She answered confidently.

"I have a question." Sheffield said with concern. "It's a long drive across the country, where are you going to stay along the way?"

"That's easy." Jerry answered. "The first day we'll go as far as Champaign, Illinois and stay with a family that I got to know on my mission. Then the next day we'll go as far as Omaha, Nebraska and stay with another family. The last day will be a long drive, but I figure we can make it all the rest of the way."

"That sounds reasonable." Sheffield agreed. "I just didn't want to see you sleeping in your car or getting a motel room together." Then as an after thought, he offered, "You know, I could fly you out there."

"I know Dad." Janet said, "But I really want to see some of the places he was on his mission and meet some of the people. Besides I want to take my car with me."

"Were will you live and how do you plan to support yourself?" Ramona quizzed.

"Well Jerry will be starting at the university in Logan in September. His sister lives in Logan and is in need of a roommate and I can move in with her. It shouldn't be too hard to find a job so I can support myself. This will give us time to figure things out and make further plans. Don't be surprised if those plans include a wedding in the foreseeable future."

"But can't you figure those things out from here?" Ramona wondered.

"Now Sweetheart," Sheffield interjected, "Don't you remember how hard it was for us to carry on a long distance relationship? I think its a good idea. By moving to Utah to be near him, they can see how things develop and go from there. It isn't like she has never been away from home before. After all, she is twenty two years old."

"I suppose you're right, Babe. Go home with him Janet and work things out. You'd go anyway regardless of what I said. I'd rather you go with my blessing. Just do me one favor, if you end up planning a wedding, include me."

"Thanks Mom. I will. I'll keep you informed every step of the way, just like if I was here."

While Janet distracted Ramona by talking about her plans for leaving home, Sheffield pulled Jerry aside in an attempt to determine his true intentions. They were simple, "Eventually, I want to marry your daughter."

"You're a fine young man Jerry. I've known you for a number of years now and I know your family. I can tell that you are much like your brother and your father. Don't rush into anything, but when you're both ready to get married, you have my blessing."

So over the next couple of days, Janet packed up everything that she could take with her. She had Olivia and Beverly over to share her news with them and to say goodbye. On Sunday Janet and Jerry attended the Salem Branch with the family. That afternoon, they had a special family dinner, since it would be who knew when that they would all be together again.

On Monday morning, Janet stuffed everything she could fit into her old 1949 Studebaker. Craig had checked it over for her and was confident that it would make the trip just fine. Without waiting for breakfast, they got an early start. After their last goodbyes, they drove off, with Jerry behind the wheel and Janet at his side.

As they watched them pull onto the highway, Sheffield said, "One of the kids were bound to move far from home. She'll be okay. The Govers are good folks, they'll make sure that she's alright."

"I know, Babe. It's just hard to let her go."

"If its any consolation, I can get you there in a day any time you want to go see her. But I'd suggest that you give her time and space and she'll figure it out. She's got a good head on her shoulders."

Over the next several days, Ramona worried and waited for a letter saying that they made it alright. That letter came the following Monday. Typical of Janet, it was a long and descriptive letter but the gist of it was that they had got there, with only a little trouble which she talked about later.

As planed, they did stay the first night in Champaign, Illinois with the Harvey family. They were a member family who Jerry got to know quite well while he served there. They had plenty of room and took them in a put them up for the night. He showed her around the area and took her to meet some other families that he knew, one of which were new converts.

The next day they drove to Omaha, but on the way took slight detour so he could show her Nauvoo. Some of the original buildings were still standing. Some of them were in use and others were vacant and in disrepair. She talked about how she had heard so much about Nauvoo in seminary and other classes, but seeing it, gave her a better appreciation for it. The thing that impressed her the most was to see where the temple had once stood, having just been through the temple for the first time herself. She said that the grounds and what was left of the foundation felt every bit as sacred as any other temple grounds that she had visited.

That night they stayed in Omaha with the Burrows family who he also knew as a missionary. They took them to Florence on the northern end of Omaha and showed her what had once been Winter Quarters, the Mormon pioneer encampment. The thing that impressed her the most was the old pioneer cemetery. For her, it brought to life the suffering that they endured that she had heard about in lessons.

He would like to have taken to some of the areas where he had served but they were out of the way and there wasn't time. Their plan was to make it all the way home the next day. They left Omaha early and followed U.S. Highway 30 which pretty much paralleled the old Mormon Trail across Nebraska. Jerry told her the stories of his own ancestors who had crossed the plains with the wagon companies in the 1840s and 50s. At Ogallala the highway diverged from the trail and since they were trying to make it all in one day, they stayed with Highway 30.

They stopped for lunch in Cheyenne a little after noon before continuing on. They got about half way between Laramie and Rawlins when the water pump went out. It was a hot afternoon and they were stranded in the middle of nowhere. There was nothing Jerry could do, it needed a new pump. They sat in the car with the hood up, praying that someone would stop and help them out.

Their prayer was answered when a pickup with three cowboys in the front and a pair of cow dogs in the back stopped. They told them of a service station up the road five or six miles in a little place called Medicine Bow. The cowboys told them that the service station had a tow truck and could come and get their car and fix it up for them.

Janet reluctantly left her car on the side of the road with all of her things in it and they hopped into back of the pickup with the two dogs, who's names were Nick and Swede. As promised they were dropped off at the service station, and yes they did have a tow truck, and yes they could fix it.

Janet and Jerry waited around in the shade, drinking a soda, while the tow truck went after the car. After what seemed like a long time, it returned with her car in tow. They pulled it into the garage to have look. The only problem was they didn't have the right water pump, but could get one out of Laramie first thing in the morning.

So they were stranded over night. Jerry had promised Sheffield that they wouldn't be sleeping in the car or staying in a motel room. Sleeping in the car wasn't an option because it was in the shop and besides the back seat was clear full of her stuff. The other was their only option. They were directed to the Virginian Hotel, the only available lodging in the little town of three hundred sixty people.

As it turned out, half of the twenty rooms in the fifty year old hotel were closed for renovation, five of the remaining rooms were occupied by permanent tenants and four were occupied by other guests. There was just one room available with a double bed. They looked at each other and sheepishly checked in as Mr. and Mrs. Gover. She said that they didn't want the hotel clerk to know that they weren't married and think

that this was just a rendezvous.

They walked back to the garage to get their overnight bags only to discover that they had closed up early for the day. The shop was all locked up with sign on the door that said, "Gone fishing." They peered through the window to see their car inside. At least they had some money on them and went and got something to eat in the only diner in town which was on the first floor of the hotel, called the Eating House. When they walked in the place, it looked more like a greasy spoon, but the food was actually quite good.

With nothing to do for the rest of the afternoon, they walked up and down the short Main Street which had a general store, two bars, and bunch of closed up, tumbled down buildings. The railroad tracks were on the other side of the highway. As they wandered around the streets north of Main Street, all there were were a few sparsely separated homes. Along the north and east side of town flowed the Medicine Bow River. They happened on to an overgrown park where they sat and talked.

As it was getting dark, they went back to the hotel. They stood at the foot of the bed and took one look at each other wondering what to do about their sleeping arrangements. After all, sleeping together was forbidden. Janet said that all they could do was laugh at the situation and plopped onto the bed next to each other. The room was hot and they were tired. The best they could come up with was to sleep in their clothes on top of the covers.

In telling the story, she swore that nothing happened, they simply fell asleep on the same bed. Knowing Janet like they did, Sheffield and Ramona believed her. They actually thought that their predicament was hilarious. Janet went on to say that during the night it got a little cold so they cuddled up next to each other to keep warm. She added that she could get used to sleeping together but promised that it wouldn't be until after they were married.

They got up early and the next morning and paid for the room. The desk clerk asked about their night with a wink, noticing that didn't have any luggage of any kind. They simply smiled and said it was the best night of their lives.

They went to the Eating House for breakfast and filled up on bacon and eggs and pancakes, which again was quite good. Then they walked back to the shop and were there when it opened at eight o'clock. Sure enough they had the part and promised to have them on the road in a couple of hours. All they could do was wait around. They each got a bottle of soda and walked down to the park and sat in the shade on a broken picnic table.

When the car was done, they went to settle up. The cost of towing, the part, and the labor just about took all the cash they had between them. They got back on the road with barely enough money for gas to make it to Logan and to get something to eat. The rest of the trip was uneventful and they got in Logan around four o'clock. With Jerry's help, Janet unloaded her car and got her moved in with his sister Holly. The

next day, she got a job in the same bookstore where Sheffield had his book signing on a previous trip a few years earlier.

By the time Sheffield and Ramona made it through the long letter, they knew that Janet could take care of herself and would get along just fine.

The rest of the month passed and it was Labor Day and all that went with it. Janet and a few others weren't there, but Joseph had brought Anna and Paul back after spending a couple of months with him in Texas. He stayed for the picnic and went back the next day. Rhonda didn't accompany him because she felt uncomfortable around his ex-wife's family.

Two days later, Sheffield and Ramona went back to school, and Sheffield began another season of wrestling tryouts. A few days after that they got another of Janet's long descriptive letters. She had really become quite the writer. She said that everything was going well and that she and Holly got along well and that Jerry had started school at the University.

By the end of the month, Craig and Edith's house was ready and they moved out of the upstairs bedrooms and into their lovely new home. Sheffield and Ramona had the house all to themselves again and wondered how long it would last this time. That didn't mean the house was empty, however. Now that they had five grandchildren, and Craig and Edith just up the road and Norma and Wade not too far away, they stopped in quite often.

Late one evening in early October while Sheffield and Ramona were watching a little television before going to bed, the telephone rang and Ramona got up to answer it. "Hello." she said.

"Will you accept a collect call from Janet Baraon?" the operator asked

"Yes, of course."

"Go ahead." the operator said as she connected them.

"High Mom."

"Janet, honey is everything alright?" she asked with alarm. After all, long distant calls were expensive, especially collect calls, and were reserved for emergencies.

"Yes, Mom. Everything is alright. In fact they couldn't be better. I just wanted you to know that Jerry and I are getting married."

"Oh Janet, that's wonderful news. When?"

"To make it easy for you, we've decided on November twenty eighth in the Logan Temple. That's the day after Thanksgiving and we'll have a reception the next night in Clarkston. Then we want to come home for Christmas and have another reception there."

"That's great. Write to me and let me know what you need me to do."

"I know this is costing you, but I couldn't wait to tell you the news."

"I'm glad that you did. Congratulations. Here, your Dad wants to talk to you."

Ecstatic, Ramona handed him the telephone.

"Hi, Sweetheart. Congratulations."

"Thank you Dad. I'm really going to go through with it this time."

"Jerry is a good man. We had a good talk while he was here. I just want you to know that you have my blessing."

"Thanks Dad. That means a lot to me. We'll, I'd better go now."

"Alright then. I guess we'll be seeing you. Bye."

"I love you Dad. Bye."

Sheffield went to hang up the telephone, but Ramona snatched it from him and first called Craig and then Norma with the news. Too excited to sleep, they began making preliminary plans for another trip to Utah.

Over the next two or three weeks, Ramona and Janet wrote back and forth as they worked out the details of the wedding and things fell into place. At least they had until the end of December for the reception in Virginia, the Govers would take care of the one in Utah. Janet mailed out all of the announcements which included all of the details for both receptions. She asked that when they come, that they bring the wedding dress that she never got to wear.

Janet and Jerry were figuring things out as well. They had found a little house to rent in Richmond, which was thirteen miles north of the University and thirteen miles east of the ranch. That way it was the same distance either direction, whichever way he had to go. They planned to live there until he was finished with school at which time they would settle in Clarkston. In the meantime, they planned to attend the Clarkston Ward.

To have things ready, the weekend before they left Craig helped Sheffield put up the outdoor Christmas lights. He also got a few strands to put up on his own house. Sheffield arranged for Roger Rowan to check on things and feed the animals. School was scheduled to let out at noon on Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving, so Sheffield arranged for a substitute that day and the following Monday. Ramona simply canceled her classes on those two days.

Since the whole family, six adults, three small children, and two babies under one year old, were going, they flew commercial. They all met at the Roanoke Regional Airport on Wednesday morning and boarded the flight for Washington and transferred to an American Airlines flight to Salt Lake City aboard a Douglas DC-7. They tried to keep the children occupied so as not to bother the other passengers. When Ramona booked the flight, her travel agent seated them in the block of seats at the rear of the aircraft, near the restroom. One of the stewardesses was particularly good with kids and went out of her way to do

whatever she could for them.

Once on the ground in Salt Lake City, they retrieved their luggage and went to the car rental desk. With a group that large, ground transportation was a problem. Originally Ramona intended to get two rental cars, but again the travel agent had a more practical solution. She had arranged for them to rent a nine passenger Volkswagen microbus. The keys to it were waiting for them when they checked in. As it turned out, the rental company didn't have anything like that in their inventory, so they requisitioned one just for this occasion.

They managed to fit everyone in plus their luggage, as Ramona insisted that everyone pack light. When Sheffield got behind the wheel, the odometer read twenty nine point seven miles. It was snowing lightly when they headed to Clarkston. Two hours later, they pulled up in front of Wayne and Gale Gover's house. Like Sheffield and Ramona, all of their children had left home and lived in the area so they had three bedrooms in which to put up the Brasons. Since it was getting to be late afternoon and the sun was setting, Janet didn't come out to see them that evening.

The next day was Thanksgiving, and both families had Thanksgiving dinner together. Since they all couldn't fit, Wayne had arranged to use the cultural hall at the church. Before long, the rest of the Gover family began arriving. When Janet and Jerry arrived, she was radiant. She was excited and looked like how a bride to be should be, not all downcast like she had on what was to have been her first wedding day. It was a happy reunion as they hadn't seen her since she left home three months earlier. Sheffield was also glad to see Morris again.

They spent the entire day together. After dinner, there was enough help in cleaning up that Janet, Ramona and Gale had a chance to go over the last minute arrangements and details for the wedding and both receptions.

On Friday, they went into Logan and up to the temple. Since she had previously been endowed, there wasn't as much to do prior to going through the session. With the grandchildren in good hands, Sheffield and Ramona had the blessing of having all three of their children in the temple with them. In looking round as people came into the room, Sheffield recognized a lot of them as relatives of the Govers from having met them at Morris and Sheila's wedding. At the last minute, to everyone's surprise, Takara and Teancum came in and sat down.

After the session they were ushered into a sealing room for the marriage ceremony. This time the scene in the was totally opposite for nearly six months earlier. When asked if she took Jerry as her husband, she answered with an enthusiastic, "Yes."

Following the wedding and pictures outside the temple, the wedding party reassembled at the Bluebird for the luncheon. At one point, Wayne stood and made some brief remarks and thanked everyone

for coming. He addressed the bride and groom and had some word's of wisdom for them.

Next Sheffield had a few remarks of his own. Who would of ever thought all those sixteen years ago when he first became acquainted with Morris that his daughter, that he didn't even have then, would be marrying his younger brother. He said that it was interesting how both Norma and Janet had married into ranching families. He reflected on how the two families on opposite ends of the country had become such good friends. Finally he thanked them for the role that they played in helping he and Ramona discover what it was that Geannie was steering them toward, all of it leading up to the events of that very day.

When the luncheon broke up, Janet and Jerry stayed to visit with Takara and Teanucum. They had decided at the last minute to make the trip. After all, the Brasons had come all that way to Hawaii for their wedding, they felt that could go as far as Utah for her best friend. They had given up Thanksgiving to make the trip and had stayed in a motel in Logan the night before.

Eventually Janet and Jerry disappeared to an undisclosed location for their wedding night. This time they got to sleep together for real, and all that it implied. The rest of both families went back to the Gover home in Clarkston. Sheffield and Ramona invited Takara and Teancum to come with them and Wayne and Gale found a place for them as well.

The next day was spent decorating the church and getting it ready for the reception. Everyone pitched in and helped in someway or another. Later in the morning, Janet and Jerry came to help. Once everything was ready, it was time to change and get dressed. Ramona, Norma and Takara helped Janet with her wedding dress.

When they returned to the church everything was just right. As the first guests arrived, the reception line formed up to greet them. Janet hadn't planned on having a bridesmaid at this reception but now that Takara was there, she insisted that she have that honor. Takara was more than happy to stand next to her best friend as a bridesmaid,

Just about everyone in Clarkston showed up. As it turned out, between Wayne and Gale they were related to just about everybody in the ward. A lot of people came from other areas of Cache Valley as well, most of them were relatives as well. Many of the the people who came through introduced themselves as Buttars, which was Gale's maiden name.

As they met the people coming through the line, Sheffield and Ramona learned something about Wayne and Gale that they did not know about them, they were actually first. cousins themselves, albeit one generation removed. Wayne's Grandfather Gover and Gale's mother were brother and sister.

Quinn and Bonnie came over from Tremonton and Sedric and Jolene, who had come down from Idaho, were with them. Debra and Chet Mayfield and Molly and her husband even came up from Salt Lake to attend the reception.

When the reception broke up and everything was cleaned up and put away, everyone went back to Wayne and Gale's house, except for Janet and Jerry who spent their first night in their own home. On Sunday, Takara and Teancum had to leave to fly back to Hawaii. The Brasons all went to church in the Clarkston Ward with the Govers. Throughout the day, they got better acquainted with many of the people who they had met the previous evening. It really put Sheffield and Romona at ease about Janet being so far away. They knew that they were leaving her in good hands. Regardless, Ramona was nervous to have her live so far away because she was sio accident prone. Not if, but when something happened, she wouldn't be there to take care of her. The next morning after breakfast, they loaded up the microbus and drove back to Salt Lake for their flight back to Roanoke.

The following Friday and Saturday, Sheffield and Ramona and the kids and grandchildren went up to the cabin to find their Christmas trees. Once they found just the right trees, they cut them down, drug them back to the cabin, loaded into the pickup and came home to put them up and decorate them.

The next day, Sheffield celebrated his sixtieth birthday. The thought of the number sixty made him feel old. The cane that he depended on for his leg injury didn't help. He couldn't help but wonder what Geannie might look like at sixty. In his minds eye, he just couldn't picture her a looking any different than the last time he saw her alive. Ramona looked so much younger than him that it made him feel older too. At fifty five, she could pass for a woman in her early to mid forties. It always upset him when people mistook him for her father.

The anticipation of Christmas was elevated by the fact that Janet and Jerry would be coming home in two and half weeks. In addition to preparing for all of the Christmas festivities, Ramona had a reception to prepare for as she and Janet worked out the details over the telephone and through the mail. School let out on Tuesday the 23rd. Late in the afternoon on Christmas Eve, Sheffield picked up Janet and Jerry at the airport and brought them home. When they got home, Ramona had dinner ready and all the family had gathered and spent the evening.

On Christmas, both Craig's and Norma's little families had Christmas morning in their own homes and after a brief stop at the Austins and the Rowans they came to spend Christmas day.

Christmas was not completely overshadowed by the reception, but the next day was were all of the attention was focused. All of the last minute details received attention to make sure everything was ready. Wayne and Gale Gover flew in that afternoon. With them were Morris and Sheila and their children and Holly who had been Janet's roommate for a short time. The rest of Jerry's brothers and sisters and their families weren't able to make trip.

Janet and Jerry were already in one of the upstairs bedrooms. Morris and Sheila and their younger children were put in one room, while Holly shared the other with Morris' eight year old daughter. Wayne and

Gale got the guest room. Wayne was was happy to revisit Roanoke again. The first time that he returned after his mission there was for the Brasons' baptism eleven years earlier.

That evening, Janet's friends came out to see her. Naturally, Ammon came with Olivia and Beverly brought her boyfriend from Lynchburg. After enjoying a relaxing visit in the bathhouse, the three couples went out to dinner together.

On Saturday, there was plenty of help in setting up for the reception. Everything was ready and everyone was in place when the guests began to arrive. The only difference in the reception line was Olivia and Beverly took Takara's place as bridesmaids.

There was good turn out as the Brason family, members of both branches, and other friends and neighbors turned out. As for Wayne, he has happy to see so many people that he remembered as a missionary when he served in Roanoke all of those years ago.

As people streamed through the line, Jerry Furness came through with the young lady that he had been seeing lately. He and Janet were still good friends with no hard feelings.

At one point, Ramona whispered in Sheffield's ear, "Don't look now, but here comes your girlfriend."

Sheffield looked up to see Paula and Jacob Messner signing the guest register. He whispered back, "How many times do I have to tell you that she is not my girlfriend?" Ramona loved how it got his goat whenever she said that. A few minutes later, Paula and Jacob were standing before them.

"It's so nice of you to come all this way." Ramona said.

"It was the least we could do." Paula said. "From looking around, I don't see anyone else from our family here. I don't understand how everyone has forgotten these kids."

"We're used to it by now."

"Well," Paula said, "As far as I'm concerned, you've are their family and have been ever since Samantha died."

"Speaking of Samantha, did you know that that is what Norma named her baby."

"No, I didn't. I saw them across the hall when we came in. I'll have to go say hi."

"You do that." Ramona encouraged.

Paula turned her attention to Sheffield. She had an extra tight hug for him as she always did.

"It's good to see you, Paula. Thanks for coming."

"Well, its like I was just telling Ramona. Besides Jacob wanted to come."

"You're looking good, Paula."

"Thanks. So are you. We're all getting older aren't we." She had another hug for him before moving on and added, "I hope we get a chance to visit later."

Paula moved on down the line to Janet. Next Sheffield visited briefly with Jacob before he moved on

as to not hold up the line. After going through the line, they went and sat at the table where Norma and Wade and Craig and Edith were seated. From where she stood, Ramona could see her making a fuss over their kids.

A little later, Sheffield and Ramona were presently surprised to see some other out of town friends as Mace and Pat Owen came through. They didn't have much of a chance to visit either. Mace and Pat were surprised to see Paula there. They hadn't seen her since they moved away from Norfolk fifteen years earlier. They had been neighbors and had known Paula's first husband, Gary, before he was killed. In fact it was Pat who introduced Paula to Sheffield when she arranged for her to be his dinner companion one evening.

Eventually the reception line broke up and Sheffield and Ramona had a chance to mingle with the guests who were still there. They ended up getting pulled in different directions. Sheffield had a good visit with Paula and Jacob. She told him all about her kids. Later both Sheffield and Ramona had a chance to visit with Mace and Pat.

Once the reception wound down, several people pitched in to help clear away before going home. The Govers stayed and went to church on Sunday and flew home on Monday. Janet and Jerry stayed through the rest of the holidays and New Years Day since it would be a while before they would be coming back.

1958 ended with all of its expectations filled. There were two new grandchildren and Janet got married, even if it did take two attempts to get the job done. On Friday the 2nd of January the whole family saw them off at the airport for their flight back to Utah.

* * * * *

Medicine Bow, Wyoming is an actual town located on Highway 30 and along the Medicine Bow River. The Virginian Hotel and the Eating House were built between 1901 and 1911 and was renovated in 1957. All other descriptions and details are fictional.

For the story of when Pat introduced Sheffield to Paula and their first encounter, see The Business of War Chapter 7.