

**CHAPTER 6**  
**1969 – 1994**



*Ira and Vyla on their 50th anniversary*

Ira had suffered another stroke in the early 1960s which weakened his condition even more and he spent most of his time sitting in the yard. The cumulative affect took a heavy toll on him but he made the best of the situation. Vyla was so attentive to his needs and and took such good care of him.



*The Frost Family - 1970 Standing: Eunice, Thelma, Celia, Lorna, Marian, Irma, Gerald, and Kathryn. Seated: Ira and Vyla*

A Golden Wedding Anniversary celebration was held for Ira and Vyla by the family on December 4, 1970 at the home of Kenneth and Lorna Turner. Many friends, neighbors and relatives came to the open house to wish them well. Though he was not able to communicate as much as he'd like with those who came to see them, he was happy with all the love and attention to he and his bride of fifty years and it was a pleasant day for him.

Tragedy made an unwelcome visit on August 28, 1976. After loosing Myron in the war, Gerald and Verlee adopted a son who they named Myron. On this day, Myron drowned while at a family reunion in Washington. He was 8 years and 8 days old, having been ordained a Deacon only six days earlier.

After another stroke and with Gerald having sold his home next door and moved into Burley, Vyla was finding it more difficult to help Ira into and out of his wheelchair and bed. Ira was becoming less responsive to things about him. It was Vyla's decision in the early 1970s to move into Burley near Gerald and the Lindsay family (who had moved back to Burley) so they could assist her. They moved into a house next door to Lindsays and only a short distance from Gerald's. At the time Celia and her girls also lived just down the street.



*The home on Normal Avenue*

From then on, Ira spent most of his time in the wheelchair. He gradually became more helpless and as the time went on and his last five years were spent almost as a total invalid. He was unable to respond to the family, though they all showed their love for him and visited and talked to him frequently.

In January of 1978 Ira became ill and was taken into the hospital where he was in critical condition. Vyla spent most all of her waking hours by his side, with other family



*Vyla at 75*

members coming and going at all hours to see him. From Vyla's journal:

Sunday the 29<sup>th</sup>. I spent all day at the hospital. All of the kids were here. Daddy was failing, just staring at the ceiling. He passed away at 9:20 p.m. I am so grateful that all of family were there except for Celia (who was living in California) and Jay. Rhonda, Bonnie, and Renee were also there. He went so peacefully. I am sure loved ones beyond the

veil were there to welcome him as we watched him pass from this sphere to the great beyond. I am so thankful for him and my wonderful family.

Tuesday the 31<sup>st</sup>. Monday and Tuesday were very busy making arrangements. I turned it all over to Gerald, bless his heart. Eunice and Thelma are back here helping me. I am so grateful for them also. They, I mean all of my kids and in laws, are so very good to me and help me so very much. I am so so thankful for every one of you. I picked out the the flowers and the casket. The family went with me to the mortuary.

Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup>. We're just all very busy. The family went to the mortuary to see Daddy. He looks so nice. Just the family went, the viewing was in the evining. Many friends came. I was very tired standing so much. Celia came today .

Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was a lovely winter day. No storm and not very cold. Everything was so nice. It (the funeral) is on tape. The Relief Society served a very nice dinner for the family and friends. Gerald, Verlee, Kelly, and I went back to the cemetery and put some flowers on Mom and Dad's graves. Most of the family left this evening.

Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Reads left about 10:30 or so. Celia and Gordy were here, then he took her to Twin Falls to catch the plane. Kathryn and Irma are here writing thank you notes. I had lunch with Gerald and Verlee. Washed up all the sheets. Kelly and RJ slept here. Rearranged all of the drawers and made things more convenient.

After devoting so much of her time and energy to caring for Ira, Vyla now had time for herself. Later in February she went to Los Angeles with Gerald and Verlee and her brother Slim to see her other brother, Myrl. Then in March she went to see Judy and in July went to Colorado Springs with the Turners to see Darla. There were two more trips to Salt Lake in June and September. In July she went on a church tour along with 44 other people on the Sun Valley Bus, stopping at the Church Office Building for lunch. Spent the night in Provo, and then to Manti to the Pageant.

Celia announced that she and Jack Gilmour were getting married in California. At the last minute arrangements were made for Vyla to attend their wedding. The benefactor was Gordon Buttar, Celia's ex-husband. He bought a ticket for Vyla and Connie. Also going with them were Gordy and Bonnie, his fiance. On November 23, 1978 the four of them flew to California and were picked up at the airport by Cindee and her husband and went directly to Celia's apartment.



*At Celia's Wedding: Jack, Celia, Vyla, Connie, Gordy, and Bonnie. Kneeling, Cindee and Russell*

Celia had no idea they were coming and was so surprised to see the four of them standing on her door step. They stayed in her one bedroom apartment so there was hardly any room for four unexpected guests. Vyla slept on the couch, Connie slept on the loveseat and Gordy and Bonnie slept on the floor in sleeping bags. The next day was Thanksgiving. Cindee and her husband came over and they all had Thanksgiving

Dinner together. The following day was their wedding. The day after they were married, Celia and Jack drove them around showing them the Bay Area. Then on the 27<sup>th</sup> they flew back to Burley.

Ever since 1945, the Burley area was part of the Idaho Falls Temple District, but in 1978 with the announced renovation of the Logan Temple, they were shifted to Logan. In anticipation of the re-dedication, Vyla crocheted a lovely lace altar scarf for the Logan Temple and sent it to the Temple where it was used on an altar in one of the sealing rooms.

As Vyla approached her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday she remained active and busy. As can be seen, she traveled a lot. As the grandchildren served missions she attended their farewells and homecomings. There were grandchildren's weddings to attend. With all of the weddings, great grandchildren were being born and she attended their blessings. As the great grandchildren turned 8 years old she attended their baptisms.



*Kathryn, Lorna, Vyla, Celia, & Thelma at Celia's in 1981*

There was one very special baptism to attend which required another trip to California. After several years outside of the Church, Celia was ready to come back and she was bringing Jack with her. Vyla, Kathryn and Dick, Thelma and Jay, Lorna, and Gordy and Bonnie made the trip in Goodfellow's motor home and arrived at Celia and Jack's home on the

January 9, 1981. There was barely time to go from there over to the church where both Celia and Jack were baptized by Gordy. The following Sunday they all piled into Goodfellow's motor home and went to Church with Celia and Jack in their ward. Early Monday morning they left to make the long trip across Nevada and home.

Vyla turned 80 on June 4, 1981 and on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> an open house was held at the home of Irma and Don to honor her 80 years of well lived life. Friends and family attended to pay tribute to this noble woman.

January 16, 1982 was a very special day as Vyla gathered in the Salt Lake Temple with all of her children and their spouses as Celia and Jack were sealed. Undoubtedly Ira and Myron was there too.

Into her 80s, Vyla remained in good health and continued to be actively involved with her ever growing family. For years the first weekend in August had been reserved for



*Vyla on her 80th birthday*



*This picture was on the front page of the March 16, 1982 edition of the South Idaho Press. The caption read "**Fighting back at winter** It was Burley's Mrs. Vyla Frost versus Old Man Winter today and as of press time, winter was still winning."*



*Getting a perm from Connie*



*The Frost Family 1982: Kathryn, Irma, Marion, Lorna, Celia, Thelma, Eunice, Vyla, and Gerald.*

the Frost Family reunion. In earlier years, the family increased to 48 grandchildren. Now that most of them were married with families of their own. The reunion continued to be an event that brought the family together. With their busy lives, not everyone was able to attend every year. But through the reunion the family remained close. Typically it was held at Unity and occasionally at Pella. It always ended with an afternoon of water skiing on the Snake River and visiting at Turners. Vyla was always thrilled to see her family come together.

Even in her 80s, Vyla always had pretty flower beds around her little house in town. One summer they kept getting knocked down and trampled on. Wanting to catch the culprits in the act she watched out for them. Sure enough, she caught Irma's kids in

the act. She sprang through the door and hollered, "Hey you kids, get the hell out of my flowers!" A bit surprised, they did.

As the years continued to accumulate, by her late 80s Vyla slowed down considerably and got to the point where she was no longer able to care for herself and required more attention than her family was able to properly give her. The painful decision was made to put her in a nursing home.



*Vyla on her 90th birthday*

times she thought Gerald was Ira or that one of the girls was her mother. Others she thought were her brothers and sisters.

Vyla agreed that it would be the best for her and everyone else and went willingly. That is until the day that it came to move. She fought tooth and nail to stay in her home. She finally accepted the inevitable and went. Once she settled down and settled in, she actually enjoyed it. She especially enjoyed the weekly bingo games.

So her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday was celebrated in the Burley Care Center. Age had taken its toll on her and her memory was severely affected. At times she recognized those who come to see her but soon forgot that they were there. Other times she didn't recognize who was there. At

Her long life of 93 years ended at the Burley Care Center on the day after Christmas, December 26, 1994. Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. on December 30<sup>th</sup> at the Burley Idaho Stake Center and she was laid to rest next to Ira in the pleasant





*Kathryn and Vicky saying goodbye*

View Cemetery in Burley. At the the time of her death, her posterity included 48 grand children, 135 great grandchildren, and 10 great great grandchildren.

Vyla had lived a life of service, particularly to her family. She served faithfully in the church. Although she was not called upon to fill positions some see as prestigious, she served diligently wherever asked. In her later years she attended the temple often. Her example of service was well received by her children, who in turn passed it on to her grandchildren where that legacy of service continues.

Of her grandchildren, ten served missions: Bill Read, Pennsylvania; Ronda Read, Uruguay; Gordon Buttars, Colorado; Kenny Turner, Wales; Roger Turner, Hong Kong; Stan Turner, Germany; Brad Turner, Korea; Randy Lindsay, Canada; Dennis Lindsay, Australia; and Kevin Lindsay, Canada. Not to be forgotten is Tim Dudley who served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War.



*The Frost Family - 2007. Standing: Lorna, Thelma, Gerald, Kathryn, and Marion. Seated: Celia, Eunice, and Irma*

After Vyla passed away, the family remained strong and close knit. The family reunion has continued from year to year. The family has grown with the addition of more great grand-children and numerous great great grandchildren.

As the great great grand-children are born, others are bidden a sweet sweet farewell as they join Myron, Ira, and Vyla beyond the veil.

Thelma died on July 1, 2009 at the age of 86. Less than three months later, Gerald died on September 18, 2009 at the age of 72.

So the circle of life continues. As the generations come and go, we all have a lasting legacy and heritage that has been passed on to us, whether or not we lived during her lifetime, we all have been touched by her noble life.

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*The Prologue is from various sources, including "Cassia School Emphasizes Spiritual Aspect of Education"; LDS Church News, June 29, 1963. "Oakley, Idaho — 'It hasn't changed much over the years" LDS Church News, September 6, 2008.*

*Chapters 1-5 are from a history Transcribed from Vyla's records July 30, 1979 by Celia Frost Gilmour from two copies. The first one was not dated, but prior to 1958. Some editing changes have been made and a in a place or two some detail has been added.*

*Chapter 6 is from portions of Life Story of Ira L. Frost and Vyla's journal and information on hand.*