

Idona Soelene Solomon Allen you were born 19 April 1912 in a little town called Dempsey Idaho. You were the last one of a family of 9 children in your family & several half brothers & sisters in the other family. Being a child from a polygamy family, growing up wasn't so ~~is~~ easy under these circumstances everyone had the opportunity to learn to work.

You spent your growing up years in Inkam Idaho picking raspberries, helping your mother, running races and having fun going to school. Taking your lunch in a paper sack or bucket.

Rain or shine this was your transportation unless some kind neighbor picked you up. Going to church and being your mother's little girl you went with her a lot and you were your mother's bed partner most of the time. Your childhood was happy growing up like most children do.

When you became a young lady you ~~was~~ started working for

J. W. Johnson (your uncle I believe) in Blackfoot. (Yes)

You were cooking for the jail prisoners.

This was hard work for you were just a young girl. But I guess this was a starter that was to become the work & hobby of your past 20 years.

It was during this time that some exciting things began to happen.

You met your prince charming Erwin Allen. You learned to love each other very much and soon were engaged to be married.

Those courting days were happy ones. Sometimes you were a little anxious when Erwin came for you just at family prayer time. When you both had to kneel for an hour (on those days people did this) you just didn't know just how he would take this. But knowing him he's true blue & you were

married on Spring day in American Falls Idaho ~~19 April 19~~ Feb 13 1931

What a happy day this was

for both of you.

You made your home in Wapello.
and what happy hours you have
spent together. In time you
three little boy and two little
girls come to bless your home.

Sorrow comes along with
happiness one little daughter was
called home to her heavenly father.
It was during this time I got
acquainted with you.

One day we were in Pocahontas
shopping and you said to me "I
want to go & see my brother, you
know he is older than my mother."
Thus I could not understand. I didn't
know her well enough at the time
to ask. But later I understood.

We have enjoyed many experiences
together.

I called her to be my counselor
in the Primary & Relief Society.
Cooking for church banquets & other
things we were called to do.

Do you remember when Kenneth
was born & you came home with
your little one & you had the mumps
on both sides. You were so worried

but I was there to help each day. Kenneth didn't get the mumps.

Going to girls camp with all those lovely girls we enjoyed these things together.

You were a great fisherman and your husband also. Many happy hours you have spent on some pretty creek or lake. You have shared some of this with me.

Your cooking the fish & me cooking the chicken. (Can't you just taste in now.)

Then the big day came Erwin asked me to be one of the cooks at school. This was in 1957. Our lives have been pretty close since that day.

We have had many rewarding hours together.

You had to train me in my work.

Do you remember the convention of work meetings we had to go to.

Learning how to get along with people, how cleanliness was so important

in our working area & also ourselves

Learning how to prepare nursing meals & have them balanced so

so each child would have a grade A lunch.

This was your great desire your worked for the child's welfare not the money that was in it. If there was a child that needed a special diet you seen that one was prepared so he could feel as other children do.

You always tried to use the comedies that were brought to us, finding new receipts that would be tasty as well as eye appealing for the children's lunches.

Many times you had to change in order to use what we had.

It wasn't easy. accidents happen sometimes, fingers cut, burns now & then & sometimes a fall. Do you remember when you climbed up high on the cubbard cleaning & something happened & you fell and hit the ~~stop~~ stove & the corner of the table & had to go to the Doctor. But you never stayed home, your work always came first. Rain or shine, snow or sleet you were always there. You were always a good example.

for me to follow.

Just a few more things.

Do you remember our trip to Salmon when the big salmon got off the hook & you jumped in the water & put your arms & legs around that big fish & held on until the men got the hook in it again. You said "I would of rode it right into the river if it had been necessary." When coming home we stopped in Mackey, and all of you fished with the salmon eggs from that big fish. What excitement we caused. People would ask "what are you using for bait?" & you looked up & replied "just salmon eggs." They fought over the place where you & Erwin, & my husband were sitting, when we left.

We spent many happy hours together. Mountains of Cinnamon Rolls, hot rolls & doughnuts & all the good things we tried to fix for the children to enjoy.

My cant you count the hundred of pounds of hamburgers, you have handled through the years you have worked here. I don't know about you but it

is hard for me to prepare hamburger now.

Your daughter Darlene says you cooked at least 475,290 student meals. That is a lot of cooking.

Darlene tells me also this spring your grandson now 16 was at a wrestling meet in Pocatello. As they were being weighed in he heard some boy discussing what they most liked to eat. He heard one boy from Burley, Idaho say

"More than anything else I'd like a cinnamon roll from Mrs. Allens wapello school lunch. Hey grandson yelled hey your talking about my grandmother."

Yes Isoline, we have been pals in fun, in church & in our school work together.

Now you are retiring, I hope we can still be friends we have always been.

Isoline this wa few facts + memories I have of your life
Margaret Hancock