

9 April '90

Dear Pat -

5:45 AM and just finished breakfast - How nice and quiet it is - restful -

Today is Grandma and Grandpa's wedding anniversary - 91 years - April 9 - 1899 - Grand was 17 and Grandpa was 22 - both blond, young and radiant with love and health - which, how lucky for us, their children, they never lost - their love for each other - when I was a teenager, and then in my early 20's, often a friend here and there would ask "What is it like to grow up in a home like yours with your mom and dad always together - taking walks together arm-in-arm - etc?" It was hard to answer because that was normal for us - We never heard loud fighting - a father drinking - any form of abuse verbal or physical - or any form of disrespect - This day, April 9<sup>th</sup>, was always a big day in our family - always a celebration - I remember coming home from school one day and walking around town the hardware store; Grandpa was hard at work at his desk; after the hello-greeting-kiss I discovered Grandpa was writing a poem to Grandma to give her with a diamond ring (her 1st and only engagement ring 25 yrs later) - On the following page is the poem he wrote her.

\* Grand had blue eyes - Grandpa were brown - People often mistake them for brother and sister

Our 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary - April 9 - 1924.

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TO THE DEAREST MOTHER IN ALL THE WORLD  
AND WIFE AND PAL TO ME -  
WHO HAS SHARE MY TROUBLES AND JOYS ALIKE  
AND LOVED ME SO TENDERLY -  
MAY WE LIVE ON IN THE FUTURE DEAR  
IN SWEET HARMONY AS IN THE PAST -  
AND MAY THIS RING BIND US ALWAYS  
- FOREVER - TO THE LAST ---

Nice, eh?

After the dinner, etc, Grand and Grand took their first trip and they came to California - for 6 weeks if I remember correctly - Your mom took care of the store and I believe Mr. Flory was Grand's workman at that time - Every day after school your mom and I had some kind of a feast - either dried apricots, or goodies from Grice's bakery - It was 1924 and, oh Pat, what a different world it was at that time - Your mom wore knaps knickers and a white cotton blouse with a lay-down collar and short sleeves - I guess your mom was 19 that April 27 - 1924. I was 13 1/2 - your mom and dad were still "newly weds" - Grand was 42 and Grand 47. Everyone was young! and full of ginger! fun and laughter -