

Memorial Book



In Loving Memory of

Nancy Jane Hartman Houston
(September 13, 1930 - February 18, 2010)



Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go and prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself; that where I am you may be also.

John 14:1-3

eternal and love is immortal; And death is only a horizon, And a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight. Raymond W. Rossiter



This website was created to remember our dearest wife, mother and grandmother, Nancy Jane Hartman Houston, who was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on September 13, 1930, and passed away in Winfield, Illinois, on February 18, 2010. She left a devoted husband, Philip Edwin Houston, three daughters, Susan Jane, Sally Ann and Jenny Leigh, three sons-in-law, Dave Jordan, Terry Cassidy and Gary Payne, and four grandchildren, Michael Philip Cassidy, Sara

Jane Cassidy, Rachel Ann Cassidy and Hayleigh Elizabeth Payne, as well as many friends. She will always be missed and remembered with love,. We don't need a website to remember her but it will be like a scrapbook that everyone can see!



Mom loved Johnny Depp and her family, not necessarily in that order but we can't really be sure! She also loved McDonald's cokes, fries and breakfast burritos, movies, scrapbooking, genealogy and Christmas. In fact, she loved just about everything and was rarely seen without a smile on her face!



Mostly she loved spending time with her grandchildren, who were lucky to have her look after them while their parents worked. She spent hours with them playing games, coloring, watching movies....anything they wanted to do.

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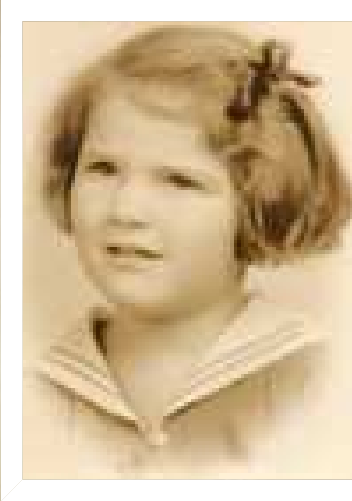
The background is a textured, light brown or beige color. In the upper right quadrant, there are two roses. The one on the left is smaller and more tightly closed, while the one on the right is larger and more open, showing its petals. The roses are rendered in a soft, painterly style, blending into the background.

Gallery Gallery

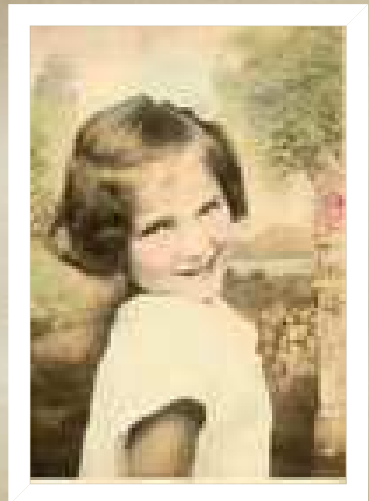
so sweet, so unforgettable...



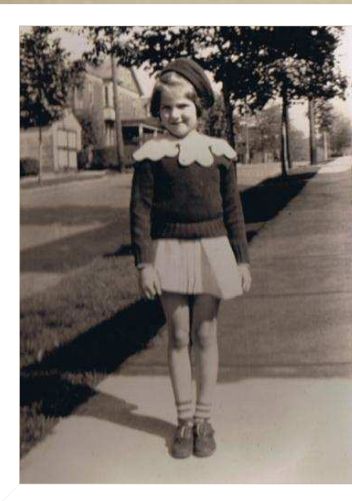
Even Tinier



Sailor



Cutie



Sept 1936



September 1936



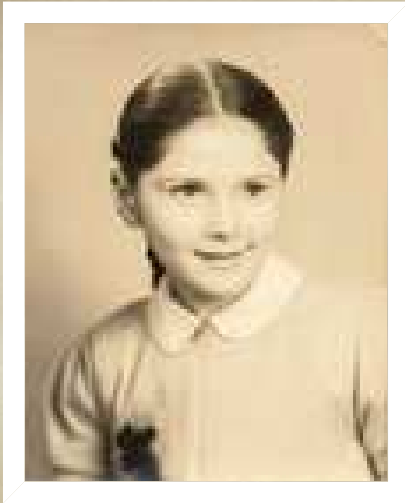
With Jane and Janet, 1938



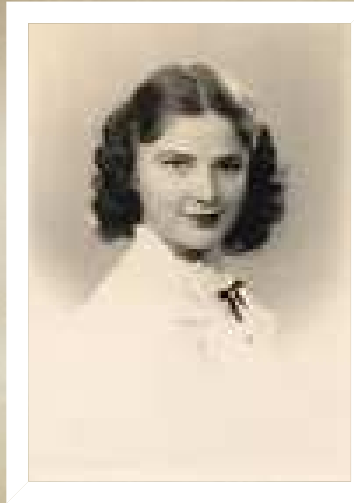
1938



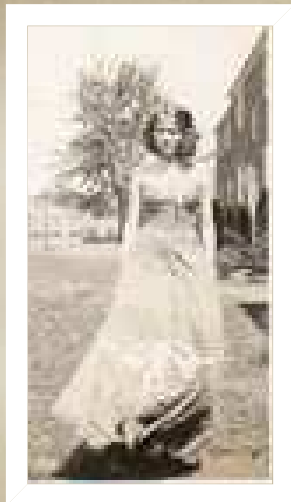
Little Girl



Young Lady



High School



Dance



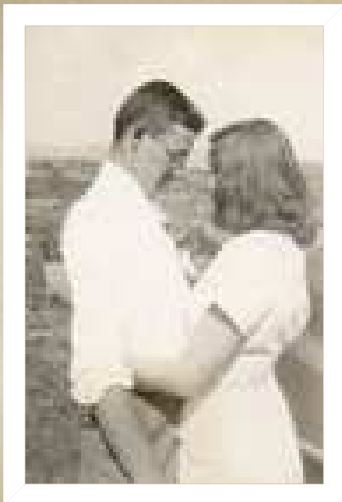
College



Friends on the Beach



Mom and Steer, Millarden Farms



Date



Betsey and Mom, April 5, 1952



Wedding with All Parents, April 5, 1952



Wedding Day, April 5, 1952



Mommy and Me, 1955



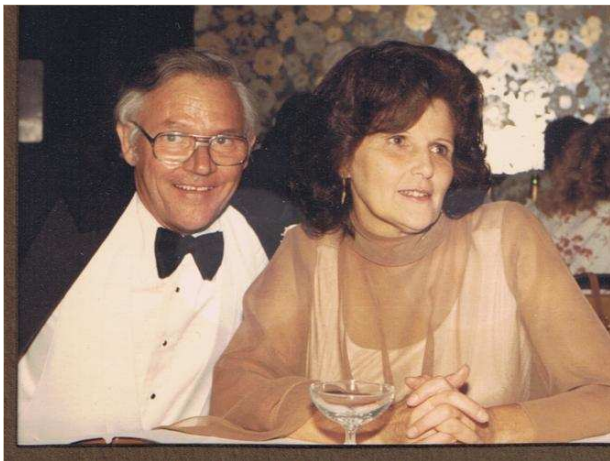
Four Generations, Muzzy, Nano, Mom and Susan



919 Edgewater Drive



More Susan's Wedding, June 27, 1981



Susan's Wedding, June 27, 1981



Canoe Trip, Kickapoo River, Wisconsin, 1982



30th Aniversary 1982



Christmas 1986



Daddy's 60th Birthday, August, 1988



Greencastle



Mom with Grandad and Uncle Howard



Sally's Wedding, November 23, 1991



*Mom and Daddy, Sally's Wedding, November 23,
1991*



Mom and Daughters



Winter 1996-97



Sally's 40th Birthday Party January 1998



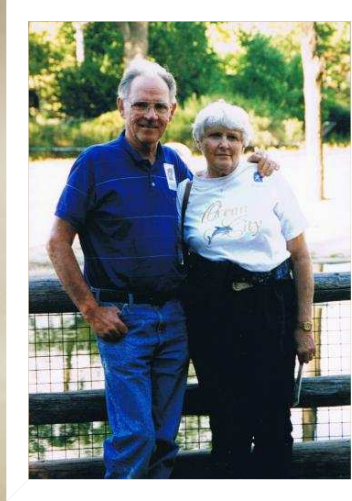
Hawaii, 1998



Hawaii, 1998



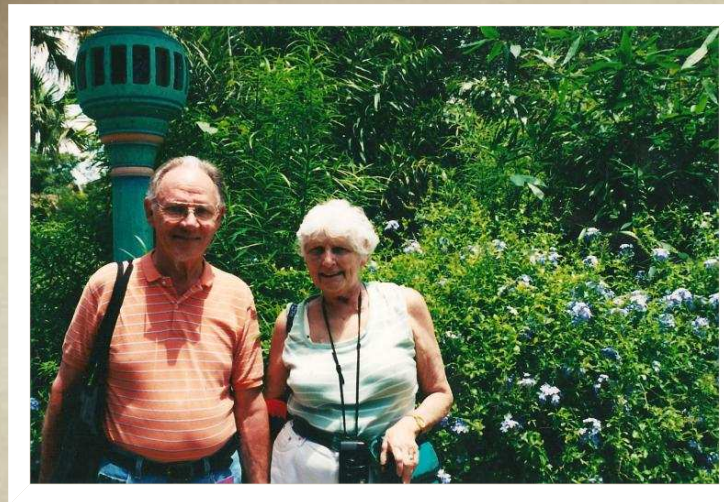
Hawaii with Jen, 1998



Parent Night at Brookfield Zoo, Summer 1999



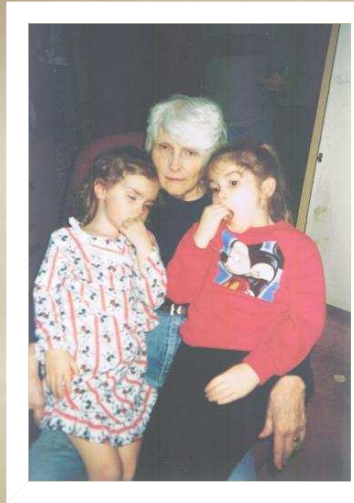
Titanic Party, 1999



Disney's Animal Kingdom, June, 2000



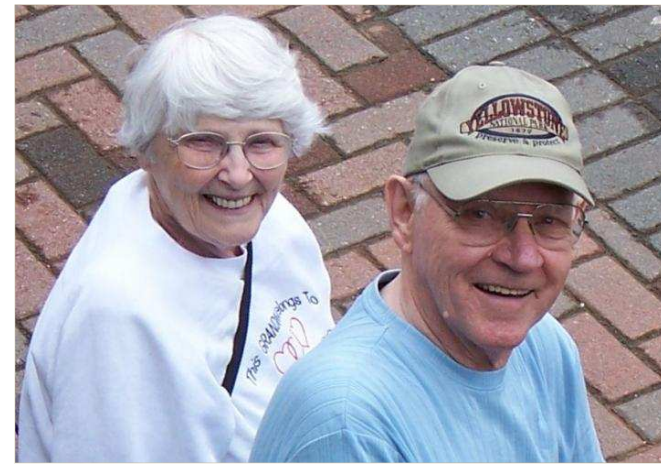
Disney, 2000



Grandma, Rachel and Sara



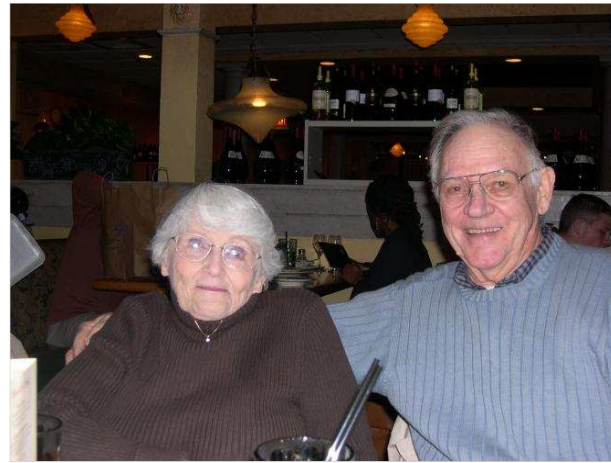
With Sally, April 2005



At Helen, Georgia, May 2005



Santa Mom, January 2006



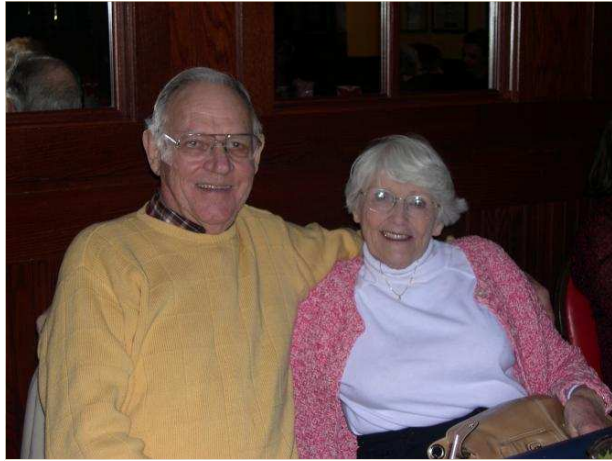
Mom & Dad



Mom and Daddy January 2006



*With Peggy Bainer at Jenny's Wedding Shower,
January 14, 2006*



*Mom and Daddy at Jenny's Rehearsal Dinner,
February, 2006*



Jen's Wedding, February 3, 2006



Just Mom! February 4, 2006



Mom and Daddy, February 4, 2006



After Jenny's Wedding, February 5, 2006



Extreme Close-Up, August 20, 2006



Newborn Hayleigh, December, 2006



With Hayleigh, December 2006



Hayleigh Again, December 2006



Again with Hayleigh December 2006



Kennesaw Battlefield, August 18, 2007



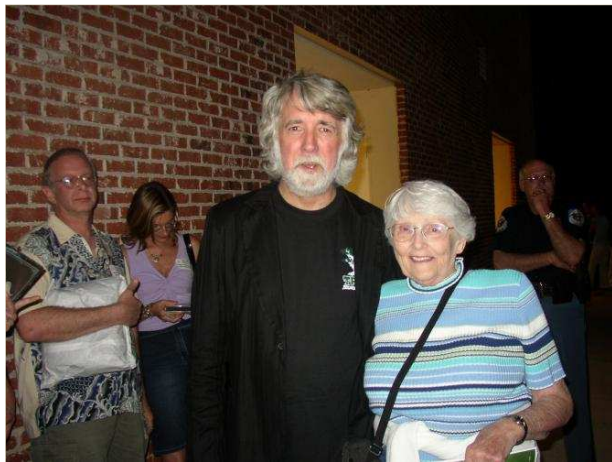
Bengston's with Hayleigh 2007



Medieval Times, New Year's Eve 2007-2008



Medieval Times, New Year's Eve 2007-2008



*With John McEuen, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band
concert, March 2008*



By Chatahoochie River, March 16, 2008



Helen, Georgia, March 2008



Sally and Mom May 17, 2008



Daddy's 80th Birthdy Party, September 2008



*With Corwiths at Daddy's 80th Birthday Party,
September 2008*



With Gary



*Breakfast with Family and Friends November 1,
2008*



With Betsey, Life-Long Friends



Mercer House/Savannah, August 2009



Mercer Grave, Savannah, August 2009



The Lady Chablis, Savannah, August 2009



Last Time We Were All Together, January 2010

The background is a textured, mottled olive-green color. In the upper right quadrant, there are two roses. The one on the left is smaller and more tightly closed, while the one on the right is larger and more open, showing its petals. Both roses are rendered in a light, almost white tone, making them stand out against the darker background.

Memorial Candles

our words, your light...

06/11/2010

Susan

*My life is so different
without you in it*

05/09/2010

Jenny

*Miss you this Mother's Day
so much. I wish you were
here with us. Love you,
Mom.*

05/09/2010

Susan

*This our first Mother's Day
without you. I miss you so
much. Happy Mother's Day,
Mom.*

04/05/2010

Susan

*Today would have been your
58th Wedding Anniversary.
Daddy misses you so much,
but don't worry, he's in good
hands.*

04/04/2010

Susan

*Happy Easter, Mom! Miss
you so much!*

03/08/2010

Sue Jordan

*Thank you for everything,
Mom, but most of all for my
sisters.*

03/07/2010

Jenny Payne

*Mom, so many lives you
touched. I am honored to
have been your daughter.
We miss you and know that
you are with us, always.
Jenny*

03/07/2010

Ryan Chapman

*I never knew you but if you
were anything like Sue I
know you were a great
person. May you rest
peacefully in heaven.*

03/06/2010

Sara Cassidy

We love you so much

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Condolences

from the deepest of our hearts...

Ryan Chapman

Susan's Nephin

April 10, 2010

...going through the loss of Grandma Rita this summer I know how much it can hurt. I can't say it ever goes away but it gets better overtime. I hope you are doing ok, and feeling better. It's good to have you as a friend and hope to see you soon. Hang in there and always cherish the good memories.

Chris Frymyer

Susans Friend

April 10, 2010

I know dealing with the loss of a loved one is so super hard...and you were strength when I was at my weakest.....and I wanted to make sure I did the same for you.....it is a hard time and I still mean the whole hug thing...I swear when I got back that hug you gave me made me feel so good!! I love you

Ed Jobin

Susan's Friend

April 10, 2010

I wanted to send my deepest condolences on the loss of your mother. I am sorry I had not seen your notification sooner.

I truly hope you are doing alright. It sucks that right now I feel guilty for not making sure that we stayed as close as we once were. I know that if your mom was anything like you, I would have loved her as much as I love you. I do miss you and hope that you stay strong. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Sue Kleinow

Nancy

April 10, 2010

Sue,
I know this was one of if not the toughest experiences with death that Jim has ever faced. I know he loved your Mom more than his own, it's just too bad we lost touch for so many years. I also know he felt honored to be a pallbearer as well. Probably the best way to kkeep in touch is with his email address. I agree let's not lose touch. Life is too short. How was your trip home? I hope the weather held up for you 2. Stay in touch
Love ya Sue

Several Friends

From Online Condolence Book

April 9, 2010

February 21, 2010

Phil and everyone, my love and prayers are for you. Nancy is at peace, for which we can all be thankful. Hold on to the memories.

Judy Gaddess,

Wheaton, Illinois

February 22, 2010

Nancy will be missed ! Fellow Family Searcher, John Fitzloff

~

John Fitzloff,

Lombard, Illinois

February 22, 2010

All her friends at the DuPage County Genealogical Society will miss her and all the help she has given over the years.

~

Nancy Thomas,

Wheaton, Illinois

February 23, 2010

We will remember Nancy for her dedication and work for the DCGS. She seemed to be there all the time, serving in whatever capacity needed to be filled.

~

Cindy Heisler,

Wheaton, Illinois

Jerrri Ingram

Susan's Friend

April 9, 2010

My dearest friend - I am so sorry to hear that your mother passed away. I was blessed to know her. She and your father (and you) were so very kind to take me in years ago when I needed a place to stay. I know that it wasn't easy for them but both showed me kindness and caring. I pray that your mother is now at peace.

Give me a call some time when you can talk. .

My thoughts are with all of you.

Love,

Jerri

**Ruthann and Brad
Johnson**

Johnson Snapshots

April 9, 2010

From: Brad and Ruthann Johnson <Johnsons@snapshots2.com>

To: ruthann-cm@tortall.net

Sent: Thu, February 25, 2010 8:34:29 AM

Subject: Ruthann's Sad News and More

From Ruthann...

It is with sadness that I share the news of the passing of Nancy Houston. Nancy and her long time friend, Barbara Hoch, could often be found at my Friday night workshops spending time together while completing their albums. An active genealogist, Nancy's goal was to finish albums for her 3 daughters, including the wedding album viewed by family and friends at her visitation on Sunday. Nancy's energetic spirit, zest for life, and love of her family will continue to be an inspiration for all who knew her. She will be greatly missed.

If you are available, please join me next Friday night, March 5, for a workshop from 7-11 PM. We will have a moment of silence remembering Nancy, homemade dessert, and tea.

Please let me know if you are able to come.

Ruthann

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: DuPage County (IL) Genealogical Society Members <dcgs-members@dcgs.org>

To: DCGS-members@dcgs.org

Sent: Sun, February 21, 2010 11:36:09 PM

Subject: [DCGS-members] Nancy J. Houston, 1930-2010

We are sorry to announce that DCGS has lost a tireless volunteer. Nancy J. (nee Hartman) Houston passed away on Thursday, Feb. 18, 2010 at Central DuPage Hospital. We will miss her more than we can say.

If you have been to a DCGS meeting in the past 10+ years, chances are Nancy came up and talked to you, if she wasn't busy running the meeting! She has served DCGS in many offices. She was a multi-term president and vice-president, and was on just about every committee that we have even as she dealt with multiple health challenges.

Her obituary can be found online:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/dailyherald/obituary.aspx?n=nancy-jane-houston&pid=139891140>

Judy Gaddess

for

DuPage Co. (IL) Genealogical Society

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Memories

all the gray you turned into colors...

Susan



I was thinking of Mom at the fireworks last night. Lots of happy fireworks memories. I was remembering when I burned my shortie pajamas with a sparkler when I was little back in the days we would go to the big field next to the high school all ready for bed, the years we all went to the fireworks at Ribfest, the great fireworks displays we all saw in downtown Naperville at the turn of the millenium and at Disney a few months later and the time Mom and Daddy came to visit over the Fourth and we watched fireworks at the Mall of Georgia. This year everyone was scattered, me and Dave here in Georgia and the Paynes in Mexico. I can't wait until we are all together for the fireworks again but it won't ever be the

same again without Mom.

Susan

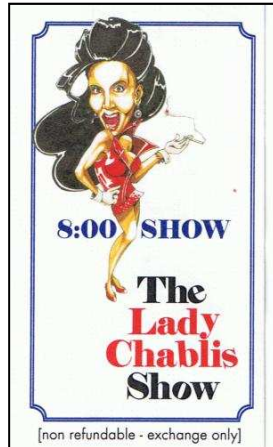
I know what Jenny means . Just yesterday, I needed some information from Jenny and couldn't reach her. I tried Sally and couldn't get her either. So then I thought, "Well, I'll just call Mom!". This happens at least once a day. I'm not sure I want that to go away.

Jenny

The other day Hayleigh and Gary and I were driving somewhere and I heard her naming something in the car, such as a crumb, and Gary telling her a story about it. All I could think was I couldn't wait to tell my mom that Hayleigh had a story teller like my grandad. That has happened so often in the last several weeks. So many things I think, "I can't wait to call mom and tell her," or "I can't wait to show this to mom." I am told that will never go away and I know that is true. In the months before she passed, I often had her say to me that something had happened and her first thought was to tell her dad. I don't know when is starts to get easier, because it continues to get harder most days. I miss her so much, I just wish I had one

more day. But I guess then I would want another and another. I just have so many more things to share with her.

Susan



The last time Mom and Daddy visited us in Georgia together was such a fun time. First of all, imagine a visit where no one ended up in the hospital! Mom and I saw Julie and Julia and loved it. All four of us went to Marietta one day. We had lunch on the sidewalk at a Turkish restaurant. Then we walked down to the Gone With the Wind Museum. One weekend we went to Savannah. Mom and Jenny loved Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil and so we had a whole weekend of experiencing this. We went to Bonaventure Cemetery and saw Johnny Mercer's grave, we went to the other cemetery and saw the graves of some of the people from the book. We took the house tour and went to the Mercer Home and saw where the murder happened. We went on a ghost tour (which wasn't great but we still had fun). We ate at the Pirate House (haunted!). We met Uga's niece! While on the "Midnight..." tour, we met a woman and her daughter just about our ages. They told us the Lady Chablis was in town and they were going to see her perform. I asked Mom if she wanted to go and she said, "Could we?" So that night we went to the little Club One and bought tickets. We waited in the tiny foyer forever with the people we met on the tour and then had to go up about 25 stairs to the club! Mom got up the stairs just fine. We got a front row seat with our new friends, I got us some drinks and the show started. There were five or six other acts and then the Lady Chablis came on. It was so much fun. Mom even got up and handed her a dollar with everyone else. I said to Mom that I never imagined that in my fifties I would be in a gay bar watching female impersonators with my mother! After the show, we hung around with our friends and got to meet Chablis. She (yes, she, there is no other way to describe her, she is a total lady) was so kind to Mom, talked to her for awhile and had their picture taken together. Then we got to the long stairs and Mom hesitated and said she didn't think she could make it down. All of a sudden two or three of the young men who worked in the bar surrounded her and helped her down the stairs and out to the car and left us after hugs all around! We had such a great time. Later that week Mom said she wanted to buy a robe to keep at my house so she went to Kohl's and bought one. Dave got a hook to hang it on their bedroom door. Every time I look at that robe I can't believe she's not coming back.

Captain Jack



Susan



Every year for Easter Sally and I would get new dresses (usually matching!) and Easter bonnets. On Easter morning we would get up and look for the baskets the Easter bunny had hidden, around four or five each tucked away around the house, and after indulging in some marshmallow chickens and bunnies we would dress up and go to church. Usually we would have

company for Easter dinner, most of the time it was the Hammers family, and Grandad would always make sure we had lamb-shaped cake and butter!

Susan

I lived at home into my early twenties. Mom and Daddy's bedroom was right next to the kitchen. Sometimes I would come home late at night and go to the fridge for a drink or a snack. No matter how late it was, without fail, as soon as I opened the fridge door, I would hear Mom yelling, "Don't touch the Christmas cookies, they're for the party!" or "There is only enough ham for lunches!". It was so annoying! When I moved into my own apartment, the first time I went to the fridge when I came home from work late at night, I actually froze and waited. Nothing. From then on every time I went to the fridge I wished she would yell at me. It's like that now. I wish she was still here to "annoy" me.

Gary



Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Farewell Nancy

Nancy you were a funny girl with hair as white as snow.
Not angry or judgmental these feelings would never show.

Your love was anchored firmly with your family and also Johnny Depp.
No longer bound by this world, we wish you well as you take the first new step.

So don't be sad when you gaze upon us from up above.
The memories that you shared with us warm our hearts with love.

The wonders you will see and the things that you will know.
Who shot JFK and where did Jimmy Hoffa go?

Go now travel onward head towards the light.
Just don't help yourself to Gods fries he might find it in-polite.

Embrace the adventure that awaits you as you journey through your spirit life.
Just know you will be remembered fondly as a friend, a mother and a loving wife.

Posted by Kotae at [6:44 PM](#)

Jenny

A few of my many memories:

Soft boiled egg and toast in a cup

Getting Toffee bars at Oswald's



Walking to church on Sunday mornings in the summertime

Having my mom make twirling costumes for us

Going to McDonald's for lunch with Grandad to see my mom while she was working

Holding hands while one of us was in the hospital

Help she gave on all homework assignments, she got much more interested than I did in many

Having her read "Treasure Island" and "Tom Sawyer" to me

Christmas shopping

Sitting up late at night watching movies or whatever TV show we were trying to catch up on

Drinking beer and singing "Margaritaville" at the Phyrst with my mom

Doing ceremonies

Scrapbooking at Ruthann's

Planning for my wedding

Our vacaton to Hawaii and the two of us just sitting on the sand

Picnics she would take us on to Lake Le-Aqua-Na

Driving back and forth between IL and PA

Going garage sale hunting and going to Einstein Bros for egg bagel sandwiches

Playing backgammon until the wee hours of the night

Camping

So many memories she has made for us all.

Helen Dierks



I have so many fond memories. I met Nancy for the first time when she gave me a ride home from school in 5th grade. The Houston's had just moved to Freeport and it was Jenny's 1st day there. She drove a white Mustang, w/ blue and red detailing! When she picked Jenny up, she asked me if I wanted a ride home, so I said, "sure!". Nancy asked us how our day was, and we replied, in sync, "boring!" She began giving me a ride home every day, always asking how our day was, and we always had the same answer. Jenny has been my best friend ever since! She took us fishing at Lake-Le-Aqua-Na. Can't forget about the time Jenny drove me to Greencastle to go to a concert. We were supposed to be there for a weekend, but got snowed in for 5 days. We had so much fun just watching movies, and I remember how cool it was that Nancy was singing Bon Jovi songs w/ us! It was great when Nancy and Jenny came to a scrapbooking workshop with me. I was just thrilled that Nancy and Phil came to my wedding, and that she came to see me at the hospital when I had my son. She also made it to many of their birthday parties. I always thought of her as my 2nd Mom!

Susan

Some random memories:

Bumgall

Swimming at Hershey Park pool



Spending all night on a bus coming home from a competition, sleeping all day and having Mom wake me up with one of those great deli sandwiches from Jewel in time for Dark Shadows

Lipton chicken noodle soup for lunch

Watching Halloween every Halloween

Buying the head circlets at Medieval Times and having our husbands think we were acting like little kids

That rich lady

Creature Features

Mom singing Little Old Lady and Bye Bye Little Fat Susan to me in the rocking chair

Mrs. Robinson

Weekend in Savannah and going to see the Lady Chablis

Sleeping on the couch in Greencastle and waking up to see the statue of St. Francis Mom painted for me

Our Sunday breakfasts when you visited us in Georgia

Trying to convince Mom that the picture Sally and I took of the plastic deer was not real

Topol in Fiddler on the Roof twice!

The Valentine heart pillow with the gifts attached

Every Christmas getting at least one game the whole family could play

ALL Christmases

Our Titanic party

Disney vacation

Afternoon ghost tour with Richard Crowe

Shopping for and trading books

Thursday night grocery shopping at Cub Foods, dinner at Mom and Daddy's and Hershey bars

The best turkey dinners in the world!

Nancy's memories



"...Zion Lutheran Church. I grew up in this church. So many of my early childhood memories are of Zion; first year in Sunday school playing in the sandbox and marching around the room, singing, until our parents came to pick us up; earning ribbons for memorizing the books of the Bible (from the same teacher who taught my dad!); when we were older, holding our own "junior church" during worship services....I can smell that smell that such wonderful old buildings like Zion have acquired with their many years of service. It is easy to see why I returned there for my wedding."

Nancy's Memories

After her honeymoon "we returned to our first home together. Phil was a herdsman on Millarden Farms in Annville, New Jersey. Our house was provided by the company. We returned to the very fine house....additionally 'decorated' by family and friends after the wedding. The 'decorations' had to be removed before we could settle down for the night. But 'settling down' was not meant to be! Shortly after the lights went out a clamor started up in the yard! The other Millarden employees arrived for a 'shiveree',

a serenade like no other, rooted in the Pennsylvania Dutch traditions. A very noisy but warm, 'welcome home'.....And so our life together began!"



The background is a textured, mottled olive-green color. In the upper right quadrant, there are two roses. The one on the left is smaller and more tightly closed, while the one on the right is larger and more open, showing its petals. The roses are rendered in a slightly darker shade of the background color, creating a subtle, artistic effect.

Life Story

every hour, every thought, every smile...

September 13, 1930



Born Nancy Jane Hartman on **September 13, 1930**, at Polyclinic Hospital in **Harrisburg, Pennsylvania**, to **Paul Harper and Birdella Garrett Jones Hartman**. She was born at the same hospital and delivered by the same doctor who would eventually deliver her own first child 24 years and one day later!

April 4, 1952

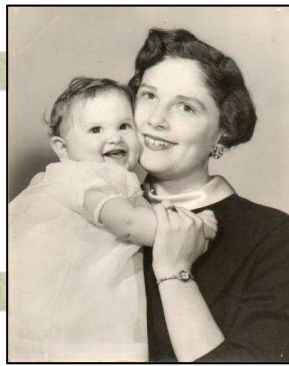


Married Philip Edwin Houston at Zion Lutheran Church in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania "We were married from my grandmother's house since neither of us lived in Harrisburg. The bride and her party arrived with plenty of time to spare. The families were seated. The guests entered the church and settled in the pews waiting for the ceremony to start. But rumor had it that the bridegroom had wandered off! What was more important, he had to decide, the wedding or the cattle sale at the farm show building....more than a little guilty, arriving late and wet!"

"After the wedding reception....we left for a week's honeymoon, The first night was spent in Baltimore at the Lord Baltimore Hotel. We visited the eastern shore of Maryland....then travelled on to Atlantic City, New Jersey, where I had spent my growing up summers. On the way home we visited my parents in New York City where we attended a musical on Broadway."

September 14, 1954

First daughter born, Susan Jane



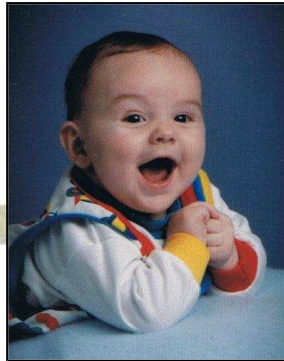
January 28, 1960

Sally Ann born at St. Joseph's Hospital in Aurora, Illinois

October 3, 1968

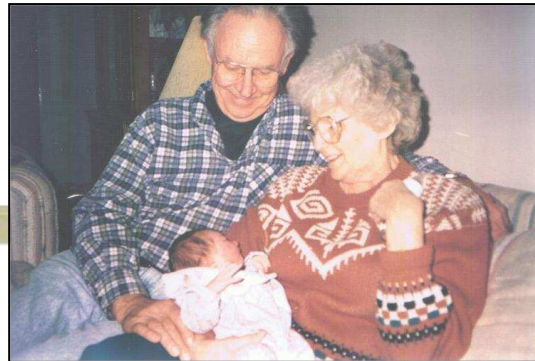
Jenny Leigh born at Edward Hospital in Naperville, Illinois

August 8, 1992



First grandchild born, Michael Philip Cassidy, at Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield, Illinois

December 9, 1994



Sara Jane Cassidy born at Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield, Illinois

February 21, 1996

Rachel Ann Cassidy born at Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield, Illinois

April 5, 2002

Celebrated 50th Wedding Anniversary. Friends and family gathered for a party at Sally's house.



Nancy: "They said it would never last. He was a country boy; I was a city girl. But Grandma (Houston) always had faith."

December 13, 2006



Hayleigh Elizabeth Payne born at Edward Hospital in Naperville, Illinois

February 18, 2010

Passed away on **February 18, 2010**, at Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield, Illinois.

Our Deepest Sympathy

<http://www.last-memories.com>