

**Erma Geneve Blunck McArthur
Journals - 1975**

These are things that happened during the time Scott was on his mission copied from his letters that I wrote him. Scott filled a mission to the Padova Italy Mission.

August 12, 1975

Thought we would see him again when we left him at the mission home but they wouldn't let us back in. I didn't feel like we said our good-byes properly. I sent him lots of cookies at the Language school in Provo. He is lucky. He has to leave home to get homemade cookies.

Mike and Karen moved to St. George. Mike teaches music at the High School this coming year. They bought a home at Santa Clara Heights. We put Lady in the kennel while we were in Salt Lake City. She had lost weight but she was so happy to see us when we arrived home. They painted the front of the Pine Valley Chapel and it looks a lot better. We miss Scott more than he realizes. The lawns need mowing and we missed putting the garbage cans out this week. We had a party in Pine Valley this week. Lillian's family, Enid's family, Kaylene was here, Mike and Karen.

August 18, 1975

The weather is getting coolish and really cold in Pine Valley. It sure feels good. Everyone is asking about Scott and wonders how he is doing. I guess I think about him all the time. We had a nice day in Pine Valley. Glen and Laura Snow had their 50th wedding anniversary. They held it in the basement of the chapel in P.V.

We decided we must get rid of the dog. Lady just cannot be housebroken. Rudger is in Las Vegas again on business for Warner Valley. He is also working with the engineer on P.V. water system. Instead of putting the tank on the hill they decided on a hill at the top of the meadow in the Ranches. Mike and Karen went to P.V. with us Saturday and we had dinner and Mike helped with the yard work. Karen revealed the fact that he was going to have a baby. She will have her's the same time Ellen and Richard are expecting.

Viola and family dropped in to see us. It was a surprise.

We received a check from the ward to send to Scott. It was \$250.00. We have two red ripe tomatoes in our garden and more coming on. Jane is ready to go back to school. She will be in the 6th grade.

Scott must have lost his class ring because someone came by and brought it for him. Barbara Batzki came by to get Scott's address. They have a shortage of bottle lids and she told me that she found some at the market so I must hurry to get some. It has been raining every day. It hailed in P.V.

We received papers on Lady. Her father's name is Eric the Conqueror and her mother's name Katrina Black Beauty, and to think we gave her a common name like Lady. Lorrain McArthur had a massive heart attach. He isn't expected to make it. Jane and Rose Marie Batzki went to the movie. I read that it was rated G but it was PG Jane tried Scott's bedroom just one night and decided that wasn't for her like she had planned. I painted Joey's old bike and Jane rides it.

August 26, 1975

I sent more cookies to Scott. I over did it this time - sent enough for the whole LTM Scott sent his watch home to be repaired. Lorraine is getting a bit better. Hope his recovery continues. We didn't sell Lady because she just looked at me with those big brown eyes and I couldn't. Rudger built a run out in back and she is now trying to find a way to get out.

LoyAnn came to borrow Scott's bathing suit for a friend. Hope he doesn't mind. We had a family party at Pine Valley Sun. night. Cynthia's baby is in the hospital again.

September 4, 1975

We made a quick trip to Salt Lake City. Rudger had an appointment with the Governor for 15 minutes on Tuesday. I sat in the rotunda and watched folk dancing being performed by BYU students. It was just fun. They represented Polynesian, Oriental, America and Israel, all in native costume.

Jane has a Mr. Wilson for her teacher. She comes home for lunch. I singed her insurance papers and the cooler blew them onto the floor and the dog ate them. Sherie Stucki came to visit and brought me applesauce cookies. We visited about an hour. I love her. Maddie had her wisdom teeth out. She was miserable. Scott had his all out just before he left for his mission besides having his toe operated on. We took some tables up to Jackie and she didn't like them so she took them to Deseret Industries.

Rich Abbot asked about Scott while I was buying shoes and he said he is going on a mission in 4 months. He is giving up a scholarship to BYU until he returns. Scott lost 10 pounds. He must be nervous. Someone returned a box of stuff that they said belonged to Scott but I had never seen those things before. I used to have Scott scrub my kitchen floor but now I had to break down and do it.

Lady walked up to the garden. When she came back a skunk was following her. It frightened me so much. I called Lady and the skunk turned around and walked away and I let her without any interference. Jane came home and had a spelling test paper she had received 100% on it. I was very pleased.

Rudger collected the money from B & E today. I cannot believe it. \$15,849.93. I hope we can put that away for a rainy day. Don't mention it to a living soul. I mean that we received it.

September 14, 1975

The college kids are starting to come in. [Chatty Puff] rode in the beauty parade. Rena Dochstader said she is the only left of the old crowd at the drugstore We sold Lady to the Mrs. Watson across the street, Heather's mother. She is happier there romping with their collie/cat. We miss her a lot. She comes across the street often.

September 17, 1975

I bought steaks, \$1.98 a pound. Last night we cooked out on the grill but it isn't much fun with just 3 of us. I have fun when I go shopping visiting with all Scott's girl friends. Sent Scott some balloons and cinnamon rolls. Rudge took what was left to the office. Mike and Karen stopped by for a visit. He teaches 6 classes or periods at school.

September 25, 1975

Rudge is singing at the dedication for the temple. They picked 4 out of each ward choir. The dedication will be on the 18th of October. Jackie is coming down. Scott will leave soon for Italy. He is almost finished at the LTM. I dreamed last night that Scott came home to see us before going. We bought 2 shirts for Richard's birthday. We sent Kimberly some dolls for her birthday and material for curtains for Jackie's birthday.

September 29, 1975

Scott is having ulcers. I can't believe my Scott having problems. He used to get up at 5 and to bed at 12 and go without meals. It must be the tension. Hope he takes care. Scott was chosen to be a group leader on the plane to Italy, quite a responsibility. We went to Salt Lake and saw Scott off for Italy. His plane was a long time taking off and so we visited. George and Rose and their grandson, Viola, Lorin and LaVina and George and Jackie all came to see him off.

October 11, 1975

Halloween time. We had lots of little goblins. They tore up our driveway and connected us to the sewer across the street. What a mess. Dixie College Homecoming - they honored Liz, Bessie and Linna. They also dedicated the fountain on campus. We went to Overton to look for a house for Russ and Joey. Scott said he was gaining weight. Hope it isn't too much - must be eating too many grapes and pasta.

November 4, 1975

We will vote tomorrow for 3 city councilmen - John Whitney, Brent Snow, Mathis, Putnam and Ray Schmutz. I am going to vote for Putnam, Brent and Mathis. Russell decided not to move out. He is the one that has to be happy with his job even though we are very disappointed. We are still having like 76 degree weather. Richard is bringing Ellen down to stay until she has her baby. Jackie's birthday is tomorrow. Lula and Dean dropped in this morning. They visited for an hour. They had two large turtles they were taking to their grandchildren.

November 7, 1975

It is nice having Ellen with us. Karen and Mike invited us over for dinner. It was spaghetti and all the trimmings. It was good. Mary Phoenix sure likes Mike. Haven't heard from Scott for a while and I worry. I watch the mail every day.

We attended the dedication of the temple this morning, November 12, 7 a.m. It was so wonderful. Pres. Kimball was there with the other 2 members of the presidency, Tanner and Romney. It was held in the Priesthood Room - top room of the temple. The choir (Rudger in it) was outstanding. I have been walking with Ellen. The doctor recommended it for her.

November 13, 1975

It is fun to receive a letter from Scott. He has so many interesting things to tell us. He bought a bike and a watch

November 17, 1975

We went to Salt Lake. Rudger had a meeting. Jackie and George opened a thrift store something like Ashley's and they also sell their turquoise jewelry that George makes. Ellen is getting nervous but Dr. Booth said it wouldn't be very soon. Maddi came home from Kansas with an engagement ring. The fellow will go on a mission. Susan is getting Aunt Orpha's endowments done for her. Rudger is just now getting her estate settled.

It is warm weather for this time of year. We even spent some days in P.V. They have unloaded the pipe for the water system, another project Rudger spearheaded. I will be glad when the project is in. Scott has an Italian for his 1st companion. LoyAnn went on a mission to Norway. Roma and Hap were down. They borrowed our ladder and were not very pleased with it so they bought another and gave it to us.

Jane was out of school for deer hunt. We built a new fence in P.V., a log fence. Dick did his at the same time so the corner looks really good. Maddie sent 5 of her poems to the Era and got \$40.00 for them. Rudger and I have been putting aluminum siding on the house in P.V. Jane and I found a little tree with lights on it and so we sent it to Scott. I finished up the Christmas shopping. It is Stake Conference tomorrow. Rudger is singing in a special Priesthood choir. Mr. Fenton said he missed Scott a lot. Scott sure has a lot of friends. Everyone asks about him.

December 1, 1975

Ellen is walking everyday and I am glad for the exercise too. I don't think that baby will ever get here. A big house in Bloomington burned to the ground last night. A lot of vandalism in St. George - tipping over gravestones, breaking school windows. The Christmas lights are all up. It is cold finally with frost on the ground this late. We sent Scott some thermal underwear.

Bart and Kathy Larson moved today. They have been good neighbors. Hated to see them go. She cried a little. Bill Argyle still will live there. Rudger is singing in the Messiah again. Scott Gentry is conducting. The new pipeline should be finished in P.V. mid December, 1975. We have a new college pres., Dr. Kerr. Dr. Booth built a home on the hill.

Santa came to town today and one came to Kemp Corner and out to Sunshine Square. Maddie is bringing her beau home for Christmas. Ellen just left to see the Dr. I do hope she waits awhile and then Richard will be here. I don't know if I am chicken and don't want the responsibility or if I think it would be best. Ellen helped me rake leaves. Scott's room doesn't look the same with all these baby things. Ellen just wishes it would arrive soon. We purchased a flocked tree. We are going to decorate it in a day or two. We had a little of that white stuff this morning, Dec. 14th.

Mike and Karen came to visit but Karen can't sit long so they didn't stay. We went to Roene's Christmas sing a long and she said she missed Scott. We got Jane some shoe skates for her birthday. Ellen made cookies and froze them but we keep taking them out and eating them, even some of the fudge. I am still with the youth in Relief Society. I only have 6 or 7 at the most so isn't bad.

December 22, 1975

Ellen still hasn't had her baby and Jane had her birthday. We celebrated her birthday by going out for pizza. Rudger and I went to S. L. on the 18th. Ellen convinced me that she would be fine and the Dr. said she wasn't ready but we made it back in the nick of time. She was already having pains. And as a nice surprise Richard arrived just in time to take her own. The baby, Ryan Scot McArthur, 7 lb. 1 oz., 8:33 pm., Dec. 20. She got along fine.

I have to keep making fudge because Rudger keeps giving it away. I made one for Mr. Fenton. We had a super Christmas with the new baby and all. Jackie came down Christmas day. We picked her up in Fillmore. We played games. The kids had fun. George is in Hawaii. I have never seen so many wetting, sneezing -- the kids received dolls like that. Ellen's baby does the same thing but you can shake the dolls and get rid of the wet all at once.