

Hugo Memories

Marjorie Guisinger, Storyteller

Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

2000

My Hutton family, including my sister Vivian and I, arrived in Oregon via automobile (Model-Ts, 15 & 27) from North Dakota in 1928.

“Hugo Hi” (Hugo High School) was my best and most enjoyable Hi. My first year of Hi was at Merlin, Oregon and my second year was at Grants Pass, Oregon. I was a Hugo for my last two years. Earl Brown was the school teacher during my senior year at Hugo Hi. He was one of the finest teachers I ever had. I and all of my fellow students were well acquainted with Mr. Brown’s father who was called “Strawberry Brown” because he raised strawberries. He also played the fiddle at the local community dances. Earl’s brother, Orla, was 10 years younger than Earl and also a teacher.

Sister Vivian and I both graduated from Hugo Hi, Vivian in 1933 and me in 1934. There younger brother, Paul, was also a Hugo Hi graduate, perhaps 1938. The following are some of my wonderful memories.

As a single woman graduate of Hugo Hi my sister, Vivian, worked at “Hornings Shack” in Grants Pass. It was a confectionary store and ice cream parlor. Later Vivian married someone she and I had known from the time Vivian was fourteen years old. They were the same age. At 17 years old he became a Navy man and made it a career as he advanced to Chief Petty Officer. This was not his intention at the time he first enlisted. Vivian and her husband had two boys and a girl. And, of course, Vivian moved around a lot the first few years. Her youngest son died a few years ago and the eldest lives in Portland. Her daughter lives in the Medford area. Sisters Marjorie and Vivian stayed good friends down through the years.



Marjorie Hutton: 1934

Clarence Summers was Valedictorian in my graduating Hugo Hi class of 1934 and an expert at playing the trumpet. He and others of the Hugo group joined the Navy after graduation as there was not much work during the *Great Depression*. I believe that Clarence is deceased.

There is a large house on the south side of Grants Pass, Oregon (or there was several years ago) that had the name “Carol Brown” across the upper front of it in bold letters. Vivian and I did not know it was the Carol they knew that had attended Hugo Hi, but they later heard through the grape-vine that it was. The place was a test station of some sort. Carol is still living and would be about 85 years old.

My brother, Paul Guisinger, graduated from Hugo Hi around 1938. His sister Vivian was in Grants Pass working and I was married when he was a senior. As a youngster Paul was very interested in radios and airplanes and later had his own radio shop and plane.

At one time he was employed with the Minnesota Mining Company in Chicago where he was involved in inventing of different kinds.

Paul sold his plane, but for relaxation and outings he would occasionally rent one. He rented one in the fall of 1958, but never returned. It is believed that he went down in the Great Lakes or vicinity. An extensive search was made, but he was never found. This was a very stressful time for the Guisinger clan for many years.

I, Marjorie Alvian Hutton, graduated from Hugo Hi May 22, 1934. The senior graduating class roll was:

John William Case
Marjorie Alvina Hutton
Willamae Muetzel
Vera Juanita Ramsey
Clarence G. Sommers

Class Motto — “Not the end, but the beginning”

Class Colors — “Lavender and ‘White”

Class Flower — “Sweet Peas”

I will be 84-years old August 20, 2000. My husband will be 90-years old July 10, 2000. He is still in good health, much better than I who recently have been in a wheel chair a good bit of the time. However, I am still up and about. We miss you.

Walker, Michael L. February 25, 2000. *Hugo Memories -- Marjorie Alvina (Hutton) Guisinger*. Hugo Historical Society. Hugo, OR.