

Doretta Rose Clifford Kelley

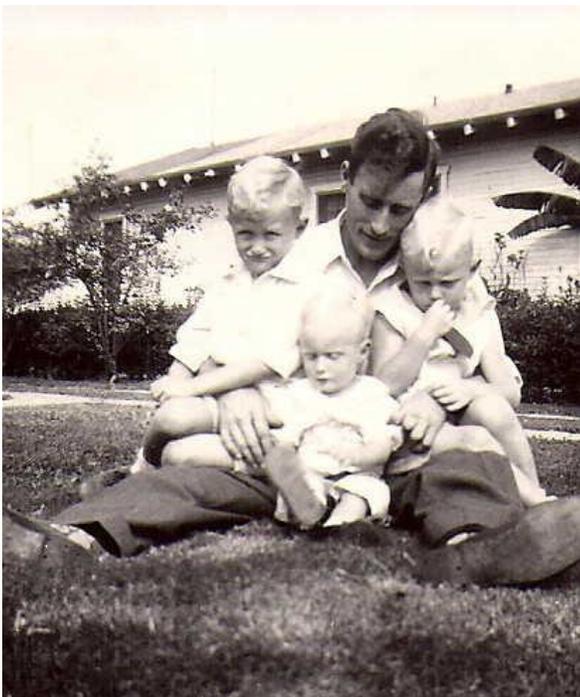
1930–2023

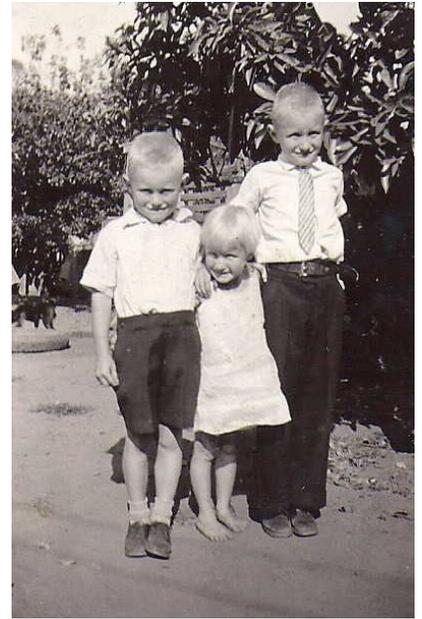
Doretta Rose Clifford was born on October 5, 1930, in Artesia, California. Her father, Walter, was 33, and her mother, Alice, was 25.

The family lived at 2960 Beechwood Ave. Lynwood, California



Doretta had 2 older brothers, Robert Lee and Jay B. Clifford. Her family called her "Sis." Her nieces & nephews called her "Aunty Sis" or just "Aunty"





Early Childhood Residences

Jan 1931-1933: 103 Park St. Alhambra, California

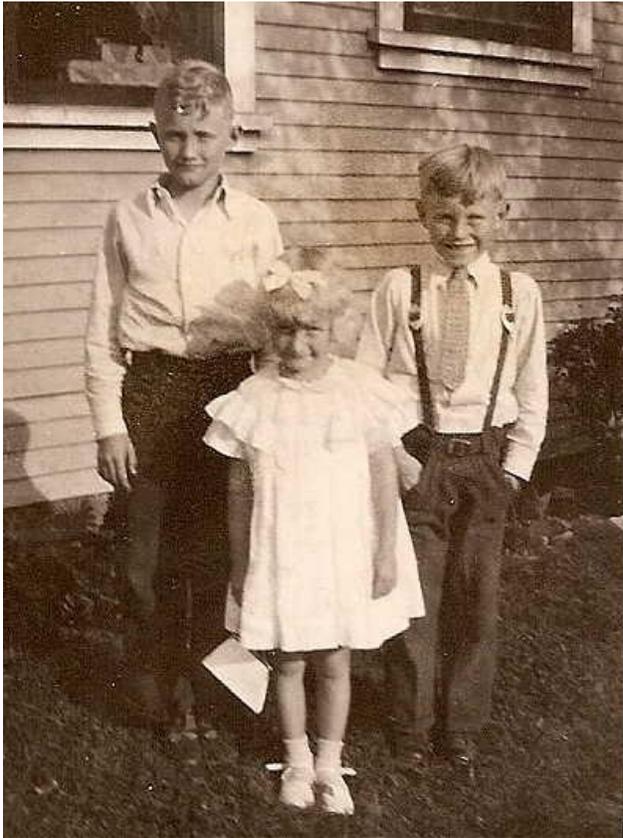
1934-1935: 1603 Chestnut St, Alhambra, Los Angeles, California, USA

1936-1937: 645 S. Meridian, Emery Park, Alhambra, Los Angeles, California, USA (Where Doretta started to school)

1938-1954: 1525 S. Marengo Ave, Alhambra, Los Angeles, California, USA. She lived at this home until she married.



Sunday School Graduation



The Cliffords

Walter & Alice, Robert, Jay B & Doretta

Players



Doretta on the left. She was supposed to be the one to ride on the float, but the daughter of the man who built the float got to, instead.

PUPIL'S NAME Doretta Clifford

ATTENDANCE

	First Report	Second Report	Third Report	Fourth Report
Total Days	45	41	43	49
Days Absent	0	0	0	0
Times Tardy	0	0	0	0

Each absence, however short, interferes with the child's progress.

SUBJECTS TAUGHT

	First Report	Second Report	Third Report	Fourth Report
English <i>CREATIVE</i>	✓	✓		
Language	✓	✓	✓	✓
Spelling	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reading & Lit.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Handwriting	✓	✓	✓	✓
Social Studies	✓	✓	✓	✓
Science	✓	✓	✓	✓
Arithmetic	✓	✓	✓	✓
Art	✓	✓	✓	✓
Music	✓	✓	✓	✓
Phys. Education	✓	✓	✓	✓
Practical Arts	✓	✓	✓	✓

Explanation of Marks

"✓" does work which a child of his ability should do.
 "✓ ✓" a child of his ability could do better.

THIRD REPORT: *Doretta has certainly improved in regards to talking unnecessarily. She is most enjoyable in every way.*

Rose C. Clayton
 Teacher *Lois Evid Will*

FOURTH REPORT: *Doretta is a fine worker. She completes her assignments quickly and excellently. Works beautifully without supervision.*

Assignment for next term is grade B⁸
Lois Evid Will
 Teacher
Rose C. Clayton
 Principal

PARENTS SIGNATURE

First Quarter *Miss W. L. Clifford*
 Second Quarter *Miss W. L. Clifford*
 Third Quarter *Miss W. L. Clifford*
 Fourth Quarter *Miss W. L. Clifford*

TEACHER'S COMMENTS

FIRST REPORT: *Doretta does fine work, but she is just a little too "social" in class lately. I hope this will be taken care of by her immediately.*

Lois Evid Will
 Teacher

Rose C. Clayton

SECOND REPORT: *Doretta still talks but I'm inclined to think it's about lessons. She enters well into classroom activities -*

Assignment for second semester is grade 7A

Lois Evid Will
 Teacher

Rose C. Clayton
 Principal

Form 10-3000-6-32

Alhambra City School District

Alhambra, California

1942 - 1943

Report of

Doretta Clifford

Marguerita School

Grade B7-A7 Term Ending June 19, 1943

Dear Parents or Guardians:

By means of education we are endeavoring to develop clear and independent thinking, clean moral and physical habits, strong, healthy bodies — in short, the finest and highest type of mental, moral, and physical equipment that can go into the building of American citizens.

The school cannot accomplish the task alone; neither can the home. By close and friendly cooperation of both school and home, however, we can come nearer to the goal we have set.

Cooperation, to be most helpful, must depend upon knowledge, and the understanding of conditions. A cordial invitation is extended to parents to visit the school at any time.

GEO. E. BETTINGER,
 Superintendent.

Doretta "is just a little to "social"" In 7th grade!!



Uncle Bob and Uncle Jay remind me of Bruce & Eric in this photo!



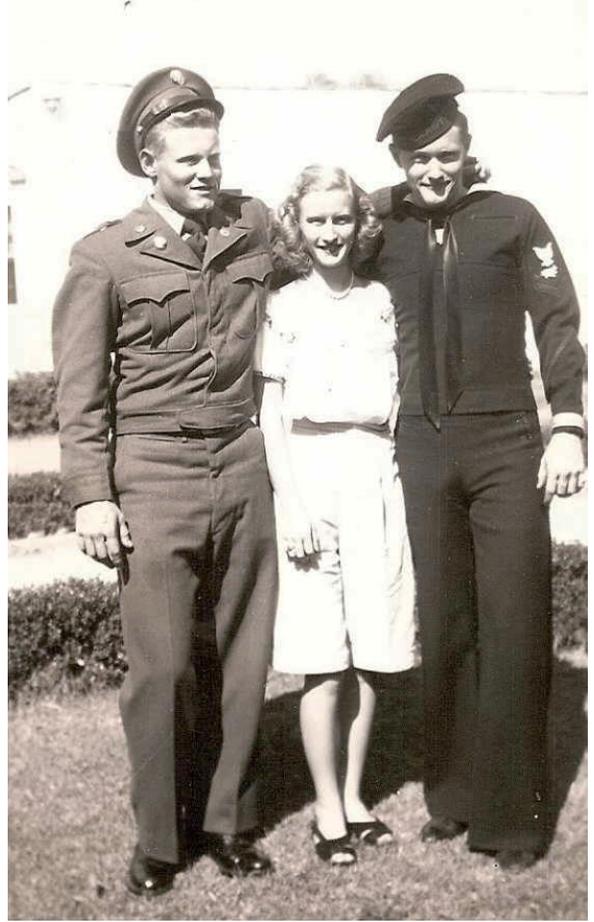
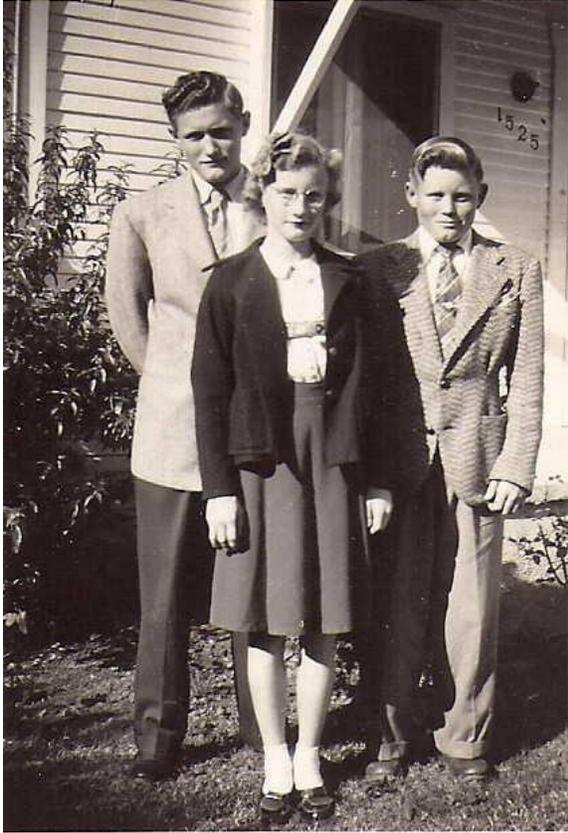
Girl Scouts



Doretta and Jay B on their way home from a summer visiting relatives in Kansas.



Doretta and their dog, Mitzi.





Norma and Sharon Miller; Alice and Doretta Clifford



A beautiful young woman...

**(I believe her brother sent her the robe
from overseas.)**





Doretta Rose Clifford graduated from Alhambra City High School on 17 June 1948

She earned a Bachelor's of Business Administration from Woodbury College in Aug. 1950; she had pledged with Eta Tau Gamma Sorority.



Alhambra Girl Award Winner

Doretta Clifford, an executive secretarial major at Woodbury College, Los Angeles, was awarded a gold pin and certificate for superior penmanship in the International Gregg Shorthand Contest sponsored by Gregg Writer, New York City.

Miss Clifford is the daughter of Mr. W. F. Clifford, 1525 So. Marengo, Alhambra.

Tri High YMCA

Before she graduated college, her parents had purchased a restaurant. She hated working there! Doretta worked in Los Angeles for Raymond O. Perry, who had an advertising agency. After graduating, she worked as a Secretary/Stenographer for Merle J. Grindle, Reporting & Abstract Company (A Private Investigator for missing heirs). She said she would go into the courthouse to get information on deceased individuals and then send out form letters to their heirs.

Doretta had decided to go back to school "probably to be a teacher" when she met Dean D. Kelley in a Psychology class, at East LA Junior College. She had applied to Santa Barbara College, but decided to wait to see if he asked her to marry him before deciding not to go.

Engagement Party!



They would often go dancing to the "Big Bands" while they were dating and go up to "The Ice House" in the San Gabriel Mountains.





Dean and Doretta were married on 26 June 1954 at the Methodist Church in Monterey Park, California.





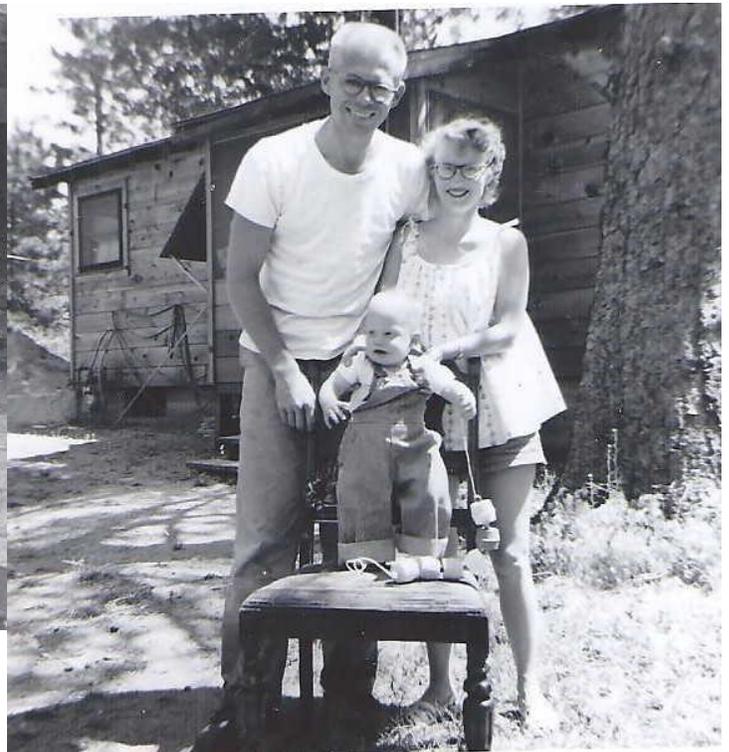
Sepulveda California



Doretta & Glenn Kelly



They first lived at 1300-D Fremont Ave, Alhambra. In 1956-1957; then lived at 9702 Colchester Dr., Anaheim. They moved to Granada Hills the day that Jay was born with the help of her parents & Jay B. They rented for a few months at 9953 Norwich Ave. near Sepulveda Blvd before moving to 10820 Dempsey, Ave. Doretta worked as a secretary for Monsanto Chemical in 1958.



Young Love
& Baby Bruce



A growing family!





**Doretta & Dean with their children, Bruce Dean, Eric Brent,
Jay Darrell, & Dana Sue Kelley**

*A memory that keeps coming back to me is when she sang
"You are my Sunshine" to me while driving in the car. —It
made me feel special!--- Her daughter and author of this
biography, Dana Sue Kelley Bressette.*



Above: Bob & Pat Clifford, Dean & Doretta Kelley, Jay and Peggy Clifford.

Left: Doretta & family with Grandma Kelley

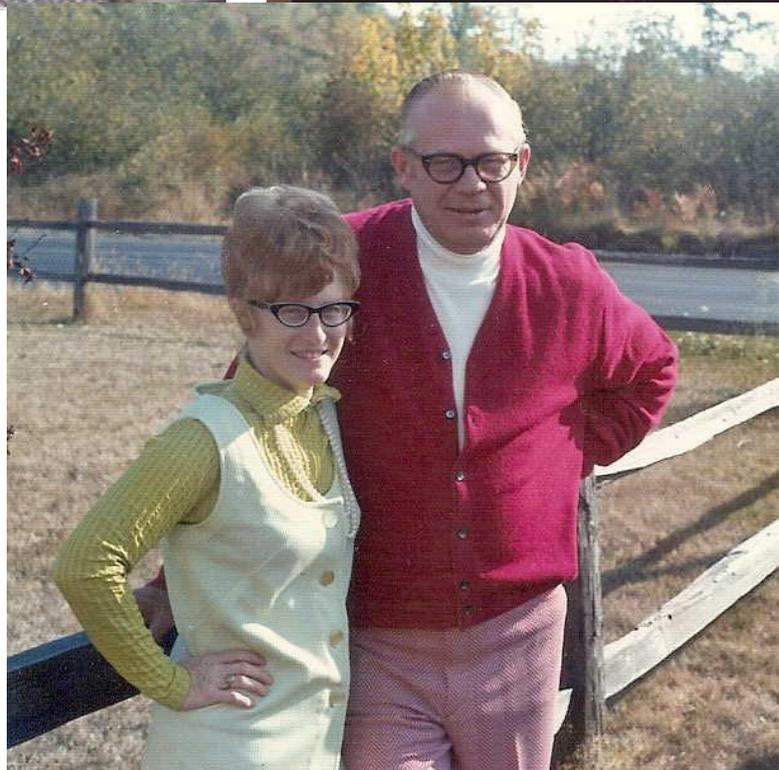


The family lived at 68 Westbury St., Thousand Oaks, California from 1964-1967.

The family moved briefly to Charlotte, North Carolina for 9 months (1967-1968).



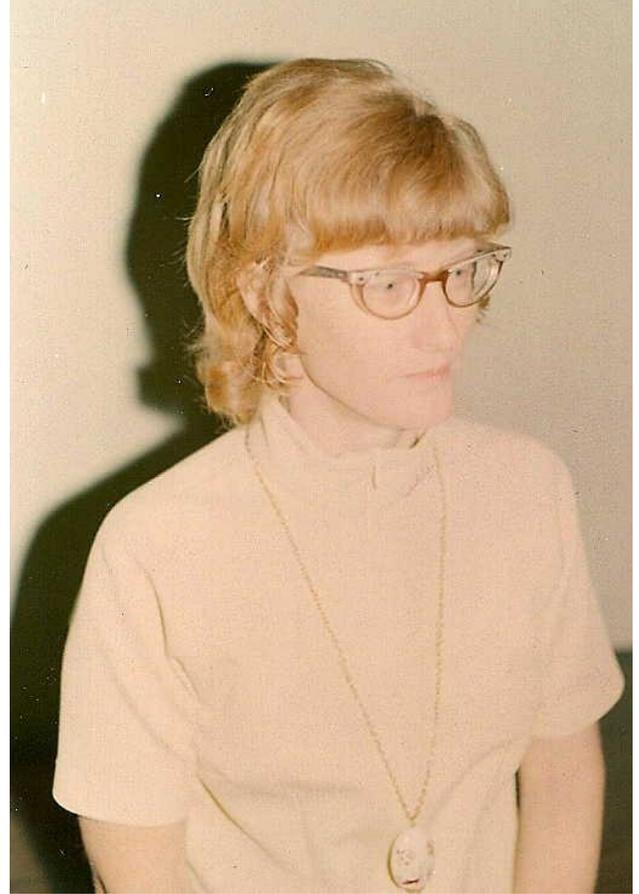
They travelled across the U.S. in a travel trailer to the Pacific Northwest. They lived briefly in the trailer at Forest Grove, Oregon before buying Property in LaCenter, Washington



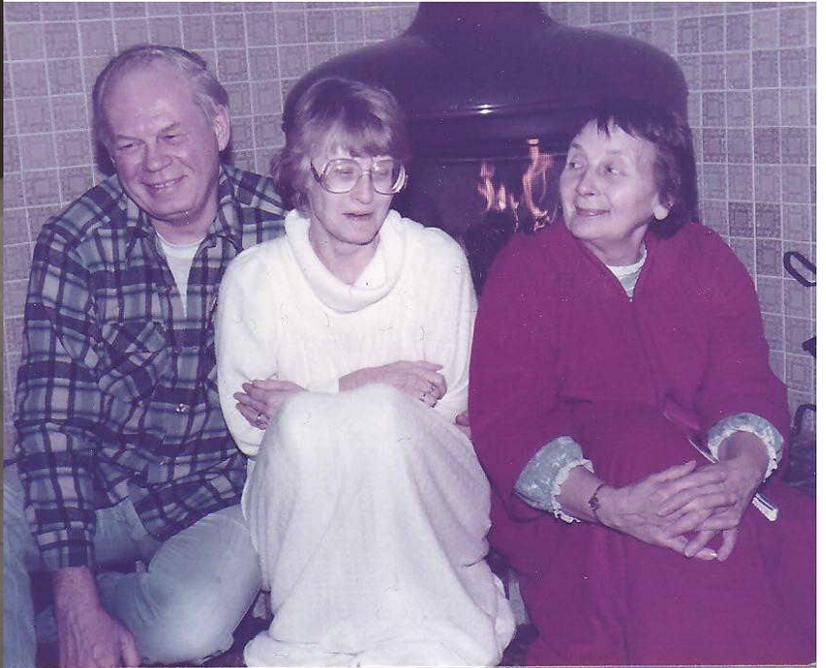
Doretta went to work as a Secretary at Pacific Wood Treating in Richfield, WA when her oldest child, Bruce, started College. She started nursing school at Lower Columbia College in Longview but could not finish when Dean got transferred in his job to Tacoma.

They moved to 5016 96th Ave W. in University Place (Tacoma).

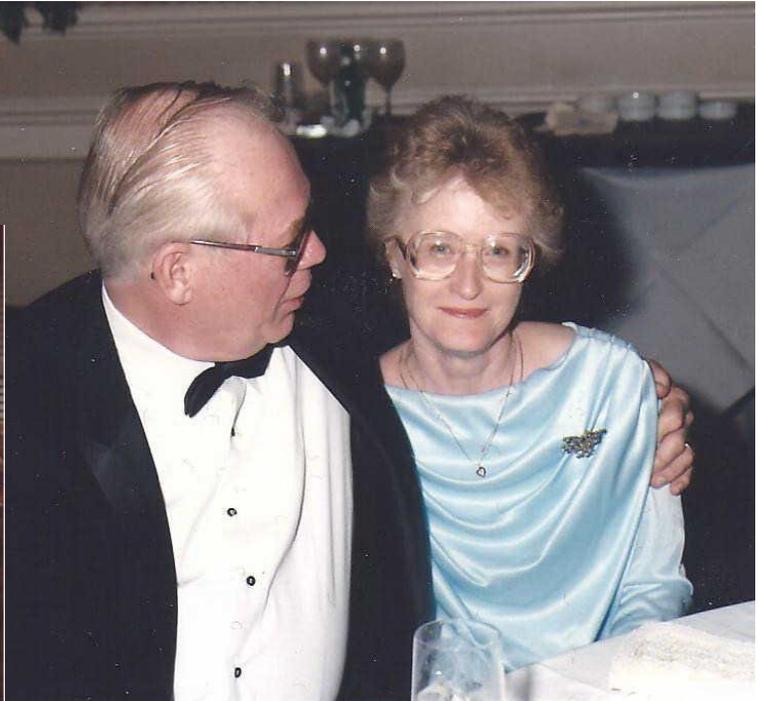




Doretta worked as a secretary in the Education Department at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tacoma, when Jay and Dana were both in college.



Doretta & Dean with Peggy Thome, the wife of a colleague.

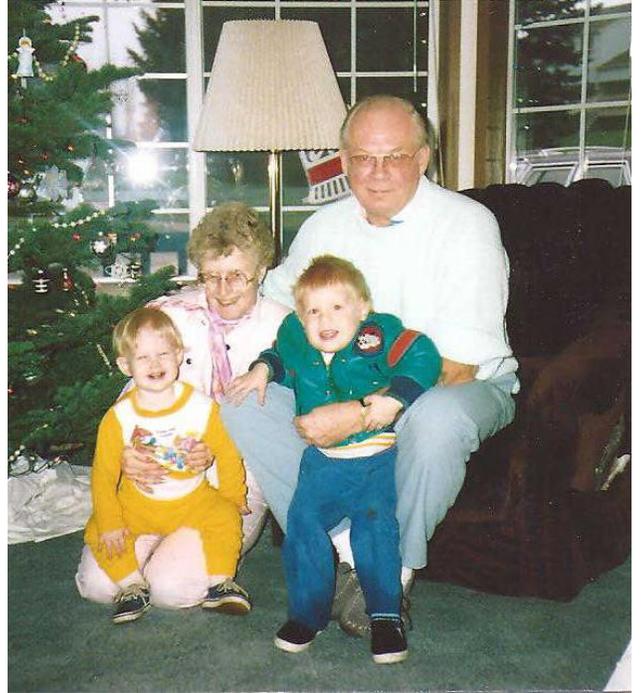
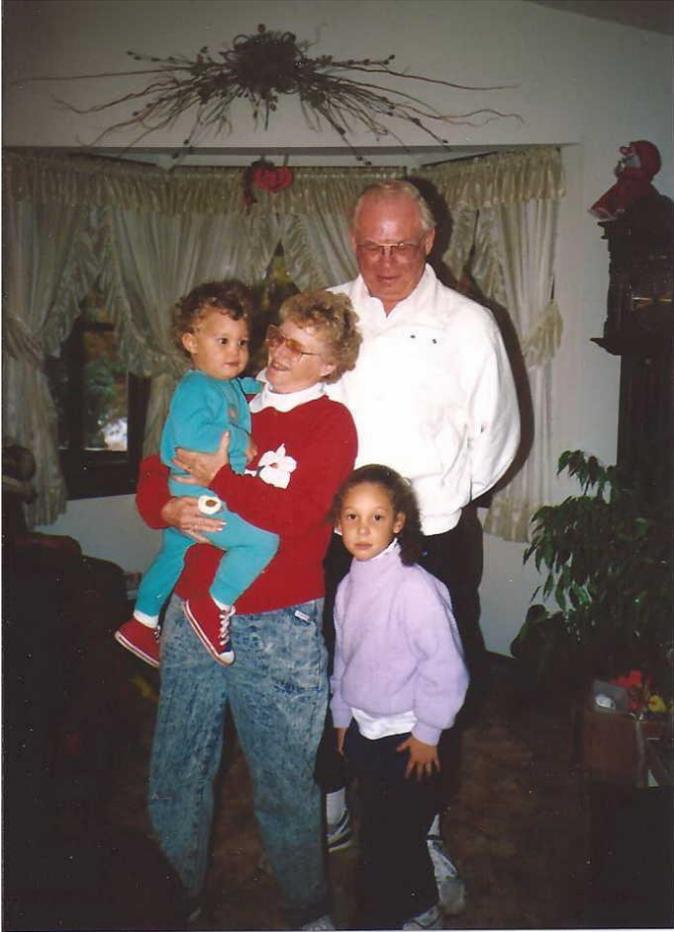


Doretta always supported Dean and often accompanied him on work trips.



Dean and Doretta purchased a time share at Eagle Crest near Bend, Oregon where they would entertain friends and golf!





**Doretta &
Dean enjoyed
all their
grandkids!**



Doretta & Dean moved to 904 N Frace St. in Tacoma at the Highlands Golf Course. There they divided their retirement years between golfing, genealogy, travelling & enjoying their grandkids!



Doretta brought her mother, Alice Clifford, up to Tacoma to care for her. But had to move her into a care facility when Doretta was diagnosed with breast cancer and had to take care of herself.





Dean & Doretta enjoyed taking cruises and other trips.





Their family continued to grow....

Christmas at Dana's in 2003.





Grandson Sky as Harry Potter!



Dean & Doretta moved to Merrill Gardens Retirement Home in Gig Harbor in 2003.





As Dean's health became too difficult for Doretta to manage, he was moved to Sweet Home Care in Battleground, closer to Bruce. Doretta initially lived in an apartment in Battleground but was much happier when she moved to Orchard Place retirement home in Vancouver. Later she moved to Mallard Landing Assisted Living in Battleground.



Doretta & great-grandsons, Aiden & Connor.





Doretta went on vacation with Dana and Ed to Crater Lake.



Doretta and her adult children



The Covid pandemic was very difficult for Doretta. She had started having memory issues and didn't understand why she was stuck alone in her room at Mallard Landing. She started doing walk-about looking for her car which she hadn't owned for several years.

That facility could no longer care for her, so it was decided that she move in with Eric in Port Orchard in 2020. Dana would bring her to her house once a week to give Eric a break. She stayed with Eric for about a year and a half when it became too difficult for Eric to care for her.

We moved her to Olympic Alzheimer's in Gig Harbor in January 2022, (which was subsequently bought out by Greenlake Senior Living.)



Doretta loved cats. She had had cats since she was 3 years old. Here she is enjoying Dana's cats.



Doretta passed peacefully on 22 July 2023 at Greenlake Senior Living in Gig Harbor.



Her ashes will be laid to rest at Mount Zion Cemetery, La Center, Clark County, Washington, USA Next to her husband, Dean Darrell Kelley, who passed on June 5, 2012.

Condolence Messages from friends & family:

- **“She was a lovely person.”** --Pam Bressette
- **“Sending a big hug to all the Kelly's. So many wonderful memories of your Mom.”** --Kim Ransier
- **“Sending angels to comfort you and your family.”** -- Anna M. (Clifford) Allen (She also bought a memorial tree for her.)
- **“I have so many great memories of your family. I wish we all could have lived closer and had even more. You and your brothers are the living proof of what a great mom she was.”** -- Kenneth Kelley
- **So sorry for your loss. You were such a faithful daughter to her. I will cherish the memories. Love you.** --Carolyn Cornett Ayers
- **“I’m so sorry Dana, such a hard thing to go through. Give her a kiss and a hug for me. Much love to you and Auntie.”** --Robin Clifford Atchinson