



Violet

April 19, 1912 - April 8, 1982

Canada

Alfred Pedde

***Mervyn
Louella
Arnold
Jeanette
Gerald
Audrey
John
Robert***

MERVYN PEDDE

Alfred and Violet Pedde, my parents, were married in 1932 and began to work and raise a family on a half section of land, living in an old house to begin, and then later building a new two room "shanty." By the time Dad built an extension, there were already four or five kids in the family. Where did we all sleep in a one bedroom house? The original house with the extension is shown in the picture of all of us (taken about 1948). That house was later moved to the Egan Laube property, where it was turned into a workshop.

When we added the extension to the original "shanty", Grandma and Grandpa Klause came to live with us. We all ate together around the kitchen table, all twelve of us. There was always the dread that by the time the meat plate got to you, it would be empty! We didn't have much variety, but never did go hungry. Mom often made potato pancakes for all of us. Can you see the platter of pancakes for twelve hungry people? We didn't have electricity, so all perishable foods were canned when they couldn't be frozen by Jack Frost. We would often bury meat in the grain during the winter, or later we graduated to having an ice house. Large blocks of ice were hauled out of the river and covered with sawdust or wood shavings in a small house. The ice even helped us to make home made ice cream once in a while. Yummy!

We all went to Whitesand School, which was about two and one-half miles north of the farm. If we didn't ride with the cousins, Alvin, Gladi and Ken, we would walk, or when we were old enough, we took our own buggy or cutter in the winter. During the winter, the snow banks were often so high that even the horses had difficulty getting through. Once in a while, the cutter or sleigh would tip over and all of us would land up in the snow. When we got to school in the cold weather, we often all stood around the big wood burning stove to stay warm. We probably had to take turns at that, because there were up to fifty kids in grades one to nine in that one room school, with one teacher.

Needless to say, most teachers didn't last more than one year. One particular year, we had three different teachers! We sat in double desks and were often paired with older students so that they could help us with our work. We did have fun at recess, playing *pump pump all away*, *five hundred*, *cricket*, *hop scotch*, *knife*, and assorted other activities, especially behind the barn. In the winter, we dug some large caves in the big snowdrifts nearby, or cleared off patches of ice on the Dutz slough, where we played hockey with our home made sticks and horse pucks!

Dad had a few "firsts" in the neighborhood. That shiny new John Deere AR that he purchased with some cash and four horses, was a first. Of course, that meant we needed some implements that were pulled by a tractor - a "one-way", 12' cultivator, and later, an eight foot pull-type combine. That meant we needed a 12' swather and a grain auger (before we had that auger, we scooped the grain from the wagon box into the grain bin!) We were definitely in competition with Uncle Ted's threshing machine, but before long, Dad was doing harvesting for a lot of neighbors. But, an eight foot combine wasn't big enough, so Dad bought the first self propelled combine to be used in our area, so then custom combining really started in earnest. We graduated to a three-quarter ton truck to haul the grain. Wow, it would haul about a hundred bushels of wheat on one load!

For a number of years, we harvested well into November to help out the neighbors and to make some extra income for our family. Before the combines started to be used, most of us cousins worked for Uncle Ted and his threshing crew. The team and labor of our own blistered hands earned us the sum of fifty cents an hour, while the machine was running. In order to earn four bucks a day, we got up as early as six, and worked until as late as eight. An early breakfast, coffee and sandwiches about mid morning, a big dinner, coffee and sandwiches again in the mid afternoon, and then a big supper about seven or eight, delighted our stomachs.

As a family, we were poor, but we always had food to eat, clothing to wear, and big feather ticks to keep us warm at night. We were always happy to receive big "care" bags from Uncle Cleve and Aunt Mary. When they came to visit, they would also bring a lot of things for us. Our cousins in California were in the U.S. military, so Uncle Cleve sent us their used "army" clothes and boots. We would often go to school with boots that were too big, parkas that were too big, but always had fur trimmed hoods and a lot of military crests. Maybe the other kids were jealous, because they told us that we could be put in jail because we were wearing these American military clothes. Thank you, U.S. cousins! You kept us warm in winter. Can you remember how impressed we were with Uncle Cleve's Studebaker?

We didn't have many toys, but did take good care of the ones we had, and made up a lot of games to entertain us. That first set of Tinker Toys was so special! All boys had to have a jack knife and so we developed a game in which we went through a series of skillful tricks to beat our opponent. How many of us used a piece of stick to propel an old, used tire down the road? Or, if we had a larger tire, we would take turns crawling into it and have someone roll us along. As kids, we trapped weasels and muskrats and the odd skunk, but after skinning one of them, we gave that up! Often, we set wire snares for jack rabbits and then skinned them and stretched them. Fifty cents for a good rabbit skin, but up to five dollars for a good, big weasel was always welcome income.

In the winter, we took our sleigh box to the Cussed Creek, chopped a hole in the ice, tipped the box over the hole and then did our ice fishing for the jackfish that were in that creek. What excitement to lie on some straw under that box and watch as the fish approached our hook, and then bit it. That creek also provided fishing fun in the summer. Mom always told us that unless we could bring home a dozen fish for one meal for the family, we were not to bring any. When we finally got some old skates, we used to skate for what seemed like miles on ice and over rocks in the winter.

Who can forget the berry picking that we did? On the far side of the farm was a place that produced beautiful saskatoons and chokecherries. We would walk there with our small buckets and washtubs and pick what seemed like bushels of berries. Then, we had to carry them all the way home. Then came the really boring task of "picking them over" to remove anything that wasn't palatable. Mom canned dozens of quarts of saskatoons each year and made jam, as well as chokecherry jelly.

A BIG garden was always necessary on our farm. We had three gardens, with one large one always planted to potatoes. When harvest time came, we always dug those taters with a fork, picked them into buckets, loaded them into a wagon box and then emptied those three or four wagon loads into our cellar. Talk about hard work! But, those potatoes lasted us until the next crop was ready. We also grew mangels, a type of beet which we cut up and fed to the milk cows during the winter. That required the same process as the potatoes. Mom and Dad always made barrels of sauerkraut. Those large cabbages that were part of the garden had to be shredded with a special shredder and then salted in containers. At our house, there was always a 45 gallon wooden barrel standing in the corner of the kitchen, filled with that good kraut. In addition, Mom used ten and fifteen gallon crocks for more sauerkraut and also made dill pickles in them. The contents of the barrel and the crocks were always weighted down with a board and a stone. Of course, we had carrots, beets, turnips and parsnips in the cellar, as well. It took a lot of produce to feed our family!

Dad was also a beekeeper. Farmers grew acres of white sweet clover, which provided excellent clear honey. During the war, sugar was rationed, so honey was in big demand. Remember those blue honey pails with the picture of a bee hive on the side? We filled hundreds of them. Days when we extracted the honey were always a challenge, because we had the extractor in the house and the bees didn't like having their delicious food taken away, so they "swarmed" the house. Many of us got more stings than Dad did as he removed the frames from the hives. The bee hives were kept through the winter in our cellar, which was darkened so the bees stayed inactive. We fed them sugar water, but because sugar was rationed, we were able to get special coupons allowing us to buy extra sugar for that purpose. We had more sugar than we needed!

A favorite activity for all of the neighbors was to get together at the Carl Dutz home for a "feather bee." The idea was that we all sat at long tables and "stripped" feathers so they could be used for pillows and the big feather ticks. The kids soon tired of such a dull activity, so we turned to other activities away from the tables. However, when Mrs. Dutz brought out the big trays of apple strudel, we were right there for our part of the feast. Delicious! Another favorite at the Dutz place was the wiener roasts we had there. After dark, the big teepee-shaped pile of wood was lit and soon there was a bright, roaring fire. When the fire died down a little, we would roast the wieners or sausages that were available for us all. We washed that all down with large amounts of orange cider. There was also the odd piece of strudel at these events. Thank you, Dutz family!

The valley church had a significant impact on our lives. That probably all started with Grandma. She would sit in the kitchen of our home and with the light of the gas lantern, would read her big German Bible to us. She would often spell out and sound out the words that she didn't recognize by sight, but would persevere and often remind us about the consequences of the wrong things we did in our lives. Playing any card games or playing pool were certainly mentioned often as two "sins" that would surely land us in hell. Then when Sunday came, we were expected to go to church. Because we lived only about a mile from the church, some of us were hired to go a little early to start a fire in the wood stove in the winter. We had to be paid, of course, and were delighted to get that quarter, or even a dime, for our responsibility.

Those days remind me of the scripture verses that we were expected to memorize. Each of us received a little stamp-sized sticker with a verse on it for "memory work" for the week. Many of those scriptures are still part of my faith today. While at that time, church was an activity in which we had to participate, it was the beginning of a relationship with Christ that continues to this day. Thank you to Reverend McRae and all the Sunday School teachers we had, for your service and for the opportunity to say that "Great is Thy Faithfulness", even to this day.

Good times and bad. Happy times and sad. Good memories, and others we'd rather forget. Through it all, we learned that hard work and perseverance has it's reward. If we could, would we choose that history again? Probably not. Did it hurt us? No, it made us stronger and more able to meet the challenges of life. Thank you to all who had a part in making up our family history and destiny.



Bertha and daughter, Violet



Violet and Alf Pedde's Family
Back row: Arnold, Mervyn, Alf, Robert,
Violet, Louella
Front: Gerald, John, Audrey, Jeanette



Taken in 1940
Louella, Mervyn, Arnold



Jeanette, Gerald, Louella
Audrey, Robert, John

MERVYN LEROY PEDDE

Mervyn Leroy Pedde: born March 5, 1933

Married Erma Caroline Johnston (May 4, 1933) on July 10, 1954

Address: 103, 10915 - 21 Avenue, Edmonton, Ab. T6J 6X2

Phone: (780) 466-0695

Children: David Johnston Pedde - born January 6, 1959

Married Deborah Sue Argue (Dec. 12, 1960) on June 19, 1981

Children: Devin Michael Pedde, born May 20, 1985

Garrett David Pedde, born April 5, 1988

Brennan James Pedde, born October 28, 1991

Taylor Justin Pedde, born March 11, 1994

Alannah Michelle Pedde, born September 12, 1998

Address: 10581 Golden Eagle Trail, Woodbury, MN. 55129

Phone: (651) 730-4113

Donald Cameron Pedde - born December 18, 1960

Married Catherine Ann Jankovsky (July 20, 1957) on February 23, 1985

Children: David Andrew Pedde, born August 2, 1985

Robyn Daniel Pedde, born March 23, 1990

Address: 10502 - Resthaven Dr., Sidney, B.C. V8L 3H7

Phone: (250) 655-1342

Darrell Mervyn Pedde - born July 20, 1963

Married Conny Hannelore Meyer (June 12, 1963) on August 6, 1983

Children: Ryan Taylor Pedde, born October 23, 1986

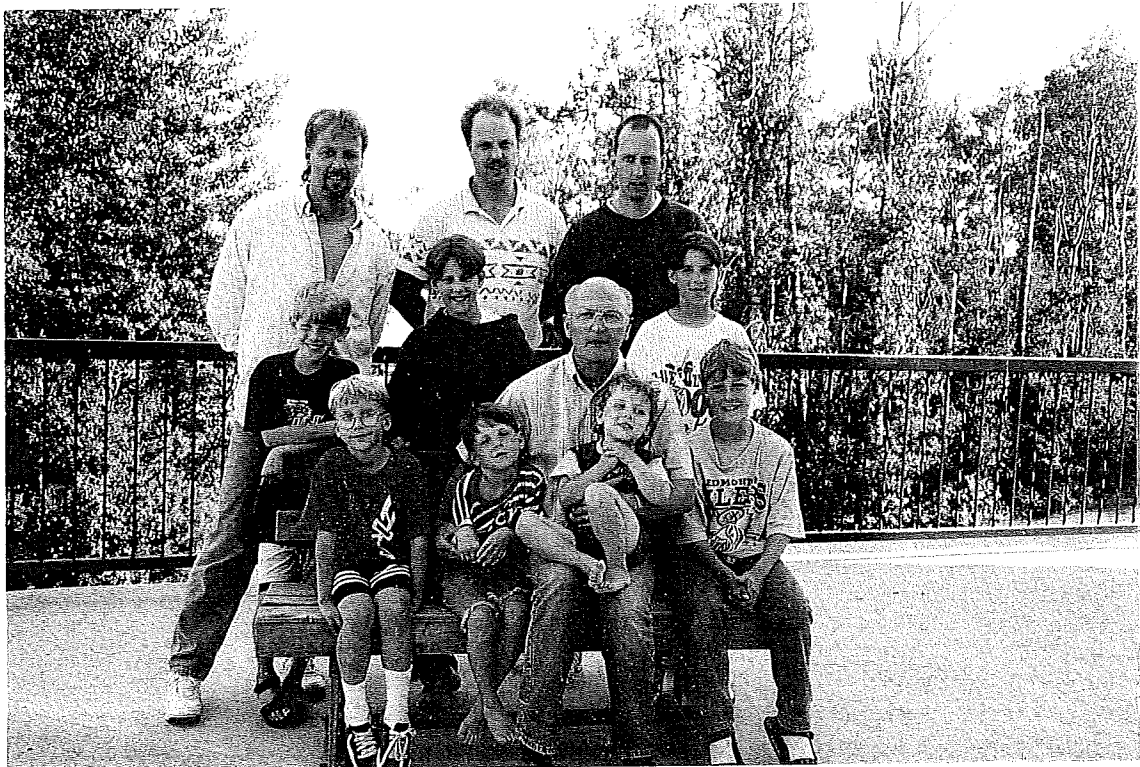
Amanda Leah Pedde, born September 18, 1989

Address: 258 Jackson Road, Edmonton, Ab. T6L 6N6

Phone: (780) 440-0026



Mervyn's Family: Back row: left to right - Merv, David, Donald, Darrell, Erma
 Middle: left to right - Debbie, David, Cathy, Devin, Ryan, Garnet, Conny
 Front: Alannah, Robin-Daniel, Amanda, Erma's sister, Harriet, Brennan, Taylor



Merv's "Boys" Back row: left to right - David, Darrell, Donald
 Middle row: Garrett, David, Merv, Devin
 Front row: Robyn-Daniel, Brennan, Taylor, Ryan

LOUELLA (PEDDE) JOYCE

Louella Faith Pedde was born August 9, 1934. Following high school at Springside, Sask., moved to Regina and worked as a government Telephone Operator for one year, and then entered Nurses' training at Regina General Hospital, graduating in 1956.

Married Russell Alfred Joyce in May of 1956. Russ was an Orderly at Regina General Hospital and later worked on highway construction. Three children were born - Cheryl Ann and Sharon Lynn were born October 14, 1956. Sharon died 36 hours after birth of a hyalin membrane on her lung. Kathryn Maureen was born on January 5, 1958 at Regina, Sask.

The family then moved to Maidstone, Sask. in January, 1958, where Russ was working on highway construction and Louella worked at the local hospital. In December, 1958, a move was made to Saskatoon, Sask., where Russ went to work for Meyer's Construction and Louella worked at Saskatoon City Hospital.

Two more children, Brian Russell Alfred, born July 4, 1960, and Heather Dawn, born September 21, 1961, joined the family. Early in 1963, Russ went to B.C. to look for year-round work and Louella and children followed in June of that year and settled in Kitimat, B.C., where both found work immediately - Russ at Alcan smelter and Louella at the hospital. Ten years later, the family moved to Prince George, B.C., where Russ took a position in the camera dept. of the Woodward's store and Louella went to work at the hospital. Russ went on to own his own store, *Spruceland Cameras*, until 1985 when he retired. Louella continued to work at Prince George Regional Hospital until retiring in 1994.

During retirement years, Russ set up a woodworking shop and spent many happy hours making and selling a wide variety of novelty items. Unfortunately, due to his health (he has advanced emphysema) he has had to give up the woodworking, but has been doing some chip carving. Louella continues her love of sewing and quilt making and also enjoys hardanger, Brazilian and ribbon embroidery and needle tatting.

Children

1. Cheryl Ann trained as a practical nurse at Prince George Regional Hospital and worked there for several years. She married Monte Chew in August, 1976. Monte was employed by B.C. Telephones. Cheryl currently lives in Brackendale, B.C., and is employed as a speech and hearing aide at Squamish, B.C. Cheryl and Monte were divorced in 1983. Cheryl loves animals and has had quite a collection of horses, goats, rabbits, chickens, turkeys, dogs and cats. She also enjoys quilting and scrapbooking.

Their children:

Graham Michael was born April 30, 1979, and currently resides in Vancouver and works as an industrial painter for a firm that manufactures large generators, the type that hospitals use.

Stephanie Ann was born March 6, 1981 and is currently living in Prince George and works with her Aunt Kathy at "Home Away From Home", a home based business.

2. Kathryn Maureen has been employed at Prince George Regional Hospital since 1978 and is currently supervisor in the dispatch department. Her partner, Larry Schmidt, works as a heavy duty mechanic at Coast Tractor in Prince George. They have started a home based business, "Home Away From Home", renting out motor homes and tent trailers. They have no children.

3 . Brian Russell Alfred has held a few short term positions, including working at Spruceland Cameras with his Dad. He got his steam engineer certificate and has been working at Prince George Pulp and Paper Mill for the past 12 years and is hoping for an apprenticeship as an Instrumentation Mechanic. Brian loves the outdoors and fishing, summer and winter.

4. Heather Dawn started work in an office while she was still in high school. She got a job with The Pas Lumber Co. shortly after high school and is currently employed there as an assistant accountant. She married Mark Landry in 1984 and they have three children. Mark and Heather were divorced. Heather has started a home based business specializing in custom Data solutions email: kis-software@shaw.ca.

Their children:

Christopher Nelson, born October 11, 1983, has graduated and is currently employed by the Bear Lake division of The Pas Lumber Co. He has pursued his love of hockey by starting to play at an early age to the present time. He loves to go fishing and is interested in woodworking.

Michelle Dawn, born January 29, 1986, is currently attending high school, hoping for a career in Corrections. She is quite musical and loves to dance. She is joining the Junior Symphony as a piccolo player. She is also a novice quilter.

Jennifer Lee, born January 29, 1986, is currently attending high school and is hoping for a career in the medical profession as a paramedic. She is working toward getting her lifeguard certificate and has always enjoyed diving and swimming. She has an interest in sewing, as well.



Back row: Brian Joyce, Kathy Joyce, Cheryl Chew, Christopher Landry
Second row: Michelle Landry, Stephanie Chew, Jennifer Landry, Heather Landry
Russ & Louella Joyce (missing: Graham Chew) Dec/2000

LOUELLA FAITH (PEDDE) JOYCE

Louella Faith Pedde: born August 9, 1934

Married Russell Alfred Joyce (July 14, 1928) on May 3, 1956

Children: Twins (Cheryl Ann Joyce, born October 14, 1956
(Sharon Lynn Joyce, born October 14, 1956 (deceased October 16, 1956)

Kathryn Maureen Joyce, born January 5, 1958

Brian Russell Alfred Joyce, born July 4, 1960

Heather Dawn Joyce, born September 21, 1961

Cheryl Ann Joyce married Monte Chew, August 21/76 (divorced)

Graham Michael Chew - April 30, 1979

Stephanie Chew - March 6, 1981 - Partner, Jared Goulet

Cheryl Ann Chew - Partner, Druille Larsen (born March 9/41)

Kathryn Maureen Joyce - Partner, Larry Schmidt (born Sept 15, 1954)

Brian Russell Alfred Joyce married Lori (divorced)

Heather Dawn Joyce married Mark Nelson Landry (born June 10, 1958) (divorced)

Christopher Nelson Landry - October 11, 1983

Twins: (Michelle Dawn Landry - born January 29, 1986

(Jennifer Lee Landry - born January 29, 1986

Heather Dawn Landry - Partner, Carl William "Bill" Runn (born Feb. 9, 1958)

ARNOLD PEDDE

Submitted herewith is an overview of the family of Violet (Klause) Pedde, youngest daughter of Adolph and Bertha Klause. Violet married Alfred Pedde in 1932 and together, they farmed and raised their family in the Springside district.

My earliest recollections of Grandpa and Grandma Klause begin in the early 1940s, when they came to live with our family.

Grandpa Klause was a kind and gentle man of infinite patience. When I came to know him, he was blind and I used to marvel at the many things he could do. He knew his way around the farm very well and could make his way out to the various buildings or out to the place where our beehives were kept. Grandpa would go out and check on the honey production of the bees, open the hives, and run his fingers over the honey frames and not get stung. He also taught us how to whittle little wooden propellers, mounted on a notched stick, that would turn in the wind, and could also be turned by rubbing another stick over the notches. We would bring him small willow branches, and in a few minutes, he would make a whistle for us. Grandpa was the perennial babysitter as new members of the family came along, and had infinite patience and love for them all.

Grandma Klause was a very energetic and hard working woman, who was always busy doing something. She had a heart of gold, but had a very "short fuse." She was a very strict disciplinarian, with very strong religious beliefs, and as children, we often got into trouble for doing or not doing things that she wanted.

Grandma had many talents. She would spin wool, work it and make mittens and socks, sometimes making a pair of mitts virtually overnight. She would save up fats from pork and beef and mix it with lye to make soap. Grandma also made a very potent chokecherry wine. Feathers from the ducks and geese that we raised, went into pillows and feather blankets. One of the memories about her was that she always wore a large apron that was used as a "gather all", be it eggs from the chicken house, produce from the garden, or wood for the stove. Just about anything could be gathered and carried in that apron. One of her most used expressions to us children, though I don't remember the German words, was, "*use your head, save your feet.*"

I recall one incident in the 1940s that really got her upset. Grandma liked to grow poppies and collect the seeds for poppy rolls and other baking. One time, the RCMP came to our farm to check on a rumor about Dad illegally selling honey to someone. They spied all these poppies growing all over the garden and thought they had happened upon an opium operation or something, and that they must be destroyed. Although Grandma's command of English was not that good, she let them know in no uncertain terms that the poppies were for baking and that they were going to stay right where they were!

Mom and Dad had eight children in the period from 1933 to 1945. As we grew up, there always seemed to be lots of work for everyone to do. I suppose in today's terms, it was a very small mixed farm, but for the most part, supplied all of our needs. As we grew up and finished high school, we all went our separate ways and the farm was sold to John and Helen Klause.

Mervyn became a school teacher and eventually moved to Edmonton, where he taught for most of his career. He has since retired and makes his home there.

Louella became a nurse and worked at several locations, eventually moving to Prince George, B.C. She has retired and resides in Prince George with her family.

Arnold joined the Air force and spent ten years in various locations in Canada and Europe. This was followed by 20 years in commercial financing and leasing, followed by 10 years in managing and association in Regina. He now makes his home in Saskatoon, doing carpentry and home renovations.

Jeanette became a nursing assistant and worked in Regina for most of her working life. She now resides in Red Deer, Alberta.

Gerald got into the construction and excavating business and spent many years in Saskatoon, subsequently moving to Edmonton, where he now operates his own construction company.

Audrey worked at various jobs in Saskatoon and then moved to Prince George, B.C., for a number of years. She now resides in Penhold, Alta., and worked in Red Deer, Alta. She has retired.

John spent the most part of his working life doing odd jobs in construction and also, janitorial work. He now resides in Calgary, Alta.

Robert spent most of his working life in Saskatoon as an office manager and bookkeeper for various companies. Robert passed away in December, 2001.



Arnold's Family:
Anne, June, Arnold, Jeff, Eileen