

One Sunday, we were out with Helen and she took us by a white Colonial house and said that it had just come on the market and that her agents hadn't even looked at it. She said it was a two story house and maybe it was too big for what we wanted. I had always liked a Colonial style house and we decided we wanted to look at it. We fell in love with it immediately and decided that very day to buy it. We did a lot of remodeling on the house in January. In April, after all the remodeling, we moved in. In the meantime we sold our house to a Japanese doctor, Dr. Paul Kageyama. He and his wife were so thrilled with the house on Arizona Avenue and they just appreciated it so much that it was a pleasure to sell it to them. (Dr. Kageyama later became an insurance client of David's.) Remodeling the house kept me busy and getting settled kept me very happy for a while.

I joined the Bookworms, which is an auxiliary assistance league, and became involved in that. I met a lot of lovely ladies with whom I became very fond of over the years. The Bookworms raised money by selling Christmas cards and then donated most of it to the Children's club of the Assistance League. It is a very social group and we had many parties, including one big annual party called the Storybook Ball - a formal dinner dance. Various members will also get together and have a party, a luncheon or an evening event. The



1976 - Spence hunting with dog, Flash

Assistance League, our golf activities, Spence's Rotary and United Way activities, Scouting and hunting have kept us both busy.

[Spencer]

In 1973, when we moved to Cheviot Hills and became members of the Westwood II Ward, we stopped attending church.

In 1975, Dick and I were in a partnership with GKN in England. One of the main men there knew that we were Mormon and that I was a great grandson of Brigham Young. His name was Oscar Hahn. I became well acquainted with him. Once Oscar Hahn invited me to his house on the North Sea and we fished down on the Spay River for a few days. We were in fishing clothes during the day, but dressed in tuxes for dinner at night. Oscar Hahn took me to a house in the midlands, not far from Stratford on Avon, and introduced me to a family by the name of Hardtops. They took us through a house that had been there since the 1500s. They had refurbished it about 20 years earlier and made some of the rooms larger. They had raised the doors because the people in those days were very short. Some of the doors were only five feet tall. I became acquainted with the Hardtops and they told me they felt that this was Brigham Young's ancestral home. I told them I didn't believe it was, as I didn't know where Brigham Young's roots were and there was no genealogy in England. All I had was just the genealogy from the 1600's in Vermont. We concluded that it probably was where he resided when he was on a mission in England. Oscar Hahn became interested and said he would talk to old Lord Balfour who had some acquaintance with a Stake President. As a result, the Stake Presidency went over to the Hardtops place. They were making a video of the Church over in England and the Hardtops were very agreeable and very helpful. Ten years later, the President of the Mission thanked me for everything that I had done. He hadn't realized that I was a descendant of Brigham Young. He said they were trying to take the gospel to the Hardtops but I never knew if they had been successful. The Hardtops opened up the house to allow them to tape the



Farr Family 1977 - Spence, Teresa, Thalis and Jerry

video and became interested in the Church. Before that occurred, the Hardtops visited Thalis and I in America. I discovered it was the first visit to the States for Mrs. Hardtop. We asked her why she had chosen to come to the Western part. They had traveled to San Francisco, to Las Vegas and then they had visited the canyons. She said that ever since she was a child she had been fascinated by the Southwest part of the United States and the canyons.

{THE HISTORY RECORDED BY SPENCE AND THALIS END AFTER 1975. THE REMAINDER OF THIS HISTORY IS A COMPILATION OF STORIES, RECOLLECTIONS AND DIARY ENTRIES MOSTLY FROM DAVID AS WELL AS THALIS, ALAN, TERESA, JERRY AND ALISON} - Editor



Jean Spencer Farr (BaBa)

In April of 1975, BaBa died. She was two months shy of her 87th birthday. Several months before she had been placed in a retirement home. She didn't like it very much, so perhaps she just decided to move on.

Everyone loved her sense of humor. One time she received a phone solicitation from a salesman who worked for Forest Lawn Mortuary. She wasn't feeling well that day. The salesman was trying to sell her a plot. Her reply to his pitch was, "Sonny, the way I am feeling today, you can come over and pick me up right now. I'm ready." She was a great lady and will always be remembered.

Once, around 1974 or 1975, while Jerry was going through his liberal stage of life, he started getting on Spence's case about his conservatism. Environmental issues were at their peak, especially in large cities like Los Angeles. Jerry indicated to his dad that with his large corporation he was like all of the other corporations that were befouling the environment with their puffing black smoke. He railed on from his soapbox while Spencer listened patiently. Finally Spence said, "Well, I guess I'd better start producing more, not less." Jerry looked incredulously at him - hadn't he heard any of what was said? "What do you mean?" Jerry asked. "I make air filtration equipment," Spencer said. "Oh yeah," Jerry said, "never mind."

Thalis had a mastectomy in 1976. Luckily she fully recovered from any further cancer. *(The following are excerpts from Thalis's diary regarding the diagnosis and treatment of her cancer).*

Dec. 9, 1976 "I went to Dr. Frances Holmes, my dear gynecologist, for my six month checkup. She examined my breasts even more thoroughly than usual, and then asked me if I could find a thickening just above my right nipple. Apprehensively, I said, "Yes." She said she was concerned enough that

she felt I should go get a mammogram."



Thalis and Jerry 1977

Dec. 10, 1976 *(Thalis was at her brother Harold's home the next day, enjoying a little family reunion with her siblings when the doctor called with the results)* "When the phone rang, my fear returned. Dr. Holmes told me bad news. I was lucky to have all my family there to support me."

Dec. 15, 1976 (*Thalis was admitted to the hospital.)* "Dr. Mikkelson and Dr. Philips came about 4:00 to tell us the lump was definitely cancerous. When I knew the worst and that the breast would have to be removed, and I wouldn't be waking up to any surprises, it was almost a relief. Strange how I'm accepting it. I don't like losing a breast, but I know I'm going to be alright. . . . I asked Dr. Mikkelson if I could play golf, and he said, "Yes, if you can play it now."

Dec. 16, 1976 *(Surgery was performed at 7:45 am. Her family was waiting to see her when they brought her back from the recovery room.)*

Dec. 17, 1976 *(Breakfast at 9:30 am and then visits and flowers from family and friends.)* "Red roses from Dick and Kathy. Nell and Marlon came to visit. Mabel Russon came about 3:30, with yellow Marguerites. Dr. came at 4:45 pm and stopped intravenous feedings. Spence and Jerry came this evening."

Dec. 18, 1976 *(Thalis was visited by her doctor at 8:45 am.)* ". . . he told me the cancer was very small and only 2 of the 10 lymph nodes were involved. I said only 20% then. He said, "not really even that much."

". . . the anxiety of not knowing for 5 - 6 days was the hardest part."



Spence and Thalis 1977

"And the most important thing is they don't recommend further treatment. Thank Heaven! . . ."

Dec. 19, 1976 "David and Pat came about 1 o'clock with a card from Stephanie which she had made. Spence came about 4 and stayed till 5:45, then went to Helen's and Harold's for dinner. Jerry came later to visit."

Dec. 20, 1976 "Bess, Erma and Janice came around 1 o'clock. Spence came about 6:30 and went to dinner in the hospital cafeteria. Libby Brewer called on the phone earlier, and we had a nice visit."

Dec. 21, 1976 "Mabel stopped by around 10:30 . . . Bishop Bert Scoll came to see me this afternoon. A basket of yellow and white Marguerites came from Libby and Mike Agran and Family. They are neighbors next door. Jana and Jerry came about 7 . . . . Spence and Teresa came about 8:15."

Dec. 22, 1976 "Dr Phillips said hopefully I can go home Friday."

The Winter of 1976/77 Jerry bought a house in Spence and Thalis's neighborhood to fix up and sell. Alan's son Jim, and Spence were helping Jerry with the renovations. Jim was concerned about his grandfather overdoing it. It was very strenuous work, they were tearing out ivy and ripping down parts of the house. Jim kept telling Spence not to do things that were too strenuous, to leave it for him. But of course, Spence kept at it. The next day at the office, Spencer commented to Alan how touched he was by Jim's concern for him.

Alan took this opportunity to mention to Spence that Jim didn't want to stay at his house anymore while working on this project, because there was never enough to eat. That night at dinner, his grandfather kept putting more chicken on Jim's plate. Jim finally said, "That's enough. Thanks but I'm full". Spencer said, "Are you sure? Because I don't want to hear that I'm not feeding you enough."

Spencer and Thalis were always very careful about their diets. The rest of the family often joked

that if you were invited over to their house for dinner, you'd better eat before you got there.

In January 1978 Thalis and Spencer's dear friend, Frank Allen, passed away after a painful illness. At Frank's funeral, Spence recounted many of their experiences together - hunting, fishing and enjoying a social life with their wives and families. Their final trip together was hunting ducks in the winter of 1977, several weeks before Frank's death. At that time they spoke of their affection for one another and hugged each other. Spencer and Thalis had many dear friends. They enjoyed a close circle of friends from business, church, service organizations, Los Angeles Country Club and family. Spencer was very social and outgoing. He had no fear of introducing himself to strangers and you got the feeling, as he would work a room - going from group to group shaking hands and sharing a story or a laugh, that he would have been a very successful politician had he chosen that field.



Christmas Line at Spence and Thalis's
Approximately 1973
L to R: Stephanie, Mike, Alison, Jim, Jerry, Teresa, Alan, Jeanette, Pat, Dave and Thalis

The family has had a wonderful tradition of spending Christmas and Thanksgiving together. At Christmas they would have the children line up according to age, and they would march in to open their presents. This tradition continued as the family expanded and remained in California. Things changed when Alan, Jerry and Teresa moved to Utah.

In later years, Thanksgiving became a special time as everyone gathered around the table and expressed special thanks for their blessings. Spence would invariably give thanks for Thalis and the wonderful Jackson family she had come from. He always had tears in his eyes. One year David's son Jason said he was thankful he didn't live in a cardboard box eating apple cores. Huh?

Thanksgiving of 1977 Thalis woke up with a very bad cold. She told Spencer that he would have to help her a lot because the whole family was expected for Thanksgiving dinner. She made a list for him and he worked hard all day. They pulled dinner off, and afterwards Spence did the dishes and he said, "Thanksgiving dinner is just too damn much work". Men don't always realize what is involved in putting on a holiday dinner. Thalis thought that Thanksgiving dinner was an awful lot of work and wouldn't it be fun if they could take all of the family away for Thanksgiving dinner. Neither she nor her daughters-in-law would have to work.

The family always enjoyed getting together for the holidays. Thalis and Spencer went down to David's house Thanksgiving of 1978. They shared their three week experience traveling to Jerusalem, the Middle East and Greece earlier in the month. They visited many ports during their cruise of the Mediterranean, including Istanbul and Khusadasi in Asia Minor. They unexpectedly met Thalis's sister, Nell Schade, on a tour of the ancient city of Ephesus, where Paul had preached. Thalis kept seeing people she knew and discovered there was a BYU sponsored trip in town. Knowing her sister was on such an excursion, they sought her out. Nell and her family were quite surprised to see Thalis and Spencer. Between business and pleasure, Thalis and Spencer were truly world travelers. But after this trip, Thalis decided traveling abroad was a bit much. A flu epidemic had swept their cruise ship, first affecting Spence and then a day before returning to Athens, Thalis caught it as well. This turned out to be their last trip abroad.



Ojai - 1980
L to R: Alisa, Dave, Jason, Alan, Jana, Jim, Thalis, Teresa, Jerry, Stephanie and Mike

Thalis tried for a couple of years to get into Alisal Ranch for Thanksgiving, but the same people went to Alisal every year and it was booked up and they never could get in. Finally, in 1979, they took the family to the Ojai Valley Ranch.

When the annual family vacations first started at the Ojai Valley Inn, Spence was 68 and Thalis 67. The family consisted of Thalis, Spence, David, Pat and their four children, Alan, Jeanette and their two children, Teresa, Jerry and Jana. They enjoyed the food and company, but there wasn't much for children to do there. At dinner, the grandchildren wanted to order Shirley Temple drinks, but Spence wouldn't let them because he was afraid it would spoil their dinner. Jeanette and Pat got bored, so they drove to Ventura to go shopping. At this time of Thanksgiving, away from the smog and hassle of city life the family enjoyed many blessings - while in far off Iran, 49 of our countrymen were imprisoned in the U.S. Embassy by mobs of Iranians, urged on by their fanatical leader, Ayatollah Kohmeni.



1980 - Ojai Valley Inn
Stephanie and Alisa horseback riding

In 1980 the family returned to the Ojai Valley Inn for three days, where they enjoyed a family baseball game, tennis and other sports. While there, Spence and Thalis started a tradition of calling a family financial council, where they discussed estate investments that could be made over the next several years. An agenda was prepared and the purchasing of gold, real estate in Utah, and a years supply of food was discussed. Also discussed was the country's worsening condition, underscored by six points - 1) Debasement of the currency through inflation; 2) Unwillingness of people to serve in the armed forces; 3) Unnatural obsession with sex and perversions; 4) Loss



Farr Family in Wickenburg, Arizona - 1982
L to R: Alison, Kate Hefley (friend of Stephanie), Alan, Jana and Tim, Thalis, Alisa, Jerry, Melissa, Stephanie and Jason



Wickenburg 1982
L to R: Jana, Alan, Jerry, Teresa, Mike, Alisa, Stephanie, Thalis, Alison, Dave and Pat

of religious conviction and the breakdown of basic morality; 5) Honest work ceasing to be a virtue and; 6) Respect for law disintegrating and violence becoming an acceptable method of achieving goals. Spencer commented on how prevalent these things are today.

The tradition of family meetings was continued as the annual Thanksgiving trip moved to Wickenburg Inn, an Arizona dude ranch featuring horseback riding, tennis and activities for the children such as crafts and riding with counselors. The family went to Wickenburg in 1982 and returned in 1983 and 1984. In November of 1982, Spencer had a hernia operation and it was doubtful he would make the trip to Wickenburg that Thanksgiving. Fortunately, he recovered quickly enough to go. On various trips to Wickenburg, guests accompanied the family – a cousin Peggy Hunt Wayne and her son Anthony, and Kate Hefley, a friend of David's daughter, Stephanie.

At Wickenburg some guests told Spencer and Thalis about the Flathead Lake Lodge in Montana. Reservations had to be booked for at least a week, from Sunday to Sunday. They painted such a rosy picture of it, that he following summer Montana became the family's destination.

The financial meetings continued each year and were named "The Farr Blood Meetings" by the spouses who were excluded. There was talk of bugging the meetings to find out what was going on. Spencer



Wickenburg 1983 - L to R: Alan, Tersa, Alison, Jana and Tim, Kate Hefley (friend of Stephanie), Jason, Stephanie, Jerry and Alisa

started these meetings in hopes that the family would pool their investments. He had seen how other families had improved their wealth by keeping family money together. This proved to be effective as Spencer's children now own several real estate investments together.



1983 - Spence, Thalis, Jim, Alan, Alison and Teresa

Thalis and Spencer brought S. Dilworth Young and his wife to dinner at David's home in November of 1979. Dilworth Young is a distant cousin, coming through the Joseph Young line, brother to Brigham Young. He knew BaBa quite well and spoke at her funeral. He is forthright and humorous when he speaks and likes to give demonstrations. David heard a story about S. Dilworth Young giving a talk to the missionaries in the Northwestern States, where David served his mission. He had two Elders come up on stage and to one he said, 'Now, Elder So&So, you go down to the mail box while your companion stays in the house'. When the Elder complied, he came up behind the remaining Elder and threw his arms around him saying, 'Now, say I am the landlady - what would you do now?' The Elder, an ex-army paratrooper, immediately threw Elder Young over his head so that he landed spread-eagle in front of the Mission President. Unfazed, Brother Young went on with his presentation as if nothing had happened. Stage presence! Spencer enjoyed some theatrics from the standpoint that he loved hearing and telling good stories. He had many interesting little sayings. When you made some kind of request that had small chance of approval, he'd say "in a pig's valise' , "in a bug's ear", or "in a gnat's eyelash!"



Farr Family Sportfishing Trip - 1981
Richard, David, Jerry, Alan, Dick and Alisa

For a number of years in

the 1980's Spencer and his brother Dick took their children and grandchildren on a sport fishing outing. They chartered *The Cobra*, off Dana Point. Everyone would put in money for a jackpot and it was awarded to whoever caught the biggest fish. Later Dick, not wanting to leave anyone out, also put up money for jackpots for the smallest, ugliest and best looking fish, etc., - so more could participate in the jackpot. Captain Rick of *The Cobra* would constantly harass



Farr Fishing Trip - Dana Point, CA - 1993
Dave, Jerry, Jason, John, Spencer, Timmy and Alisa



Farr Family Fishing Trip - Dana Point Harbor - 1983
Dick, Richie, Jenny, Richard, Johnny, Him Imper, Jim Farr, Jerry, Steve Nemeyer, David, Alisa and Alan

everyone to get their bait in the water and hook up those fish! Dick's son Richard, went along for the ride, but never fished.



Alan, Richard, Jim and Jerry

Nobody really cared if they caught anything, it was really about the comradery, being together in the hot sun, or chilly wind, starving and then eating the hastily packed picnics. Once Spencer was in charge of making lunches. He made sandwiches with lettuce, etc., but didn't have any meat. He meant to stop and get meat at the deli, but he forgot. Lunchtime rolled around and a bunch of hungry fishermen (and a few girls) had nothing but bread sandwiches for lunch.

One particularly memorable trip, *The Cobra* used its radar to find a 'boiling' of barracuda. The water was actually boiling with the frenzy of barracuda. Each time a line was cast, a barracuda was caught. It was quite amazing.

During one of these fishing trips, Jerry was eating half a tuna sandwich while holding the other half in his hand. He walked up to Alan and struck up a conversation. Ever the antagonizing old brother, Alan grabbed the other half of the sandwich out of Jerry's hand saying, "Give me that!" He took a huge bite and began to chew as Jerry and cousin Richard began to laugh. Jerry lifted the bread on Alan's sandwich to show him the remains of the minnow, its tail still flapping, which Alan had just bitten the head from. After Alan spit it out, he told them if they had really wanted to 'get him', they should have saved their laughs until after he swallowed.



Tim Farr



1982 Enroute to Dodger Game
Alan, Jim, Thalis and Spence

In June of 1981, Pat and David met Thalis and Spencer in Boston. From there they journeyed through beautiful, green New Hampshire to Vermont, where they researched their family roots. They spoke with a number of Farrs (distant cousins) in St. Johnsbury, Vermont. Many early families - Farrs, Browns, Snows, Freemans and others - joined the Mormon Church there and then journeyed west to eventually settle in Utah. Although Spencer wasn't an ardent fan of researching his roots or recording his own life history, he enjoyed meeting the living descendants of his ancestors. They enjoyed visiting the Fairbanks Scale Company in St. Johnsbury and saw displays of how Maple Syrup was made. A few miles south of St. Johnsbury they visited secluded, lush Waterford, Vermont, where Spencer's great great grandfather, Winslow Farr Sr., was born and married Olive Hovey Freeman of that same town.

They met Eugenia Powers, a former school teacher, who did research for them and helped uncover their Farr roots. She showed them numerous deeds involving Ashael Farr, Winslow's father and Elijah Freeman, Olive's father. Elijah was especially active, serving in many town capacities.

From Vermont, they traveled to St. Louis, Missouri, drove along the mighty, Mississippi River and stopped in Hannibal to visit some sites important in the life of Mark Twain. Further upriver they crossed over to Illinois. They stayed near Nauvoo, historic site of the Mormon's stay in Illinois. In Nauvoo a restoration project was taking place at the homes of the early church leaders as a historic site for people to visit. Winslow Farr's home was there, but the staircase ass too narrow and steep to allow visitors. They enjoyed going on tours of the homes and attended plays of early church history put on by local missionaries. They visited Carthage Jail, where Joseph Smith and his brother, Hyrum, were martyred.



1982 - Holiday Park

In the early 1980's Thalis and Spencer still enjoyed their time at the cabin, but were having a hard time adjusting to the elevation. They decided to purchase a condo in Salt Lake. Jerry and Jana, Teresa, and Alison now lived in Salt Lake, and the following year Alan moved there as well. They were able to see their family more, and spend time in the city getting used to the elevation before going to Holiday Park. However, with Spencer's work ethic, none of the Salt Lake contingency was too sure about having him around more often.



Duck Hunting 1984

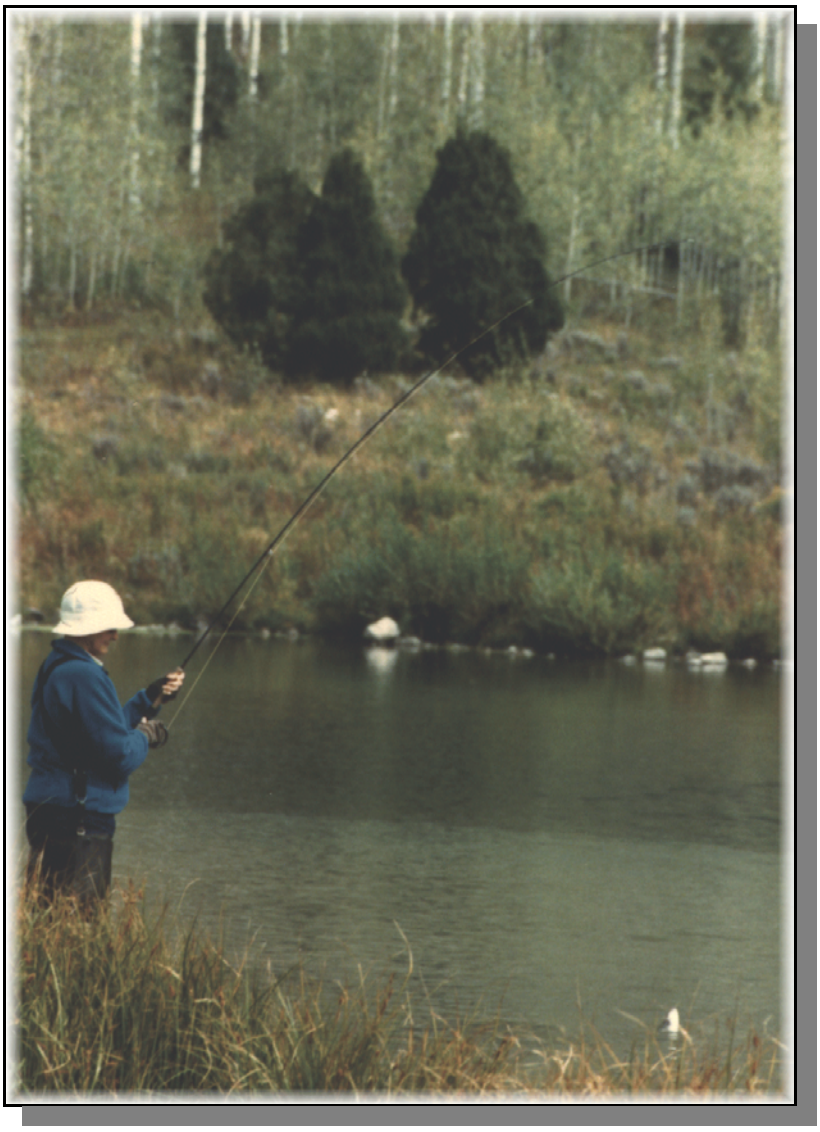
Spencer had a key to Jerry's house in Salt Lake and decided to drop by one day when Jerry and Jana were out. He let himself in, and when they arrived home he had one of Jana's aprons on and was doing their dishes. He had made a pot of coffee, and informed them that they weren't cleaning their coffee maker often enough. Upon Spencer's departure, they asked him to relinquish the key to their house.

Another day, while Spencer and Thalis were visiting Jerry's family, a swing set was delivered for Missy and Tim. Jerry was prepared to install it, but didn't seem to be doing it quite up to Spencer's standard. So at 75 years of age, Spencer got out there in the 90 to 100 degree summer heat to dig footings and pour a cement foundation to secure the legs of the swing. As Alison recalled it, she walked in to find her grandpa out digging and sweating in the summer sun, while Jerry sipped ice water and watched him from the kitchen window. (Jerry's sure she just caught him on a short break.)

Up at the cabin, Jana and Richard Farr's wife, JoAnn, decided to create a play area for their small children. Jerry nailed a swing between two trees for them, and they rescued some discarded tires from the dump to use on either end of the teeter-totter. But they couldn't find the perfect plank for the teeter-totter, until they happened upon one under Spence's cabin. The playground complete, they stood admiring it, as Spence stormed over to find out where his plank had gone. (It seems the plank was an integral part of the winterization process for the cabin.) Spencer informed them that their playground made their cabin look like a tobacco row trailer park. He said if the children needed something to do, there were plenty of weeds to be pulled around the cabin.

Spencer was always trying to put someone to work pulling weeds. He'd often try to enlist his brother Dick's help, but Dick's response was to pull a lounge chair out and sit down on the front porch with a cigarette and a drink to keep Spence company while he did the weeding. Everyone eventually got roped into doing their share of weeding. But to Spencer's credit, the cabin did always look quite nice and well kept, and once he passed away it became amazingly overgrown with weeds. A few attempts were made to keep up with the weeds, but somehow they just seemed to grow more abundantly once Spence was gone.

As can probably be guessed by now, Spencer and Thalis were amazingly meticulous. Alison recalls one time being at the cabin with her grandparents when it was raining. While they went to town to go shopping, Alison let all of her friends in the cabin to play cards. Upon returning, Thalis promptly kicked everyone out, and Alison found herself mopping the entire cabin floor.



Thalis fly fishing - 1985

And of course no one ever had to guess where any thing belonged or how to operate any appliance in the cabin. Spencer labeled every shelf, cabinet and appliance as to what belonged where and how each thing worked. It was actually quite effective, as the twin, full and queen size sheets all had their own shelves, so you never had to figure out which sheets fit on which bed. One of the cabin's labels was over the toilet. Spencer had neatly printed a placard which read, "Please, toilet paper only down the toilet" (the cabin was on a septic tank, so tissue paper, feminine products, etc., would have clogged it). A visitor some time ago, a cousin-in-law by the name of Carl Deilgat, came out of the bathroom one evening with his hands cupped as if he were holding something, and said, "Hey Spencer, what do I do with this?" Everyone, including Spence got a good laugh.

Jana eventually coined a

family phrase: you are told to "di-spence" if you're being too neat, organized, picky or down right bossy. Mostly this saying was directed at Alan.



Glacier National Park - 1985
Pat, Michael, Jerry, Alison, Teresa, Alan

In 1985 Spencer began experiencing some chest pain as he rode his exercise bicycle. An angiogram showed blocked arteries and Spencer decided to go ahead with a recommended bypass surgery. Don Peart (Shirley Treu Peart's husband) and David gave Spencer a blessing the night before his surgery. Spence had tears in his eyes and everyone felt that things would go well. The surgery was successful and Spence came through it well. His recovery, however, was long and difficult.



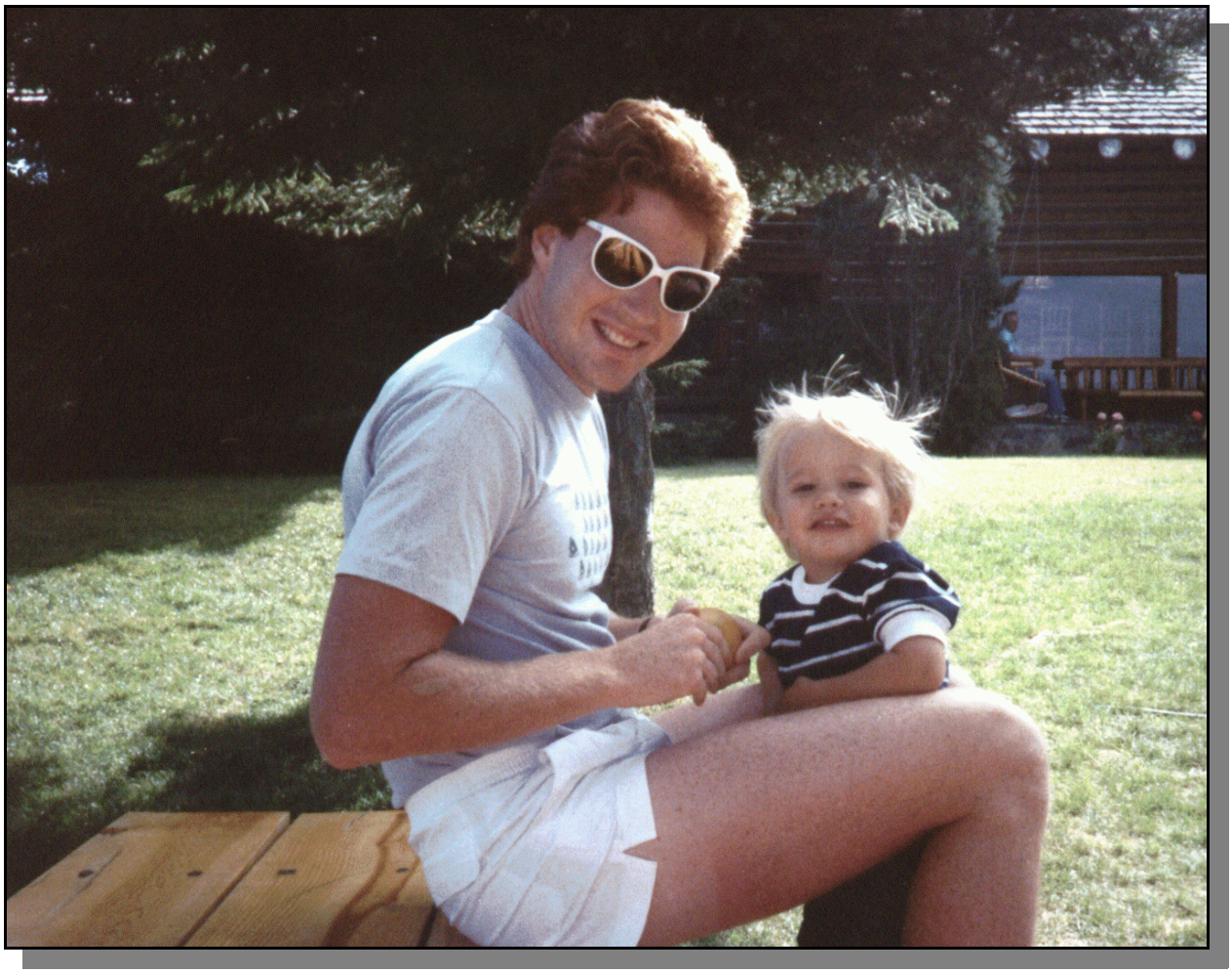
Farr Family at Flathead Lake Lodge - 1985
Back Row L to R: Tim, Jana, Alisa, Alison
Front Row L to R: Thalis, Jerry, Dave, Alan, Pat, Mike and Teresa

After Spencer's operation, Thalis took care of him alone. It was more difficult than she realized and she didn't have enough help. Spence didn't feel good for a couple of months afterwards.

That Summer, when he had recovered, they went up to Alaska on a fishing trip that was fun and relaxing. In all the years going to Holiday Park, Thalis had never learned to fly fish. The guide on their Alaska trip taught her. Their next trip to Holiday Park, Thalis was eager to use her newly learned skill. At 74 years old, she ventured out to Yellow Lake and had quite a time. Unfortunately, she contracted Guillian-Barre shortly

thereafter and had to give up her fly fishing days before she ever really got started.

In August of 1985 the family went to Flathead Lake Lodge for the first time. There was so much for everyone to do. They enjoyed good eating, horseback riding, water skiing, tennis and the many other privileges of a fine dude ranch. This was when David began to record Thalis and Spencer's



Jim and Tim Farr at Flathead 1985

history. Spence had a difficult time understanding why *his* history would be important to anyone, but conceded and began to talk about his life.

Everyone loved Montana. That year was such a wonderful reunion and Thalis felt it helped keep the family together and appreciating each other. She believed it to be one of the best things she and Spence had ever done, because the family had become so scattered.

In November 1985, Spence and Thalis went to Salt Lake to Teresa's 40th birthday celebration and while there, Thalis started getting symptoms of some kind of an illness. They were able to get

home all right, but went to the hospital. It was two or three days before the doctor diagnosed the illness as Guillain-Barre syndrome, a nerve disease that can lead to paralysis and death. Thalis became paralyzed from her feet to just above her waist. She was in the hospital about a month before the disease started to reverse itself and her nerves started to regenerate. She was left with some weakness in her legs and some numbness. Thalis had to start using a cane after this illness as it left her feeling insecure on her feet. But luckily she could continue to do everything except dance (and fly fish). She was even able to brace herself on the golf course so that she could swing a club without fear of falling down, although she did feel her golf game deteriorated somewhat. Guillain-Barre can be a very devastating disease. It can completely paralyze a person so sometimes they have to be put on a respirator in order to breathe and have to be fed by a tube in order to get nourishment. She felt very lucky.



Spence and Thalis - 1986

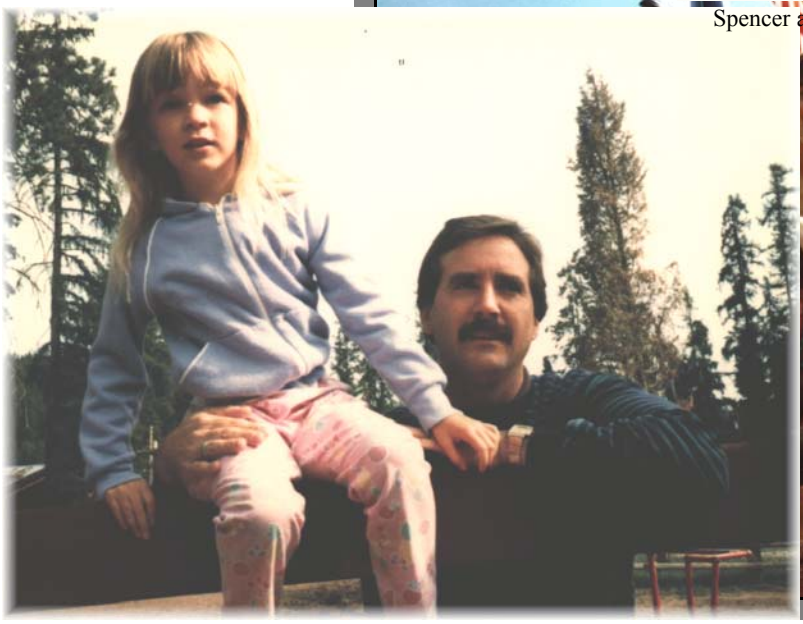
On Saturday, June 8, 1986, Thalis and Spencer celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at La Ferme, a French restaurant. After dinner they adjourned to Dave and Pat's home, decorated for the celebration, where they enjoyed cake and were presented with old family photos. They read various cards and letters from friends and relatives collected for this occasion, and the children showered them with confetti. It was a very heartwarming and fulfilling event.

In August of 1986 the family headed for the much anticipated reunion in Flathead Lake, Montana. They floated the Swan River and the children and adults alike enjoyed the various activities.

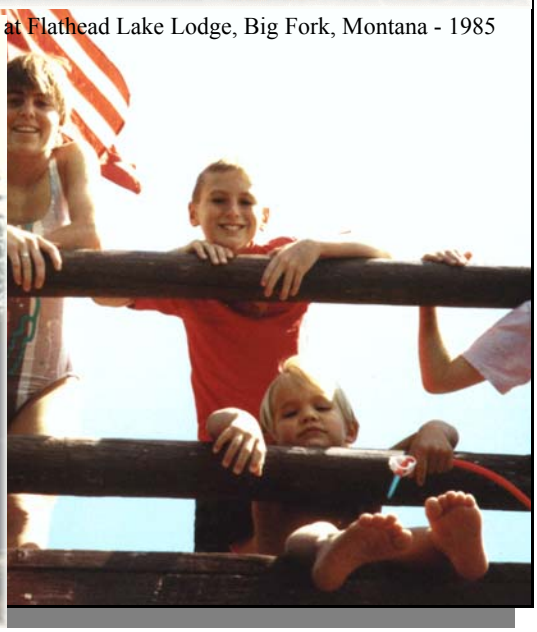
David and Spencer went on a fly fishing excursion with a surgeon from Indiana, Mike Hoover, and his 10-year-old son, as well as a guide, Marv. They ate dinner on the banks of the beautiful Swan River, which is nearly inaccessible except by raft. Near dusk, the guide ran the raft abreast of a tree in the river. With their weight to one side, the swift current allowed water to rush in on them, stranding them on the tree. The water rushing in, washed their gear out of the raft and it floated downstream. Marv began to bail with a bucket. When the boat was about 3/4 empty, the current caused it to move off the tree and float downstream. Marv jumped into the boat and drifted about 200 feet downstream before he was able to make shore. Those stranded, were confused as to what to do, clinging to the large tree in the midst of that swift current. The young boy from Indiana, Mike, was at first panicked, but got



Spencer at Flathead Lake Lodge, Big Fork, Montana - 1985



Missy & Jerry at Flathead - 1986



Alisa, Jason and Timmy on the dock at Flathead Lake 1986

hold of himself. On shore, Marv managed to bail out the whole boat, but was now down river from them. He took out the oars and seats and dragged the boat back up the shore. With a rope attached to one end and standing in the swift current, he launched the boat and swung it around to them. David grabbed hold of it, laying halfway on the tree and halfway in the boat. The current was swift and he had to use all his strength to keep the boat stable. The Hoovers climbed over him into the boat and then called for Spencer, then 76, to climb over him into the boat. Spencer used a strap to lash the boat to the tree, to make sure David could hold it until he got into the boat himself, then Spence climbed in. David leapt into the boat and they swung off toward the shore, landing on the sandbar near the oars and seats. After putting the seats in the boat, they pushed off for a rendevous with the other boat which was ahead of them.

In the meantime, the men in the lead raft had seen all of their gear floating down river. At first they laughed, thinking some canoes had overturned. Then the head guide, Greg, recognized his blue & white cooler. He jumped in the river and was able to salvage most of the items. He called the lodge for help, thinking the worst. Search and rescue were notified. Greg, continuing to search for them, cut across someone's property and was confronted with a rifle by someone thinking he was a trespasser. Eventually David and Spence and the rest arrived down river and got back to the lodge where the rest of the family waited anxiously for their safe return.

In September 1986, Thalis and Spencer went to Salt Lake for Alan's wedding to Carol Kandt. This was quite a high point in Alan's life. He had met Carol in 1982 while he and Alison



were on a river-rafting trip. He was immediately attracted to her, but he still lived in Los Angeles. They became reacquainted at a party after he moved to Salt Lake in 1984. Thalis and Spencer decided they weren't using their condo very much anymore, so Carol and Alan rented it from them after they married, later buying it in 1989.



Wedding Day 1986 - Jim, Carol, Alan, Alison

Spencer and his brother, Dick, were very generous. Holiday Park owned some land on the outskirts of camp around Dry Creek, and Lorin Moench wanted to acquire it, as it adjoined land of his which he wanted to develop. Around 1986 or 1987, Spencer and Dick purchased this 80 acres from Lorin Moench. The Freeds owned 4 acres of land near the entrance gate to Holiday Park, essentially the area north of the caretakers cabin and the area between Dry Creek and Tom Pratt's Cabin. Spence and Dick traded 4 of the 80 acres with the Freeds, so there would be no further question or dispute as to Holiday Park's boundaries. The other 76 acres were donated to Holiday Park, no strings attached. This effectively stopped any future development of cabins up Dry Creek.



Road to Holiday Park



On Saturday, July 18th 1987, Farr Company held a picnic celebrating their 50th year in business. Spencer spoke over the public address system to the assembled employees, friends and families, speaking of how important his father had been in the founding of the company and how much he had always emphasized service to the customer. He said he never imagined how big the company would become.



Many changes were occurring at the Farr Company, which caused a lot of tension for Spencer. Dick Farr, Spence's brother, was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease. Spencer was concerned for his suffering. He also wondered what to do concerning the business in the event of Dick's death. To everyone's delight, Dick married Betty, his friend, who had moved in to take care of him. She was a godsend to the family.

Farr Family and friends at Flathead Lake Lodge 1987

In August 1988 while vacationing at Flathead Lake Lodge the family learned that Spencer's brother, Dick, had elected to have no extreme measures taken in the hospital to keep him alive. His breathing became so difficult that he requested that his respirator be shut off and he be allowed to die. Three hours after they stopped the life support system, he passed away.

It had been hard for anyone to really run Farr Company while Dick was alive, as he wanted to stay so active in the Company. His funeral, at the Westwood Ward Chapel was well attended. Spence and Thalis flew back for his funeral. Dick wished to be cremated and have his ashes scattered up Dry Creek Trail near Holiday Park.





ice - Dry Creek Trail - Holiday Park - August 1988

Alan and Spence at Flathead - 1988

1989 was an eventful year for Spencer and Thalis. David had a heart attack and angioplasty the beginning of July. Dick's Holiday Park cabin burned down at 6:00 a.m. one July morning, taking with it the sleeping cabin and part of Spencer's roof. Fortunately it had rained the night before and in the early morning it

was still, with no wind. Alan got a call from Jana early that morning that Spencer had contacted them and the cabins had caught fire. He drove up from Salt Lake immediately. As he drove up the dirt road he met Spencer driving down the road. Spence pulled over, got out of his car and ran to Alan. Spencer hugged Alan and said, "I've never been so happy to see anyone in my life!" Alan recalls he was visibly shaken, but Thalis sitting in the car was calm and undisturbed. (Alan speculates she was probably already busy planning the remodeling of the cabin in her mind.) Lee Ann Walker had been the first to see the fire and alert others. Nate Wooley had a water pump and was able to pump water from the cold stream onto Spence's cabin, which kept it from further harm. The Oakley volunteer fire department was there within 23 minutes, traveling more than 20 miles over mostly dirt roads. Four fire trucks fought the blaze with precision and barely a wasted motion as they brought it under control. Fortunately, no one was in any of the structures that burned down. The fire set in motion plans to remodel Thalis and Spencer's cabin. The family later joked and asked if anyone had checked Thalis's pockets for matches.

Another unhappy event was a falling-out with the Freeds over the long standing partnership Holiday Park people had in maintaining Yellow Lake for fishing. It resulted in those privileges being taken away. Spencer felt this was a loss, both to the Freed's who owned the land and to the people in Holiday Park who liked to fish and hike there.

Of course another wonderful vacation at Flathead Lake Lodge rolled around in August 1989. Spence and Thalis visited with Les Averill, the owner of the lodge, in his home. Les told them President



ead Lake and Lodge, Montana 1988



Jason at Flathead Lake - 1988

George Bush and his wife, Barbara, had stayed at the lodge. He said that the Secret Service personnel had indicated they were the easiest of all the Presidents and family they had to watch over in three decades of service. Les took the President fishing with good results. On the other end of the

social spectrum, Les once had a guest, Bugsy Seigel, a mobster who was later killed in Las Vegas.

According to Les, Montana's small population of 650,000 people occupying the fourth largest state in the U.S. created the type of isolation that once prompted a drug family, the Luciano's, to move to Montana for anonymity. At first they conducted their illegal operations – drugs, prostitution and gambling – outside of Montana. However, they soon began to deal drugs to the locals until one by one their henchmen began to disappear without a trace. It wasn't likely they would put out a missing persons bulletin. The kingpins soon got the message that they had better not deal locally; however, the Luciano family moving into the state still had a corrupting influence.



Spencer at Lake Iliama, Alaska 1989

While Spence and David took another fishing trip with Marv, he related a story about the owner of the Soup Creek Ranch, extradited to Los Angeles to stand trial for drug smuggling. Marv had seen low flying helicopters, searching for marijuana fields and other drug activity.

Thalis and Spence really enjoyed these vacations with their family. Spence loved to go on breakfast rides and participate in activities. Thalis enjoyed her time reading, visiting with her growing family and walking. They also attended musicals in the Big Fork theater, put on by college students.

In August of 1989 Spencer planned a trip to Lake Illiama (one hundred and sixty miles west of Anchorage Alaska) to fish for salmon, and invited David to go along. Spence had planned this trip before David's heart attack

and David was determined to go, regardless. The area they went to was accessible only by air or boat.



They stayed at Rainbow King Lodge and flew by prop plane to various fishing locations at streams around the lake. The Alaskan bush pilot is key to the success of the various fishing lodges in the area. From the air you could see crash sites where planes had gone down. They say that the helicopters which pick up wreckage from plan crashes are kept very busy. Spencer and David were told they were allowed to take home the frozen salmon they caught, but could not keep the trout, which were owned by the Eskimos. The Eskimos owned the oil rights as well, and are supported quite well by those rights. As they fished, David and Spence saw many grizzlies on the river who were also intent on fishing. They gave the grizzlies plenty of clearance. One great day they caught several large salmon, and were able to bring home six or seven frozen salmon each. Spence, in his usual social style, made many friends on this trip.

On Sunday, June 23rd, 1991 the family attended Teresa's wedding. She married John Fistere, an engineer. It was 29 years prior that Teresa caught the wedding bouquet thrown at Pat and Dave's wedding. The ceremony was performed in the beautiful backyard of their home in El Cajon. Thalis and Spencer were especially pleased to see their only daughter married. Teresa had owned a business for 7 years in San Diego, "Old Town Tours". She had about 8 tour guides working for her, giving dramatized tours of Old Town San Diego.

After months of planning, a Jackson family reunion was held in Big Bear, California in July 1991.



Spence and Alaska bush plane - Lake Iliama 1989



Spence as M.C. - Jackson Family Reunion 1991

Spencer served as Master of Ceremonies.

Teresa acted out one of her parts from her Old Town tours and was great. John jumped right into the action by playing an old fashioned salesman, selling a new, magical, weather string for accurate up-to-date weather reporting. There was a great feeling of love and family togetherness as over 200 Jackson descendants
met to celebrate their heritage and renew family ties. They enjoyed games, family presentations, a dinner and talent show, and church together on Sunday.



In 1991, Allan Foy who for years was head of the Farr Company, died of cancer. He was 62 years old. After Allan's death they looked far and wide for a replacement. Charles Wofford, a vice president of Texas Instruments, was recommended by Charlie Clough, a Farr Company board member, and was hired.

Spencer and Thalis had a very full, active and interesting life. They attributed this to being very health conscious: always watching their diets, and being diligent about exercise. Thalis especially appreciated Spence taking care of himself and staying healthy and alive. She had many widow friends, and did not envy them. Spence was still very active, going to the office two or three times a week and never missing a Monday morning planning meeting. He was full of enthusiasm and interest, belonging to three golf groups and playing at least three tournaments a month. Between operations on Thalis's knees, she was still able to play golf. Eventually, on September 5th of 1991, she had to have a complete knee joint replacement. It took four and a half months to heal completely before she was able to return to playing golf. When she was able, they would go over to the club and play nine holes.



Farr Family and friend at Flathead Lake Lodge - 1991

In October of 1991, Spencer took his sons along with Web Adams and Jim Crawford hunting near Great Falls, Montana, for grouse and pheasant. Spencer joined every hunt that was conducted that weekend, walking a lot to be where the birds were. They enjoyed a great trip, and were all amazed at their dad's stamina in keeping up with the 'kids' while hunting the elusive pheasant.



Flathead Lake 1992 - Jerry and Timmy

At Flathead Lake Lodge, in August of 1992 the Farr family participated in four games of basketball against the Hoover and Jackson families. Jamey and Jason helped bring them two straight victories. Chad Jackson was pretty upset at the losses as he was very competitive. The family tennis match ended with Alan and Jerry threatening to throw Jason in the lake

because he helped beat them in two straight sets. Thalis and Spencer enjoyed watching these sporting tournaments, but worried over their sons' lack of physical conditioning at these higher altitudes. Their game being golf, they really enjoyed playing on the beautiful Montana courses which feature beautiful trees and fairways.

Jason, 14, and Missy, 12, went out on the lake on wave runners. They became separated from each other and after awhile, when Jason couldn't find Missy, he came in to tell Jerry. Alisa, all dressed up in her best western gear, jumped on the wave runner and went to look for her. Other family commandeered a speed boat from the lodge and eventually found Missy, stalled, a couple of miles south of the lodge.



This trip Doug Averill told a story about a rancher friend who was out riding when a big grizzly rose up 100 yards away. Wheeling his horse, he rode as hard as he could in the opposite direction, but the bear overtook horse and rider within a few seconds. Luckily the rancher was able to escape when he turned his horse and rode down alongside a fence. Another time, Doug and a friend startled an old cinnamon colored grizzly. The grizzly immediately ran up a 300 foot hill, in short order, that a human could not have scaled.

After Montana, many family members spent time in Holiday Park visiting with their Dick Farr cousins. Alan took them on a hike up the Dry Creek Trail to show them where Spencer wanted his ashes scattered when he passes.

In October, David went with Spencer to the Teton Valley Lodge in Jackson, Wyoming. They enjoyed fishing the Teton and Snake Rivers and hired guides to help them catch fish.



They fished for two days, floating the Snake River, with two men to a boat accompanied by an experienced guide to row and point out the best fishing holes. David was disappointed as he had a great deal of difficulty hooking the native trout. Spencer, at 82, did much better. They had beautiful weather and were fortunate to see beaver, moose, eagles and other wildlife. It was peaceful and beautiful along the sparsely inhabited, magnificent, Snake River.



They met many people in various walks of life on their trip, including Janet Leigh the actress who starred in “Psycho”.

David really enjoyed being with his dad, except when he started giving him orders like a child again. He noticed this more as Spence grew older, but when he was not in that mode he felt Spence was good company with many interesting things to say, including lots of stories about his early experiences hunting and fishing.