

David Todd Henion

My Grandfather, David Todd Henion was a treasure to all his grandchildren. He was the wisest, wittiest, funniest, and the most loved grandfather that ever lived. Going to grandpa and grandma's house in my grade school and early teen years meant an evening of playing checkers with grandpa and most certainly there would be some freshly "popped" corn sometime during the evening.

Working in the fields, hoeing peppermint etc. was actually fun if grandpa was there as he would make light of even the smallest events. He was joy and fun all day long. During my college and early married years grandpa showed me his deep wisdom and understanding as I was struggling to become my own person. I remember he stayed up with me to 2:00am one night discussing some of my rather "radical philosophical views." This occurred at my parent's house in the Dever/Conner farm in approximately 1961. To this day, May 19, 2024, I think of grandpa Henion almost daily, just wishing I could talk to him again. Someday I will, and that makes me smile.

Grandpa married [http://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Van_Nostrand-2 Verda VanNostrand] at 2:00pm, Feb. 24, 1909, in [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avard,_Oklahoma Avard, Oklahoma]. A clergyman by the name of Eugene Fergeson officiated the wedding ceremony. Standing up as witnesses for the occasion was Miss Etta Keefover, and Mr. and Mrs. Johann Sharr. Grandpa told me an interesting story one day when I was working with him in a field hoeing. He said he was riding past the Joseph Van Nostrand's place and saw a young lady standing in a yard with two other young ladies (presumably her sisters) very near where he was passing by. Grandpa, later in that same day told a friend of his that he had just seen "the girl I'm going to marry". It turned out to be my grandmother, Verda VanNostrand, and he did indeed marry her.

I wished that I knew how much time had passed between that event and Feb. 24, 1909, but I have the impression that it wasn't long. He actually did a little detective work and found the church where she attended in Avard. He then discovered that the ladies of the church were putting on a pie social for a fundraising for the church. Grandpa determined to meet this young lady decided to attend and with a little more investigation found the pie that Verda had made. Of course, he made sure no one outbid him for this special pie as it provided the entrée to meet her. This story I believe is quite typical of Grandpa's impulsive nature in his earlier years. Actually, I am very glad he was this way because it kept him young and interesting all of his life."

Note: Narrative written by Loyd Ray Henion, son of Charlie and Alice Henion.

NB: Lloyd was a grandson to David and brother to Kathy Henion Kinsella's Dad. I.e. the last remaining Uncle.