

## **The Move to Grantsville & Reading**

When Paula was four years old, in 1962, our family moved to Grantsville, Utah (84 West Main Street) to take care of her grandparents' farm (located mainly down north Cooley's Lane) and animals while they (Paul and Carrie Wrathall) served a two-year mission in Hawaii. Shortly after we arrived, Paula was asked to perform on a Mother's Day Program. So at four years old, she "read" a book she had memorized (because I had read it to her so many times) in Sunday School or Sacrament meeting up on the stand at the Grantsville 1<sup>st</sup> Ward. It was a story about a little bear and his mother. The congregation enjoyed the story because she told it with so much expression that everyone thought that she could read.



## **Work, Horses, & Frosty**

Because our farm duties included driving cattle all over the farm and to and from our Box Elder pastures (located on the foothills of the Stansbury Mountains south of Grantsville), and gathering the cattle up if they broke through our fences, we needed horses. We got a horse named Babe for me from Hoke Anderson, a palomino for Jeff or Sherrie from Ed Gillespie, and a horse named Princess Kalualani of Hawaii, which my father had given Greg for feeding his cows in the winter. We also bought a gentle horse named Frosty for \$100 from Uncle Mike Johnson. Paula fell in love with this horse and he was hers forever more.

Paula loved horses of all kinds. She only fell off a horse once and that was one day when she and her sister Sherrie were riding Frosty and something frightened him and he jumped in a way that they both fell off. Sherrie broke her arm but Paula was unhurt.

She especially loved her dear Frosty. The two years we spent in Grantsville were very happy ones for Paula because of the freedom she had at ages four, five, and six to have her own horse to ride. We did a lot of riding during those years. She was a “natural” at riding, just like her mother, and rode bareback like an



Indian and looked like a little horsefly on Frosty. Later, I located my old child’s saddle and she used that sometimes. One day, after we all had ridden over 14 miles driving cattle up to our Box Elder Mountain property and then riding home, Paula cried when we started to take the saddles off our horses. She wanted to ride more.

Later when we moved back to Salt Lake City, she collected little glass and plastic horses. When she was training to be a nurse, she and Greg bought an Arabian horse. I made her return it to its owner because she had no money for hay or a place to keep or feed it. I am so sorry now that I didn’t make it possible for her to keep that horse because it would have given her so much joy and pleasure.

Years later, Paula had an interesting experience when she was General Counsel for the Utah Medical Association and was attending an American Medical Association Convention in New Mexico. She was in the Activities area trying to decide what to do for the



afternoon when she heard a gentleman asking if there was anyone besides himself who would like to go horseback riding. Of course, Paula jumped at this opportunity and joined him. So the two of them spent the afternoon out riding. It turned out that this gentleman was the president of the American Medical Association.

She charmed him and that evening he invited her to sit at the president's table for dinner along with his wife and officers of the American Medical Association. I imagine the president and other officers of the Utah Medical Association were amazed and a little bit jealous of her access to the AMA authorities.

Paula also liked to imitate a horse on her hands and knees as a child and she was very good at it. She would do her horse act when we had family parties on the back lawn as well as performing her gymnastic tricks for us.

### **School & Activities**

While attending Bonneville Junior High, Paula was active in gymnastics and especially participated on the balance beam. She used this talent in various competitions around Granite District Schools. She was very good at supporting other girls as they practiced their gymnastic skills. She even tried out to be a cheerleader at BJH, but was defeated in the election. This was the same year that her brother Jeff was elected Student Body President at Cottonwood High School.



Paula's AMA Ribbon