

Dear Henrietta Clayton,

This is Ashley Blaine and I am your great-granddaughter that you got to know up until age three when you passed away. But you were known as a fighter since they told you had days to live, but you ended up living 9 months it is just a Clayton thing. The family doesn't know I don't remember really anything about the time I was able to spend some time with but I was very little when you passed away. So I don't remember much about you other than you as a person and that you were my great grandma.

Now I am high school senior and 17 years old and I am choosing to study for one of my projects my family history. Which gave me the opportunity for me to interview my family about you so I could learn more about you and who you were as a person before you passed. I learned some things about the relationship we had built and that we have a love for some of the same things in life. When you were still alive, I would come to see you every Thursday and when you became sick, you didn't want to eat any of the food that was there for you. So Susan would get chicken nuggets from her boss because she knew it was my favorite food and I would force you to eat by shoving chicken nuggets in your mouth. But they said you thought it was so cute how I cared so much about you at such a young age. While I was there you loved to sing because I would dance around the bed and on the table. I end up falling in love with singing even though I am not. I still have two ceramic dolls you gave to me when you passed. I learned that you had a passion for sewing and I look doing that since I have already made two blankets by knitting and two by sewing T-shirts together. And you learned to laugh when your great-grandkids talked about your death and your favorite was Richard because he was the first and had a lot of health problems.

But these things are all wonderful, but they didn't help me understand you as a person so I had to ask the deeper and more meaningful questions. So, I needed to understand you and know you and your personality. My dad and Alison would say you had some flaws like everyone does, but you brought them things rather than wanting to love them when they just wanted to spend time with you. You did love to show them love by taking them to dining and going to Glenn's wrestling matches and did things like Ladies Auxiliary with her, but together she always took time with them on holidays and she loved to play cards and taught them all types of card games. With all of this that occurred between you and your grandkids and great-grandkids they would all say they wouldn't want to change you into anyone else.

While my next task was to understand that I had to learn that you and your daughter struggled to build a relationship that was good strong just like my mother and I struggle. I know you guys had plenty of differences like she loved to read and you hated it along with many other things she loved to do, but yet you two were so alike that is why it caused conflict between you two. But through all this fighting you supported your daughter getting married, even if you didn't really like the man since you called all of your friends up and had them help pay for her dress so she would look amazing on her wedding day. It was hard for her to see that you had a favorite child because Susan would spend so much time with you, but as soon as Kenny was there you ignored her. So that really hurt her and broke her a little bit. But through all these hard times she will still say you are a very brilliant person and great with numbers just like Kenny and Glenn and that's why you worked for the state and BlueCross and BlueShield. While doing these things you still managed to help support Susan as a child, but she wouldn't consider you to be the best parent. But she admires the passion you had for others especially veterans. You were in the Ladies Auxiliary and every Christmas you would invite veterans into your house and give them

food and gift because that's what you loved to do. They honestly say they might feel bad for the veterans because they had to eat your cooking because you weren't the best cook.

But just know that we all miss you and wish we had more time to spend with you before you past away. And just so you know Susan is not very good and when she gets in her emotional times with her, she always says she wishes you two could have a had a much better relationship. I hope you are having a great time and when you passed it was never a goodbye it is always just see you in a while. Thank you for always watching over our family.

I love you GG.

Ashley