

**Rose Elizabeth Turner Andrus**  
**Born: March 5, 1885 – Died: June 5, 1975**

Written by Jana Ames, Nancy Sorensen & James Jackson

We lived just next door to Grandmother Andrus and we loved going to visit her. We felt very welcome at Grandmother's house anytime. We couldn't talk about Grandma without mentioning Aunt Wilma. Aunt Wilma lived with Grandmother most of her life and never married. We loved her dearly.

Grandmother Andrus was such a great cook. She made the best tuffies (scones), pies (especially apple) and rolls that you have ever tasted. It was fun to see her hands working. She had beautiful hands. She was always up early getting the rolls made. When making rolls she would roll out the dough and then cut the biscuits out with a glass. It was fun to watch her do this. The biscuits that she made were so fluffy and so good.

She could put together a whole meal with leftovers and it would taste so good. We often wondered how she did that. One of my favorite breakfasts was Tapioca Mush that she always made when we stayed over or she would just call us and tell us she had it ready and to come on over and have some. She had a little white sugar bowl with sugar and small white picture of cream sitting on the table. She would pour the cream over the pie with sugar and the same with the mush. It made everything taste so good.

She always loved us to come over to visit or sit down to some dessert or dinner. She would call and tell us to come over and eat and stay a while. In the summers especially we would gather on her porch in the evenings when it was cool and everyone would just enjoy visiting. The porch was the "Gathering Place". We can still hear Grandmother calling out to passer-byes, "You who, come and sit on the porch. You've got plenty of time to visit." Around the porch Grandmother had planted Holly Hocks, Roses (she loved the peace roses) & Periwinkles. The porch was always full of family, neighbors and friends. Grandmother would invite anyone passing to come and sit and visit for a while. She made everyone feel so very welcome. We loved to listen as children to all the things that were happening in our town and with the family. All the grandchildren would play around on the porch and the lawn as the adults visited. When it became dark Grandmother would spread a big quilt out on the lawn and we children would lie down on the blanket and have what Grandmother called the "Blanket Show". We would look up at all the stars and the universe. She would have us count all the

stars. We really got into the blanket show especially when we would see a shooting star.

Irrigation day was so fun at Grandma's house. She would flood the lawn with water from the ditch and we would run, play and slide on the lawn in our swimming suits. She loved to spray down the sidewalk, lawns and flowers in the evenings to cool things off. I loved the smell of water on the warm earth and sidewalk.

Grandmother Andrus was 2 years old when her sister Rhoda (whom my mother was named after) was born. They did not know of each other until grandma was 10 years old. She remembered being asked if she would like to meet her sister, Rhoda. She remembers packing a small shoe box with some socks and a few items in it to take. Grandmother's mother passed away shortly after giving birth to her sister Rhoda. \*\* Friends were visiting at this same time and the mother was nursing so little Rhoda was given to the Gearson Sanders Bastian family to raise and have as their own. Maybe Grandfather Turner wanted to bring her back home at some point but it didn't happen. I believe they were from Siguard, Utah. Rhoda later in life married Ed Chappell and they lived in Siguard, Utah. I remember Rhoda coming to visit Grandmother and Grandmother visiting her. They really enjoyed getting together when they could.

My Grandmother Andrus as a child was passed around to family members to take care of her and then her father married again. Grandmother Rose Andrus only had a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade education. Her new mother, Mary Elizabeth needed her to stay home from school to help with the laundry, iron, do dishes, feed the chickens and other chores. I am sure that being the oldest she must have had to help take care of the little ones. She was always a hard worker and I am sure that she learned this from an early age. She enjoyed her half-sisters and they would visit on often, Allie Pymn, Nellene, & Else. She also had two half-brothers John Turner and James E. Turner Jr. who she enjoyed.

As a young girl, Grandmother's family had to make their own soap and chop wood to build fires. Even as young girls we remember Grandmother chopping wood and gathering kindling and making fires in the wood burning stove. As a teenager she worked in the Cotton Mill in Washington, Utah. She remembered wearing cotton sack cloth dresses. Grandmother worked hard as a young girl and most of her life. We found a picture of her and other workers sitting in front of the Cotton Factory in Washington City's museum hanging on the wall.

As young girls we remember visiting with Grandpa James Turner and his wife, Mary Elizabeth. They lived in Washington, Utah south of the

Nisson Market at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> block going south on the right across the street on the corner. Grandpa Turner had a large mustache that was twisted at the ends. We remember watching him sprinkle tobacco onto a piece of white paper and rolling it into cigarette.

Grandmother in later life also would chop wood (kindling) and start a fire in the morning to warm the room before we woke up. She didn't seem to mind making fires, cleaning the windows, washing on a washboard and then a wringer washer. She always hung out her clothes on the clothesline behind our house that was right next door. We shared a clothesline. Grandpa Andrus or dad had put a tin or metal bridge across the ditch that we walked on so that when there was water running we wouldn't get our feet or shoes wet. Everyone crossed that bridge many times. I loved to watch grandmother wash the clothes and hang them on the line. It was an art to hanging clothes on the line and we learned to do it just right from grandmother and Mom. Everyone used to say that no one could hang clothes outside like Aunt Beth (our Mother's sister).

We watched them sprinkle the clothes with water, put them into a plastic bag and then placed in the fridge until ready for ironing. When they were ready to iron they would take them out and press everything from shirts, dresses, clothes, sheets and pillowcases.

Before she met Grandpa, Grandma cleaned houses and lived with Sister Snow who had the Snow's Dress Shop. We are not sure if Grandmother worked in the little shop but the shop sold hats that she helped to make and she loved hats. She owned some really beautiful hats that we would dress up in, not often but occasionally. She did let me dress up in some of her clothes when I was little. Grandmother Rose and Grandpa Andrus met at this time when she was living with Sister Snow. They would swing and talk on the porch in the evenings. She and Grandpa fell in love and were married. They both shared the same birthday of March 5<sup>th</sup>. Grandmother was so happy when she married Grandpa. She said that she had never felt so loved as when she met Grandpa.

Grandmother and Grandfather Andrus had 5 children. Wilma was the oldest and then Iliff, Rhoda who was our mother, Beth and Noma. All the children married and lived in St. George except Aunt Noma who lived in Salt Lake City, California and then Texas. We loved it when Aunt Noma would come to visit us.

The first years of Grandpa and Grandma's marriage they lived in a little home at the farm. Our mother recalls many wonderful memories down on the farm. Grandpa later built grandmother a beautiful home in the heart of St. George (59 West 100 South) right across from the old college and

down one block from the tabernacle. I think that they must have had the first or one of the first real indoor toilets. They must have lived in a small home just one block east of this new home while it was being built because our mother (Rhoda) was born in this small home. They moved into their home that Grandpa had built when Aunt Beth was born. Aunt Beth always said that he built that home just for her for when she was born. Later when Noma was born, Grandmother had the small pocks so bad and was so sick that she remembered having them everywhere even in her mouth, throat and hair. Grandmother was told that the baby would have problems but Noma did not have any effects of the small pocks and was a beautiful normal baby.

Grandmother took in laundry from the Arrowhead Motel and washed and iron the white shirts and had them back early in the morning around 5:00. She worked for \$.25 a week. Her girls said that she must have stayed up all night getting this laundry done. She worked very hard while grandpa worked very hard at the farm to make ends meet.

Grandpa would always have a beef hanging up in the tree wrapped in a white (sheet) cloth. They would cut pieces of meat off to eat.

Aunt Noma was the Day's of 47 Queen in 1941. She had ridden up in a cattle truck of her brother Iliff's to the event. She at this time met the SLC Mayor's son Marvin Jenkins and they fell in love and married 5 weeks later. Ab Jenkins, Marvin's Father had introduced them to each other. Marvin's Mother told him she had met the girl he was to marry. Ab Jenkins was a famous race car driver. Grandmother Andrus was so worried about having all the dignitaries down from SLC at their home for the wedding and dinner. I know that the meal really tasted delicious and she did fine.

Grandmother had a small coin purse with a few coins in it. She would bring it out when Jim's Market (Jim Andrus our Mother's cousin) would drive up in front of the house and press on his horn. We can still hear the sound of the horn. Jim would have everything in his mobile market that you could ever want at the super market. It was amazing that you could buy most anything that you needed. The Market on wheels is another whole story in it self but it was sure fun when he would pull up and we could buy things right there that we needed. Grandmother always needed baking powder and yeast. We remember buying fudge cycles that were so tasty and penny candy.

Aunt Wilma worked up at the County Court House and often Nancy recalled that she, Mom, and Grandmother would meet Aunt Wilma at Mr. Churches and get a hamburger. She remembered the swivel chairs that they would sit on at the counter. Grandmother also liked to go to the A & W Root Beer Drive Inn and have a root beer float. Aunt Wilma loved having a

hot dog. Grandmother would again bring out her coin purse to pay for our treat.

Nancy remembered Grandmother always having a quilt on the quilting frames. They would quilt often at Grandmother's house. Nancy and the other children would always play underneath the quilt and they would see the needles come down and go back up in the quilt. The women always had on big thick-heeled shoes and sometimes in their socking feet. The socks would go to their knees.

Grandmother always wore a dress, an apron and nylon socks that she knotted at the top to keep them up. We would collect our old stockings to give to her and then she would wash and wear them. She didn't mind if they had runs in them she was just thrilled to get them. She would tell us that as long as she had her nylons, coat, earrings, and rouse on she was ready to go. James, our brother said that he stills finds Grandmother's stockings around the yard because she would tie up the grapevines, help support the fence with them, wrap around a leaky tap, etc. They were very handy to use as string. Just another funny note that we remembered about nylon stockings was when Aunt Wilma would put her nylons in a dry metal ice tray and freeze them. When she was ready to wear them she would take them out and thaw them. This was to preserve them longer.

Grandmother's apron that she wore she used for everything. She would gather the eggs, feed the chickens, cook, wipe tears, shine furniture, carry laundry, dry off the children after their baths or what ever you would use a bushel basket for she would use her apron.

We loved to pin her hair up in Bobbie pins that we collected out of the couch. She had the most beautiful grey hair. We can still remember the smell of her wet hair. It smelled nice and clean. She was a beautiful woman and her complexion was just like peaches and cream and rose- colored. She seemed tall to us and had slender frame & legs. She was always busy, quiet, worked very hard, led a simple life and was very kind. We never remember her ever raising her voice. She treated us with a lot of love.

When we first had a phone in our home we were on a party line with Grandmother and Aunt Wilma. The number was 226. We had to lift the phone and give the operator our number request and wait for the operator to connect with that party. Grandmother loved to visit on the phone and we would have to wait patiently for her to finish her conversations. Sometimes she had to wait for us and she would politely ask us when we would be finished because she had a call to make. It was a fun experience sometimes listening to each other's conversations. Later we updated to dial phones but it was fun with the old part lines.

Grandmother and Aunt Wilma always wanted us to sleep over at their house. I remember sleeping over quite often. She would ask us always to say the prayers for supper or nighttime to go to bed because I think she only knew the Lord's Prayer. Nancy and I know this prayer by heart because grandmother said it often. I can still hear her saying the Lord's Prayer to herself before she fell asleep.

Grandmother loved to see Elvis Presley in Blue Hawaii. I took her to the show and she wanted to sit through it a second time. I remember that the next day we had to go search for her glasses at the Dixie Theatre because she was so involved in the show that she lost her glasses. We did find the glasses.

We are not sure about the date but Grandmother had a small heart attack when we were small. Nancy remembers that an ambulance came and took Grandmother to the hospital. She must have stayed a few days and then came home. She seemed to be alright and the doctor at that time recommended that she take a shot of whiskey once in a while. We always laughed at her having that bottle in the cupboard.

Grandmother Rose had pretty things such as a beautiful crocheted table cloth, made by Aunt Wilma that was on her dining room table, beautiful china, and crystal glasses. We remember the beautiful settings for the Thanksgiving Tables. She and Aunt Wilma would set the tables so beautifully and had tables stretched from one end of the living through to the dining room. Thanksgiving was so wonderful and tasty. They always had Aunts, Uncles, cousins and friends. Oh my, it was a real feast. We used to go over the evening before to help set up the tables and get everything prepared. We can still taste the turkey, potatoes, gravy, dressing, cranberries, salads, apple pie, pumpkin pie, Aunt Wilma's homemade Chocolate Cake, fruit cake, and always leftovers that we enjoyed in the evenings. We would like to note that Aunt Wilma, Aunt Vivian, Aunt Beth, Aunt Noma, and Rhoda (our Mom) and others brought food that always tasted so good.

Grandmother Andrus played the piano a little and taught me (Jana) to chord to some songs of which the words I will share. She would sing the hymns Shatter Sunshine All Along the Way, Look for the Silver Lining, Two Babes in the Wood, So Let the Sunshine In, There Is Beauty All Around and many others. Her family still remember her singing these songs to us.

## Song #1

Come wife said good old farmer Grey  
Put on you things tis market day  
Let us be off and ride to town  
Returning home ere the sun goes down

Old Spot he barked and Spot her wined  
And soon made up his doggish mind  
To steal away under the wagon

They started homeward after dark  
Returning home through the forest heart  
A tramp sprang from behind a tree  
Your life or else your gold said he  
The moon shone bright but he did not see  
The little dog under the wagon

Old spot he saved the farmer's life  
The farmer's gold and the farmer's wife  
Now proud and grand he wears today  
A silver collar in all a-ray

## Song #2

For remember while your young  
That the day to you will come  
When you'll be old and only in the way

Friend will grasp him by the hand  
And relations all around  
Their waiting him to die they want his gold

So remember while you're young  
That the day to you will come  
When you'll be old and only in the way.

We used to walk up to the old Recreation Hall and watch the dances  
on Friday nights through the south glass windows . Grandmother used to

say there goes Aunt Zil all gussied up and heading for the dance that she would attend on Monday nights. This was the old folk dances with the old time orchestra.

Grandmother had a few dreams that were very impressionable. I (Jana) asked her to tell me about her dreams one day as I pinned up her hair. She said that her dreams were so real and vivid. The first dream she related was that one day while cooking at the stove in her home in St. George, Utah she turned and there she saw her mother who she had never really known, ascending on a path from the temple in a bright light. She knew immediately that this was her Mother. Her Mother told her that she needed to get Charles and their children to the temple and be sealed together for all time and all eternity. After her Mother gave her the message, she started to ascend back along the path in a bright light toward the temple. She said that she didn't want her mother to leave and asked her to stay. Her mother told her that she couldn't stay because she had so much work to do but that all would be well. Her mother continued to ascend back toward the temple until the light disappeared. Grandpa and Grandma did take the children and were sealed in the St. George Temple. Nancy and I have viewed the steeple of the temple to this day from grandmother's side kitchen door. It is best to see it in the winter months because the leaves on the trees don't block the view.

The second dream she related to me was that after Grandfather Charles Andrus passed away grandmother was very lonely for him. She said that she was so sad that she would cry a lot and wished that she could die and be with him. One night Charles appeared to her and told her, "Rose you need to stop crying and know that everything will be alright." After this experience she stopped her crying and focused on living. I remember that just before she passed away while in the rest home she said that she couldn't wish to die because Charles would be upset with her.

Our Grandmother was very special to us as we grew up. She taught us many wonderful things. We have felt so blessed to have known and loved her. We have learned from her life that we can be so blessed by living the principles of gospel. She was wonderful and we appreciated her love for all of us. Grandma was very kind and gentle and she instilled in us the values that we would need to be successful in each of our lives.

Daughter Wilma Andrus – Born August 19, 1907 – Died March 12, 1991

\*\*We found out that Emily Susanna Paxman Bastian (who was Rhoda's Mother's sister) raised Rhoda Turner Bastian Chappell. We never knew that Rhoda was raised by her Mother's sister.