



Their growing up consisted of normal country living in those days—visiting friends and family by horse and buggy, going to church and prayer meetings as well as doing chores.

Uncle Gordon and Aunt Jenny were married in January, 1942 and took over working the farm. Ma, Pa, Mom and Eugene eventually left the brick farmhouse to live by the railway crossing near Stirling. It was from this house my parents were married in Dec. 1942. Eugene aged 12, lived with Ma and Pa, but now was much closer to Stirling. As Eugene became a teen, Ma would allow him to go to the Presbyterian Church for Young Peoples and thus friendships were formed and Eugene became a proud Presbyterian. He also hung out at the jewelry store with XP Mayhew and learned about clock works, small gears etc.

In 1946 Ma died and Pa and Eugene, aged 16 moved back to the brick farmhouse with Uncle Gordon, Aunt Jenny and their son Robert. In 1947 Pa died and at 17 Eugene was once again an orphan living with his Uncle, Aunt and first cousin. He completed High School.

In 1949 at the age of 19, Eugene joined the Air Force. I remember him coming to visit us with a little yellow Morris Minor and it couldn't make it up the hills without being pushed. I think at times he must have opened the door and with one hand on the steering wheel, pushed it up the hills by himself.

When Eugene returned from the air force in 1953, he went to work and apprentice at the local jeweler XP Mayhew. He later became owner of the store in its first location between the bank and Whitehead's restaurant, later moving to the other side of the restaurant.

Eugene became friendly with a certain young lady whose father owned the 5 & 10 cent store. We all got our drivers' licenses at that 5 & 10 store.

Shirley Francis and Eugene Burrell were married in 1963. Interestingly my car keys fit Eugene's car and he had a surprise when he started the car after the reception!