

1st Major decision

In 1934 Grandpa [Wilbur] went from a Waverly, Iowa farm with \$10 in his pocket and very few clothes to attend the Chicago World's Fair. His sister Lura and bother-in-law Gene drove up from Anderson, Indiana to see him and attend the World's Fair. Wilbur had no steady job in Iowa. His sister suggested he go back to Anderson with them. He could help them in their small grocery store and maybe get a job at Delco Remy, an automotive plant. Perhaps he could take a few classes at Anderson College-our church school

In 1935 Grandma [Eileen] lived in Pa. with her great aunt. I had just graduated from high school and wanted to go to College. We were very poor and no way could we afford college. My grandfather was General Manager of our church publishing co. called the Gospel Trumpet at that time, and promised my great aunt a job in the bindery. We could get a cheap, small apartment and I could live at home but attend classes at Anderson College. Plus I could work part time at the G.T. My great aunt gave up her home, furnishings and many friends so that I could go to college! 2nd major decision.

3rd Major decision

I was pianist for the college orchestra and we were practicing for a special concert. We needed a special guest; but had no money to pay anyone in the 30's. Wilbur Schield would play the musical saw for us. He sat in the back of the room as the orchestra practiced. Just before the last number he came up and to me and said he had to leave. Could he meet with me the next night to practice? I said sure. That lead to his asking me to marry him and I said yes!

4th Major decision

March 25, 1938 we were married by my Grandfather at Park Place Church of God in Anderson, Indiana. Wilbur was 29 and I was 19. We rented an apartment from a lady who was legally blind. Very interesting experience. We were very active in the church. Wilbur taught a class of 6th graders. We attended our Young Couples Sunday School class. I played the organ on Wednesday nights and sometimes Sunday nights.

5th decision.

We moved into our lovely new home that Wilbur built us. He had help from some of his customers who owed him money and paid by working on the house. I worked part time as telephone operator and receptionist for Gospel Trumpet Co. and took some classes at Anderson College. Wilbur had his own-many customers-fruit and vegetable route. Sam Bathauer was one of his loyal customers who lived directly across the street from the College. Wilbur drove to Indianapolis at 2:30 in the morning to pick up his fresh produce for the day. Then return to Anderson and his many stores. What Wilbur didn't sell and wouldn't be saleable the next day had to be canned or used. There were no freezers in those days. I had to learn fast how to can things!!

Our new home was the 1st to be built on that side of Chestnut Street. There was one new home across the street. Wilbur used our basement for storage of 100#bags of potatoes and crates of fruit. He designed the basement so that the truck level was much deeper than the other part of the basement. He could back his truck in and open the doors and wheel the 100 # bags right off the truck to store them in the basement. Very clever.

6th Major decision.

To start a family. Milo, our 1st son was born June 12,1940. A Happy Day! Marlo, our second son was born Oct. 3rd,1942. Another Happy Day! World War 2 was going on at that time. Black outs and rationing of food supplies. Even with 2 children there was a good possibility that Wilbur would be called and have to go to war. His brother Vern called from Waverly, Iowa and suggested we move to Iowa. Wilbur could help him with a new invention he was working on. If Wilbur did have to go to war he would have a job to come to. Not so with the wholesale fruit and vegetable he had.

7th Major decision.

In the spring of 1944 we moved to Waverly, Iowa. Wilbur's decision. I was crying all the time and didn't want to leave my brand new home and all our friends. Wilbur asked: "I'm going. Are you coming or not?" We rented our home in Anderson. Bought 2nd hand furniture and put it in the vegetable truck and moved to Iowa. We rented an old home with 8 inch wide floor boards, Could sweep the dirt down the cracks. You could see the lights from the basement below if the lights were on. No closet for clothes. We had very few. We strung a rope from one corner of the room to the other and hung up our few clothes. Milo was almost 3 years and 10 months. Marlo was 1 year 6 months. We had an old washing machine. We were able to purchase only wooden tubs during the war. We placed 2 of them on chairs and put rinse water in them. We had to put pans under the chairs to catch water that leaked from the many holes in tubs. Wilbur was gone out to the quarry from 6 in the morning till 6:30 at night. I hated Waverly. Left a brand new home and friends for this!!!

8th major decision.

We decided to stay in Waverly, Iowa. The invention took off. Had over 500 employees at one time. Wilbur has done extensive traveling all over the world to sell equipment and attend Trade fairs.

We made a commitment to each other when we were married 65 years plus 7 months ago. With God's help we made it this far and trust our future to Him.

We are very happy in our new Patio home in Waverly, Iowa.