

Hi Robert. Here are some copies of pictures of Wilford's and Lila's short marriage. I have a more complete album of her parentage. He kept in close contact with Lila and her family during his schooling. Lila lived and worked in Toronto during that time too. She worked at Eatons and sang in the Bell choir and frequently visited her sister Orpha. I know so little about her though Clifford said she was the perfect mate for Wilford who was shy because she was outgoing and gregarious. His comment was that everybody loved her. At one time Dad told me how much he admired Lila's mother and how he was with her when she died of heart disease. Her death was before I was born. When Catherine died there was a funeral for her in Ontario which Murray and I attended. At that time Dad arranged for me to spend an afternoon with his father in Fairground so we could spend a few hours talking about Lila and the person she was. She spent the second year of her marriage and first year after his graduation looking after him in his father's house in Fairground while he recovered from rheumatic fever before he brought his first practice in Brownsville.

I also have pictures of happy family gatherings, life as a country doctor tending his bees, tending his boy scout troop, tending his rose bushes and glads readying for competition. He was so happy then being part of the village. He had a mentally challenged young man to help with the gardens and a washer woman to manage the bloody stuff from his surgery in the house. He was the village doctor and the village everything else too. But then Lila died. Some said that her family blamed him, families seemed to disappear and according to Clifford his life changed. There never was enough money and the attacks of rheumatic fever were an issue. His life began with such determination and hope and love for my mother. He had hoped to be a medical missionary in far places. His illness ended that dream. The war came, country doctoring ended and he began again. You know much more about the rest of his life than I do. Marrying Catherine was the best thing he could have done for Douglas and me though they seemed to have few interests in common eg books, opera, music etc. Her dreaminess seemed to

confused him. She was a perfect stepmother however. The joy seemed to go out of his life as the years passes, and Evelyn and deafness took their toll. My question has always been 'why Evelyn'. After he married her I always wondered where the original happy totally-in-charge father that I know as an young child had gone.

Do anything you would like with the pictures. Doug has copies too. Lots of love...Betty