

REMARKS BY CHAR AT THE FAMILY REUNION
September 5, 1992.

On behalf of our extended family, I would like to express our appreciation to Shirley and George for their generous hosting of the family reunion for not only this year, but for hosting all of our family reunions throughout the past 38 to 40 years.

These spacious grounds are perfect for "the gathering of the clan". I can't visualize having our reunion in any other setting than this.

This beautiful site is especially meaningful to those of us who spent some of our childhood years living here in the original house with Mom and Dad. Shirl and George have made some beautiful additions to their home, but the heart and soul and sentimental memories of this house remain intact.

Thank you, George and Shirley, for your fine hospitality and for providing us all with the opportunity to spend some wonderful, happy hours with our family, enjoying great food and good fellowship. We realize how much hard work is entailed in preparing the grounds for such an event, and the planning involved is ~~No~~ small feat.

Thank you, also, for compiling the family directory. We appreciate how much research and planning that you put into this complex project - the many long -distance telephone calls in verifying dates, names, birthdays, etc.

Our thanks to Georgia, also, for all her hard work on this project as she utilized her secretarial talents and her expertise at the computer in setting up the format, etc. She did a beautiful job. This family directory from Shirley and George will be invaluable to us all at Christmas time when we are usually digging out addresses.

All of us in this extended family are heirs - heirs to a legacy of Christian love which was left us by Ellen M. Wood, our beloved mother and grandmother. Mom's high principles and her loving ways are being passed down from one generation to the other.

I wish to thank you all for making my 70th birthday such a special one! It could never be topped! The memories of my birthday "Roast" and the skit, by my nieces and nephews, will provide me with some great stories to entertain Jackson, Jack and Chris, and Irene in the weeks ahead. I loved every minute of it!

If I have a quote Secret for Staving Off Old Age unquote, it is that I keep coming home to be re-vitalized by all my nieces and nephews, and great-nieces and great-nephews. I always leave these family reunions refreshed in mind and spirit, with the bonds of family love firmly reinforced. Our feeling of closeness will never be limited by the time we spend apart.

May God be with you all in your daily lives. And may He bless and keep you all, until we meet again.