

KIM'S NARRATIVE HISTORY OF GROWING UP

Tedi grew up in a musical family. Grandma, (Henrietta), sang in the opera and Granddaddy (Leon) was a highly skilled violinist who had trained under Leopold Auer in St. Petersburg. Leon had several brothers. The family came to this country from Russia. Leon and Henrietta met in Chicago, where she grew up. She was singing when she met Leon. Tedi was born in Chicago Ill. She remembered sitting on her Grandfathers lap and pulling on his beard as a small child. She never saw him again after they left the Chicago area and traveled across the country in a train.

Leon played music at various theaters. Tedi was a much pampered little child. She wore gold locket. She was dressed in the best; she never even learned how to brush her own hair let alone how to cook. She was a loner in the schools she attended. She liked to ice skate. The family then moved to San Francisco and also spent a brief amount of time in Hawaii. After moving to San Francisco they lived in the area near downtown (Lincoln Avenue, near 19th Ave). She could walk to their church (3rd church on Haight Street in the Haight Ashbury) and school. Tedi rode horses on the beaches. She ice skated in the pond down in the park area where there is now a wild life zoo. She told me of a time when she fell through the ice into the pond when ice skating and the ice broke. She was able to swim out; but very shaken up over the experience. She showed me the pond one time. I was surprised; I didn't know the area got that cold to freeze water. They moved to Hawaii for at least one season then to the Los Angeles area of CA before Tedi turned 14. She never finished high school and eventually ran away and married someone at the young age of 16. Life suddenly became a reality. That period of her life was not discussed much. She did tell me how she had to learn to drive very quickly. Her husband was so drunk that she had to get out, crank the car and drive them home across town late one night after a party (keeping in the streetcar tracks to steer the car). Doing the depression she worked as a waitress and brought home left over food to eat. She did take art classes and began working at Paramount Studios as a costume designer. Had a sailboat and kept a drawbridge open while she tried to maneuver past it. Somewhere in this time period Tedi lost the use of her right arm and part of her sight. She was legally blind and wore very thick glasses. Tedi began using her left hand to write or draw. Although Tedi was raised in CS she had left when she married at 16. At about 30 she turned back to CS and had a healing of both her sight and the use of her right arm. While she was still married she met Jimmy about a year before she got a divorce in an art class. I think she was married 12 years before she finally left her first husband, an alcoholic, who had continued to abuse her through their marriage.

Leon must have been well paid since when Bruce and I were growing up we crawled around on many Persian rugs. Their large duplex was plush with mahogany tables, chairs, beds etc. They had silver candelabras, silverware and fine china. The living room was off limits to us children except at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter when the throw covers were removed from the furniture and everyone enjoyed sitting and chatting to a big turkey. An upright mahogany piano was in the living room on which Kim was given lessons on for a short while. They had a fairly good-sized backyard where Grandma grew a victory garden and flowers. Granddaddy had a funky little one-car garage with two concrete tracks for the wheels and which always had oil on the floor. This is where he kept the Machine (that is what he called his car). I always thought that was funny to call a car a machine; but later I found out that was the translation of auto from Russian to English.

Jimmy was born in Uniontown, Pennsylvania. He was an only child. His younger life included delivering merchandise from his father's mercantile store in PA. He harnessed horses to a wagon to deliver the products. Rachel, his mother, was 5 years younger than this father. They were devout Catholics. They moved across the country by railroad from PA to Lodi, CA where his dad owned a mercantile store and made advertising signs. Moved to Glendale, where Jimmy graduated from Glendale High and where he met Al Taliaferro. Jimmy enjoyed playing the piano (wrapped a blanket around the piano to muffle it while he was practicing in the early morning before doing his paper route) and riding a motorcycle. His dad died when Jimmy was only 16 which prevented Jimmy from attending the college (Stanford) to which he had already won a scholarship. Did a paper route for 7 years to support his mother while he was trying to figure out what to do with his life. His paternal Aunt Eva had been sent to school by his dad (Eva's brother) and she always felt guilty that Jimmy hadn't obtained a good education. Aunt Eva and Uncle Henry, who owned a prosperous construction firm in Spokane, Washington, visited us often for many years after WW11, always showing up in a big Cadillac that Henry liked to drive. Gave Jimmy \$100 bill in LA to try to help out with dress company as it was starting to fail. Aunt Eva helped Kim with the costs of her first year in college to help pay back her debt she felt she owed to her dead brother. During the depression Jimmy worked as a court reporter. He could take short hand and type very well.

He tried to teach us those skills too. Joseph Pizer was partner in Kim's of California in LA – formed partnership with Tedi and Jimmy because he promised to get them dress materials, then reneged on that promise causing Kim's to fail.

Tedi continued with art classes. She and Jimmy started seeing each other (met in WPA class). Later, we stayed in car when they were taking classes. I believe she was impressed that Jimmy didn't drink; they finally married when Tedi was 30 and Jimmy was 29. They moved to a small house up on a hill over looking Hollywood (Mavis Drive). A year later (6/13/1937) Kim came along then another year (7/20/1938) Craig (later renamed Bruce) came along. Jimmy played his music (piano and violin??) with friends in the evenings. He worked for the Corps of Army Engineers on the construction of a dam doing the day as a surveyor and engineer tech. Tedi continued at Paramount Studios as a costume designer. They did get us a pony to ride (Smokey). Jimmy did carpentry work on the house and taught us to survey on weekends, planted victory gardens, fires during the summer, watering the top of the house, jumping off the hill above the stable into Jimmy's arms. There were maids who took care of us doing the weekdays. This was near the end of the depression. Everyone worked who could; wages were low. Then the war came. Jimmy started working at Lockheed as an engineer tech. Went to Cost Rica and Guatamela working for Army Corps of Engineers. He worked in the same building with a man named Chuck Wilson (Chuck and Jeannie Wilson), who later, when we were living in Texas, sent Jimmy a telegram saying that Lockheed was opening a new plant in Marietta, Georgia, and that there were ground-floor opportunities. The plant was the former Bell Bomber Plant, and the Air Force had asked Lockheed to re-open the plant to manufacture B47s during the Korean War. We moved there in the summer of 1951, between the 7th and 8th grades.

WW11: Jimmy tried to enlist in the army but was refused because of his age and the fact that he would not sign documents stating that he did not have any dependents. Jimmy and Tedi dropped their last name Stumpf and kept Craig (Jimmy's middle name) as their last name. Craig then had to pick a new name -- Bruce. Instead Jimmy again joined the Army Corps of Engineers and went to Central America to work on the Pan American Highway. For a week Craig and I were put into a boarding school. We were so unhappy with that situation that Tedi moved from the hillside house to a house on a very busy street about 2 blocks from Paramount Studios (626 N. Arden Blvd). This was our home until after WW11 was over. During that time Tedi was pregnant with a third (male) child. During the birth of the third sibling the baby choked to death on his umbilical cord. Tedi was absolutely devastated. She went back to work at Paramount Studio. We attended Berkeley Hall School in Beverly Hills. We commuted to school by bus.

After WWII Jimmy returned. We were evicted from our home in Hollywood (626 N. Arden Blvd) when it sold. We then moved to Glendale into a house belonging to one of Jimmy's long time high school friend Al Taliaferro (Al and Lucy, Cheryl and Bill on Chevy Chase Drive). Tedi and Jimmy started a family business of making girls dresses named Kim's of California. That was a lot of work; they eventually took on a partner (Pizer). We saw little of Jimmy. Bruce and I worked at the factory on Saturday cleaning machines, cutting patterns and various clean up chores. The company eventually declared bankruptcy. Jimmy went back to work as an engineer so we moved to Santa Fe NM for 2.5 years, Lubbock, Texas less than a year then on to GA near Marietta. Jimmy went back to work for Lockheed where he eventually became a manager (working in Master Scheduling for Sam White and becoming President of the Management Club) until he died of cancer in 1967. While living in Marietta, Tedi began to study fine art at the Atlanta Art Institute, taking the bus to Atlanta every morning and returning in the afternoon. She changed her name to Carley Craig. She even taught art for a while in Marietta. She sold quite a bit of her art at Art Fairs around the Atlanta area. She showed her art in the NY and FL areas too. She thoroughly enjoyed her art work; it kept her very busy and interested in life. She eventually died in 1992 at 86. Bruce (bless his soul) went back to GA and took 2 cross country Uhaul truck trips transported her art work out to the west. Malcolm Walker helped him in packing for the first trip.

Tedi's Grandmothers family: Henrietta Foy was born near Mobil AL on a small plantation around 1870. She was 20 years younger than her older sister. After the War Between the States, her father had left the area to go to the gold rush in California. When he returned 20 years later he was deaf from dynamite blasting for gold. Shortly after Henrietta was born he was killed crossing a railroad trestle being too deaf to hear the train whistle. Within a year or two her mother died also. Her older sister came from Chicago and took her into her own home and raised her with her own children in Chicago.

Jimmy's family: James Craig Stumpf was an only child too. His father had been married before, but his first wife died. He married Rachel who was quite a bit younger than him. The family disowned Jimmy when he married Tedi. Tedi

was not Catholic. She was also (heaven forbid) a divorced woman. When Kim was born, Rachel moved out of the house and back to the Lodi CA area. She considered Kim a bastard child. We never saw her again. She would frequently send us Rosary prayers, always enclosing a \$10 bill, which enraged Tedi. Jimmy had several younger cousins who he had been close too while growing up. He was very hurt by their actions. He had taken care of these cousins during WW1 while those who could work did (???). Aunt Eva is the only one who kept in close contact. Rachel, his mother, died the year before Jimmy died. I remember Jimmy would be very angry when he got a letter from his mother. I guess she degraded him verbally. I never read her letters. I do remember an Aunt Violet visiting us at holiday times in LA. She was an old lady, much older than Aunt Eva. An old man was with her.