

A Guide to the Pine Valley Series by Corrine Ardoin

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## Pine Valley Families

<u>Stewart Family</u>: ran the newspaper Harrison Stewart (Harry): Pine Valley pioneer married to Phoebe Adano Tucker Howard Stewart: their son who married Adelaide Jones (Addie) Tucker Howard and Adelaide's children: June, Howard (married Mary Weatherby), Dewey, Henry, Ted, Marjorie, Lois Louise, and Tucker James Stewart (Jim) Patricia Catherine (Kitten): June's daughter

<u>McGrew Family</u>: ran the general store Thomas McGrew: Pine Valley pioneer Ulysses McGrew (Uly): his son Sam and Clarence McGrew (Clancy, Daddy): Ulysses' sons; Clarence owned a suitcase factory Patience Walker (Patty): Clarence's wife who owned Patty's Beautique Dorothy Ann McGrew (Dottie): Clarence and Patty's daughter, worked at Patty's Beautique Thomas Ulysses McGrew (Tommy, Tom Thumb): Sam's son, a sculptor

<u>Cadwallader Family</u>: ran the post office Cedric Cadwallader: Pine Valley pioneer, immigrated from Wales William and Joseph Cadwallader: his sons Geoffrey Cadwallader: William's son Joseph Reginald, Harvey, and Robert Cadwallader (Caddie, Bobby): Joseph's sons; Robert worked as a mechanic Charity Walker: Robert's wife Sylvia Cadwallader (married Fortuitous Sumner, Forty): Robert and Charity's daughter Rebecca Parker: Sylvia's daughter with Jim Hart who is adopted by Sylvia's second husband, Andrew Parker

Hart Family: ran the blacksmith shop and livery stable Josiah Hart: Pine Valley pioneer who married Rebecca Henry Timothy Hart (Tim): their son, married to Alice Smith Jackson, (Pappy Jack), Jefferson, and Jimmy Hart: Timothy and Alice's sons Candelaria Mendoza (Laria, Larie): Jimmy's wife, a farmworker and writer Jimmy and Candelaria's children: Rosa (Rosalita, married Stephen Bertram Smith, Buster), a beautician at Patty's Beautique, and James Henry Hart (Jim, Little Jimmy, married Bethany Clark, Beth) Harvey Six-Bits (Harvard Shoseegan): Jackson's son with Cassandra Shoseegan

<u>Henry Family</u>: ran the blacksmith shop, livery stable, and way station Henry Henry: Pine Valley pioneer married to Henrietta Peabody Henry and Henrietta's children: Lulabelle (Sister Ruth) and Walter Henry (Walt, married Millicent May Forester, Millie) John James Henry (Johnny): Jim Hart and Katie Winters' son adopted by Walter and Lulabelle

<u>Walker Family</u>: ran the orchards Jebediah Walker: Pine Valley pioneer Joseph and Jiminy Walker (Cricket): his sons; Jiminy was also a moonshiner and petty thief Charlotte Lee Caruthers (Char Lee Rosebud): Jiminy's wife Jiminy and Char Lee's children: Justice, Prosperous (Russ), Patience (Patty), and Charity Charlotte Lee Walker

Garcia Family

Jose Timoteo de Jesus Garcia married Maria Josefa Candelaria Bustamante Their children: Jose Timoteo de Jesus Garcia and Maria Estefana Garcia (Mama Stefa, Little Fawn, Pine Valley pioneer) Maria Evangelica Theresa Garcia (Ev): Estefana's daughter with Joaquin Muscio, a ranch hand and miner

Mendoza Family

Berto Mendoza: Pine Valley pioneer married to Lucy Shoseegan (Choocha), a medicine woman native to Pine Valley

Their children: Hermenegildo (Herman), Manuel (Manny), and Jesse Mendoza (married Maria Evangelica Theresa Garcia) Joaquin, Dexter, Hermenegilda (Gilda), and Candelaria Mendoza (Laria, Larie): Jesse and Ev's children Aurelio Mendoza: Manuel's son, a moonshiner Aurelia Mendoza (Ellie): Aurelio's daughter

Shoseegan Family: Pine Valley natives Hector Shoseegan Dexter (Shows-His-Guns) and Lucy Shoseegan (Choocha): his children Cassandra Shoseegan: Dexter's daughter Harvey Six-Bits: Cassandra and Jackson Hart's son

<u>Gutierrez Family</u>: farmworkers Jorge Gutierrez and Esther Chavez (Chavie) Socorro Alvarez (Coco): their daughter

<u>Jones Family</u>: Bartholomew Jones: Pine Valley pioneer whose land became Edenville Adelaide Jones (Addie): heiress, married Tucker Howard Stewart

<u>Chapman Family</u>: ran the orchards A sister of Jebediah Walker married a Chapman Their children were: Isaac, Phineas (Finicky Walker), and Eunice Chapman

<u>Price Family</u> Trudy Price: owner of Teapot Full o' Whimsy Eileen Price: Trudy's daughter, a nurse at the Spring Hill Residence and Infirmary

Caruthers Family

Michael Caruthers: the soldier who aided the natives of Pine Valley during the massacre of 1855 Michael Caruthers Holy Savior and Charlotte Lee Caruthers (Char Lee Rosebud): his children

Other Characters Sam and Charlie Goodman: father and son owners of Goodman's Hardware Store Andrew Parker: English professor and political activist who married Sylvia Miss Katherine Winters (Katie): the public librarian Deputy Sheriffs Bob Carson and Stoney Father Jovial and Father Sanchez: priests at St. Peter's Catholic Church Mr. Reynolds: foreman at a horse stables outfit in the valley Klucky: owner of Klucky's Roadhouse Bear, Barclay, and Sampson: Indians of Laketon

## About the Pine Valley Series

This is a series of four novels about life in a mountain valley as seen through the eyes of its characters. We share in their individual hopes and dreams as they engage in their day to day activities and personal interactions. Working through their struggles, each ultimately strives to overcome the terrible legacies of their past, so they may embark upon a new era.

The historical background of the valley and its residents is woven into the story, chronologically beginning with Timoteo Garcia, a farmer who has fought in a battle over the part of Mexico that lies north of the Rio Grande. He fought on the Mexican side, which lost and, so, must choose to go down into Old Mexico, to stay, or to move on. He chooses to move on and heads northward into the woodlands beyond the prairie's edge and becomes a carpenter. He marries a widow, Josefa Candelaria Bustamante de Gomez, and they have three children, two boys who die in a fever epidemic, and a daughter, Estefana, who is born in 1853.

Tensions increase over the issue of slavery, which the pioneers have taken a stand against. Not feeling welcome where they are, they begin planning to head west in a wagon train, dreaming of a place where they can live in peace. When Estefana is ten, guerrilla raiders descend and burn the families out. Her parents are killed and, now an orphan, she must leave with everyone on the wagon train the following year, 1865. They settle along the emigrant trail in a place called Pine Valley where others they know have already settled the year before and where others will soon arrive. They do not know it was struck by a massacre in 1855, its entire population of native people either killed or having fled into the mountains for their lives.

By this time, some of the native residents of Pine Valley have returned to resettle their homeland. Among these families are the Shoseegan's, Hector and his children, Lucy and Dexter, who have adopted non-native names so as to blend in. Lucy has long imagined their return to the place she now calls The Valley of Dreams. Meanwhile, the settlers set about making camp, getting food, and meeting the Indian families. With the weather staying mild and dry, they are able to make progress building cabins and other temporary shelters. They dream of building a town there and naming it, "Pine Way." Meanwhile, the orphan, Estefana, who was helpful with the emigrant families, is adopted by the Shoseegan's soon after her arrival to Pine Valley.

Two men, Berto Mendoza and Joaquin Muscio, left Mexico a few years before to become cowboys. However, Berto cared little for the life of a ranch hand and has moved on, arriving in Pine Valley, where he soon discovers gold in Pine Creek. His friend, Joaquin, had joined him, and they became the first, unofficial settlers of Pine Valley, witnessing the arrival of the wagon trains. They vie for the attentions of Lucy Shoseegan, but Berto wins her hand. He builds a mining shack above the creek and files for a mining claim, paying a foreigner's tax on the gold he finds. Joaquin returns to being a ranch hand, but frequently visits, eventually falling in love with Estefana, as she has come of age. She has been acting as interpreter, being fluent in Spanish, English, and the local tribe's dialect.

The settlers' plans to create Pine Way are not going smoothly. One very headstrong settler, Henry Henry, has arrived. He is carrying out his father's dream of building a way station along the emigrant trail. He has his own vision of a town. He applies for a homestead and encourages Hector Shoseegan to do so as well. The Henry's file for a 160-acre homestead. Thomas McGrew, Jebediah Walker, and Bartholomew Jones, each acquire 160-acre homesteads adjoining one another, all totaling 640 acres. Hector, being native, receives several hundred acres of land, though it is through the designation of a rancheria, filed and recorded under the entire tribe's name. The rancheria is largely comprised of land no one else wants, because it is no good for farming or homebuilding, basically the mountain slopes that surround the valley, though a good portion turns out to be at the base of the mountains where their original village and burial sites are located. Berto Mendoza is welcomed to stay living on the rancheria.

Since the settlers and Henry Henry all want to build a town, it is agreed they will build together, all the settlers devoting a portion of their land for homes, a town, and farming. Work begins on the way station, then the barn for the livery stable and blacksmith shop, then the brick buildings for a general store, a newspaper office, and a post office. This comes out of the Henry and McGrew homesteads. The farmlands come out of the Walker homestead. Two churches and a schoolhouse come out of the Jones' homestead. However, calling the new town Pine Way has been met with challenges. Being a talented woodworker, Henry Henry has carved a welcome sign he places next to the way station, stating it was his land and he wants his town, therefore, to be called, "The Way."

By this time, feeling closed in, most of the native families depart, leaving the Shoseegan's and two unmarried women who help Hector with his family. Berto Mendoza and Lucy Shoseegan are married and begin their own family, having Jesse, Hermenegildo, and Manuel. Henrietta Henry hires Estefana Garcia to be the housekeeper for the way station. Pregnant, her daughter, Ev, is soon born at the way station where she lives. Her traditional Indian marriage to Joaquin Muscio goes unacknowledged by the townsfolk, especially since Joaquin is seldom seen.

The Hart family history begins at this point with the arrival of the drifter, Josiah Hart, who accompanies a band of travelers passing through. He marries Henry Henry's sister, Rebecca Henry, who is the cook for the way station and who had originally come to live with them to help with the Henry children, Lulabelle and Walter. Having fought as a guerrilla, Josiah Hart is not eligible for a homestead, though builds a cabin at the southern edge of the valley on unclaimed land. He and Rebecca have five children, a son, Timothy, who apprentices with his Uncle Henry Henry, and four daughters. During this time, Harrison Stewart arrives with his wife, Phoebe Adano, hauling a printing press along to run the town's newspaper.

By the 1890's, the settlement and its families are becoming well-established. Thomas McGrew runs the general store, Cedric Cadwallader runs the post office, Harrison Stewart runs the newspaper, the Henry's run the way station, blacksmith shop, and livery stable, and the Walker's and many others have been planting orchards and crops. Two churches have been built, one of them a Catholic church welcoming Father Jovial as their priest. The Pine Way Cemetery is established beside the church. A school is built and Cedric's son, Joseph, becomes the first Pine Valley schoolteacher.

Tragedy strikes, beginning with the untimely death of Rebecca Hart, exhausted by childbearing and working hard at the way station. Their girls are sent west to live with the Henry family, accompanied by their brother, Timothy, who is expected to return. In 1899, while his son is away, a distraught Josiah Hart turns to drink and gets into an argument with Henry Henry over the town's name, resulting in Josiah's shooting him dead and himself being shot dead by Hector. Unbeknownst to all, except her son, Walter, a shocked Henrietta damns Josiah and his descendants, thus placing a curse on the Hart family. Their daughter, Lulabelle, has run off to hide in the woods. After the shootings, Hector and his son, Dexter, leave the area to avoid capture, though his daughter, Lucy, remains with Berto.

Henrietta rips out her husband's welcome sign and takes to her bed. She gives up on life and dies, having turned the way station, blacksmith shop, and livery stable over to her nephew, Timothy Hart, and her son, Walter. The town officially becomes Pine Way. Timothy returned to Pine Way with his bride, Alice Smith, who helps Harrison Stewart's wife, Phoebe, to cook at the way station. Estefana and her now grown daughter, Ev, act as housekeepers. It is by this time that the First Annual Pine Way Settler's Day Picnic is held. Orphaned, Walter and Lulabelle are adopted by Berto and Lucy, since their three children have grown. Their son, Herman, who has been to pre-revolutionary Mexico and studied journalism, goes to work with Harrison Stewart at the newspaper office. Manuel leaves to become a cowboy and Jesse has married Ev Garcia. They build a home on rancheria land and soon, Ev's mother, Estefana, comes to live with them, neither of them working at the way station any longer. They begin their family, with two sons and two daughters, one of whom dies young from cancer.

Lucy teaches Lulabelle the medicine way of her people. However, she and Berto decide to move to Laketon, the native people's mountain retreat since the massacre. They leave the mining shack to Lulabelle and Walter. Manuel has married and joins his parents in Laketon. He and his wife have several children, though only one survives to adulthood, Aurelio, nicknamed, Leo. Manuel takes up moonshining. Over the years, Walter, who was taught his father's woodworking craft, builds additional buildings, a larger cabin, and a retreat center for his sister. The old mining shack becomes his wood shop.

Timothy Hart applies for a homestead bordering rancheria land. He and his wife, Alice, begin a family, having Jackson, Jimmy, and Jefferson. They live in his father's log cabin located on their homestead. Alice's parents come to live there and apply for a homestead, building a grand home with a beautiful garden at the southernmost end of the valley, adjoining the Hart's land. The Stewart's children grow up and move away, not wanting to run a newspaper, except their youngest son, Tucker Howard, who stays and eventually takes over running the press. Herman Mendoza works for them until his retirement. Bill Cadwallader now runs the post office and Ulysses McGrew now runs the general store.

The new town of Edenville is created by the 1920's out of the Jones' homestead. Bartholomew Jones has long been dead, but left his land to his wife who has sold it. Their only child is Adelaide Jones. Edenville becomes the primary business center and Pine Way slowly dies. The store, run by Sam McGrew, eventually closes, no longer profitable, unable to compete with Forbush's Market in Edenville, run by Sam's brother, Clarence McGrew. Geoffrey Cadwallader has taken over running the post office. The old emigrant trail becomes a paved road. The emigrant cut-off trail that went through Pine Way is abandoned and slowly becomes overgrown. The way station falls into ruin, no one able to keep it running, and it is torn down. Tucker Howard Stewart, who marries Adelaide Jones, moves to Edenville.

Migrant farmworkers begin to come to the valley to harvest crops. The Walker's and the Chapman's hire the workers who must live in tents. Jebediah Walker's motherless sons, Joseph and Jiminy, think of ways to cut corners and get into trouble, but their uncle, a Chapman who married Jebediah's sister, keeps them in line after Jebediah passes on. Jiminy, trying to keep one step ahead of the law, eventually joins Manuel and Aurelio at their moonshining operation in Laketon. He engages in many illegal enterprises, is in and out of jail, and marries a native woman, named Char Lee Rosebud. They live in the Walker home in Pine Way and have Justice, Prosperous, Patience, and Charity. The Chapman's live in Pine Way across from the post office. Their children are Eunice, Phineas, and Isaac, whose father has run off with a schoolteacher. Their mother grieves Isaac's loss in World War I and has been told her husband supposedly died. Sadly, she dies just before his unexpected return. Phineas moves into Edenville, but Eunice remains in the family home in Pine Way.

Tucker Howard Stewart's parents move in with him and he uses their old house in Pine Way to secretly meet with the young Charity Walker once she comes of age. She becomes pregnant and gets Robert Cadwallader to marry her, but she miscarries. They had left town, but return in 1929 to live in the Cadwallader home in Pine Way, until Charity has their own child, Sylvia. They then move into Edenville, next door to the Stewart's, just as she had planned. Ev and Jesse's daughter, Candelaria, marries Jimmy Hart. Her brother, Joaquin, and Robert Cadwallader become lifelong friends, helping with the moonshining and later working together as janitors. Candelaria and Jimmy live with her parents and start their own family, having Rosa and Little Jimmy. Timothy and Alice move into the Smith home when her parents die, but eventually leave the valley to live near the Smith and Henry families elsewhere. Candelaria and Big Jimmy inherit their house, along with the Hart and Smith homesteads, and the Hart half of the blacksmith and livery stable business with Walter Henry.

The Walker family struggles with Jiminy's repeated run-in's with the law. Their son, Prosperous has joined his father, while his daughter, Justice, tries to hold the family together and provide an honest income through her sewing. Patience marries Clarence McGrew and they live in the old McGrew home in Pine Way. They have a daughter, Dottie. Robert Cadwallader's brothers do well. Joseph, whom they

call, "Reggie," becomes a veterinarian, and Geoffrey is the Edenville postmaster. Their father, having been a teacher at the elementary school, becomes the school principal. Robert suffers from narcolepsy and appears to be the family's black sheep, on his way to becoming the town drunk. The native people of Laketon, where he is a frequent visitor, believe otherwise, that he is a seer, receiving visions of the future. One of his visions tells of the Indians return to live in peace in Pine Valley as Lucy has dreamed as well. She calls him Dreaming Man. He and his wife's daughter, Sylvia, suffers the problems of their family life. She is abused and neglected by her mother and believes she is unwanted. Fortunately, she has the loyal support of her playmates, Fortuitous Sumner and Tucker James Stewart.

The main focus of the third book, *A Place Called the Way*, begins in 1936, when tragedy strikes the Hart family once again. Their son, Little Jimmy, is cruelly abused by his Mean Uncle Jackson Hart, leaving him psychologically and physically scarred. He becomes an angry child who gets into fights, especially with Tucker James Stewart. The family struggles to manage his behavior, though the stress of war makes it difficult. Big Jimmy Hart takes his family on a vacation to visit his father and mother, especially since his wife is anxious about becoming pregnant again.

Tucker Howard Stewart has continued his affair with Robert's wife, Charity, despite his own family's growth. He and Adelaide have had eight children, June, Howard, Dewey, Henry, Ted, Marjorie, Lois, and Tucker James. June married and moved away. With the onset of war, their four eldest sons announce they are going to join up. Howard, on the verge of getting married to Mary Weatherby, who is devastated by the news, tells his family's history in the valley and how the town of Pine Way got its name, at the last Settler's Day Picnic. It is realized, at that time, that Pine Way no longer exists. The Stewart's end up losing two sons in the war, their daughter, June, dies giving birth, the mother dies shortly after learning of her husband's affair, and Dewey later commits suicide. Robert Cadwallader returns from the war a damaged soul and turns to heavy drinking to cope. Knowing of his wife's affair, he does nothing. She had gotten pregnant while he was gone, gives birth to a stillborn child, and dies shortly afterward in 1945. Robert becomes a broken man. Aunt Justice Walker steps in and takes Sylvia to live with her. It isn't long before Patience Walker and her husband, Clarence McGrew hit it big when he opens a suitcase factory. Patience and Justice Walker's father, Jiminy, having gone to prison during the war, ends up dying behind bars.

After the war, the whole world seems to have changed. Jefferson and his bride settle in Edenville, raise a family, and work at the Spring Hill Residence & Infirmary, he as a cook, and she as a nurse. Jimmy and Candelaria lose two children in infancy. Then, news reaches them that Grandpa Tim Hart has died from lung cancer in 1949. Grandpa Jesse Mendoza has died, as well, in 1950. These deaths, along with the many Hart family tragedies, take their toll on the family and Jimmy Hart seeks solace elsewhere, which only serves to further break apart the already strained family. His son, Little Jimmy, is now called merely, "Jim." He falls in love with Sylvia Cadwallader and arranges with her to secretly meet for their first sexual experience. He is 15 and she is 13. While the parents are away, they carry out their tryst, though Rosa, Jim's big sister, catches them. Sylvia leaves in an angry tempest and Jim reveals his secret cutting habit, used as a way to cope with severe emotional strain. The unhealed trauma of abuse by the hands of his uncle, surfaces frequently under stress. The family gets him to the infirmary, but only believes he has attempted suicide, unable to fathom a self-harm diagnosis and the need for treatment by a psychiatrist.

In 1951, tragedy strikes again, this time in the Indian village of Laketon. Leo Mendoza's daughter, Aurelia, is brutally raped by moonshiners. One of the bunch is Jackson Hart, though, still ashamed of what he had done to Little Jimmy Hart years before, instead attempts to stop the other two men, then shoots them in an effort to save Aurelia. She runs off, while he switches clothes and identity with one of the men. Prosperous Walker and Leo hunt the men down, finding the two bodies, merely dumping them by the road. The FBI get involved when the body of the supposed Jackson Hart is found along the highway. They investigate, arrest Prosperous, Leo, and others, shutting down the Laketon tavern and moonshining. Jackson Hart goes into hiding, is given food and blankets by Aurelia until winter, when he moves in with Dexter Shoseegan's daughter, Cassandra. She had been raising her and Jackson's son, Harvey Six-Bits. Aurelia is cared for by Char Lee Rosebud, who returned to live in Laketon when Jiminy was sent to prison, and Lucy Shoseegan, though both are unable to help the girl. She is placed in a home. Lucy dies by 1952, though not until she has enlightened her fellow residents about the Dream of their people returning to Pine Valley, telling them that Jim Hart, who is the only one who can calm Aurelia, carries the Dream. His rival, Tucker James Stewart, is the Keeper of the Dream, she says.

Before Jim Hart begins his senior year of high school, he meets a young woman, named Katie, who is staying at Lulabelle's retreat center. They have a summer romance and she gets pregnant. Football season begins, Jim Hart becomes team captain, and Katie returns home. Tucker Stewart has a chance encounter with Sylvia out in the woods at the beginning of the school year. She has always loved him, but her Aunt Justice shames her and forbids her to associate with the son of a man who did her sister wrong. She has Sylvia pray for salvation and enlists the aid of Fortuitous Sumner to keep an eye on her and on Tucker Stewart.

The Hart family experiences additional tragedy when Jimmy Hart is ruthlessly killed by a horse. His son, Jim, has just graduated from high school, hoping to leave town and go to college on a football scholarship, but decides to stay and help his mother and take over as Walter Henry's partner in the family business. He marries his girlfriend, Bethany Clark, whom Tucker Stewart regrets dating once, and they live in his parent's house, while his mother and sister go to live in the migrant farmworkers housing built years before. Eventually, Sylvia Cadwallader and Fortuitous Sumner marry, by her aunt's stern recommendation, though she does not love him. The following year, Justice is institutionalized against her will where she soon dies. Her brother, Prosperous, dies in prison a few years later. Patience Walker is then the only surviving child of Jiminy and Char Lee. She and her husband are doing so well, they build a large home overlooking the valley.

In 1954, Katie returns to Pine Valley to look up Jim Hart. She brings their child, a boy named, Johnny, and hopes to give Jim the child to raise. She has heard that her mother plans to have the child taken away and put up for adoption. When she goes to Edenville, she discovers that Jim Hart has married and realizes that he may not be able to raise the child either, so leaves the boy with Walter Henry. He and Lulabelle legally adopt Johnny, without telling Jim, and has the boy enrolled in school by the time he is seven years of age. Katie alters her appearance to go to work at the school in the library, so she can be close to Johnny and, hopefully, Jim as well. One incident proves to her this is not possible. They have both changed, Jim has become more alcoholic and self-destructive, initiating an affair with Sylvia Cadwallader, whom he has had numerous sexual encounters with through their growing-up period. He sees Katie once at the school and does not recognize her. Johnny wants Jim and Katie to be his parents, one day discovering they really are, though they are unable to raise him. Facing facts, Katie moves on and begins to date Tucker Stewart.

The main focus of *Fathers of Edenville* and *Mothers of Pine Way* places the reader in the 1960's. Tucker Howard Stewart is placed at the Spring Hill Residence & Infirmary for around-the-clock care, while Jefferson Hart has fallen ill and is placed there, where he soon dies. It is 1964, nearly one-hundred years after the wagon train came to Pine Valley. It is suggested an anniversary celebration be planned. An essay contest on the settlement of the valley is made public and activities planned for a celebration in 1965. Candelaria Hart wants to tell her family's story on their settlement, but does not do so. By the time the celebration comes around, there is increasing tensions regarding civil rights, farmworker's rights, women's rights, and anti-war sentiments. Her mother joins a protest march to the state capitol, yet dies after the first night. Unfortunately, there is an arsonist in the valley who burned Ev's house down before she left town, which is dispiriting for her. The next day, Candelaria gets a ride with her son, Jim, to pick up their mother, but instead has to arrange another funeral. Out of the experience of loss, she finds she cannot hold onto mourning her husband's death any longer and releases that to allow for her transformation into a writer and public speaker. Out of this comes her wish to join the march at the state capitol, at which time she steps into her power and shares her story, lending hope, encouragement, and inspiration for all those in attendance. Inspired to continue writing, she becomes a voice in the movement speaking out against racism. Her daughter, Rosa, shares her decision to marry her boyfriend.

Johnny has a crisis when he confronts his real father, Jim, about being his son, but his father tells him he cannot raise him. He shows Johnny the scarring on his arms from self-harm cutting. Walter Henry, in his struggle to care for Johnny, must choose between supporting Jim, who had lost his father like Walter had, or protecting Johnny from Jim. He chooses to protect Johnny and, so, marries Millie, the diner owner, and they become a family. They provide Johnny with a home and stability, with love and affection, which carries him through his schooling years. The arsonist strikes again and attempts to burn the Hart's house down. Forty Sumner, suspect of Jim Hart fooling around with his wife, goes looking for her, instead colliding with the arsonist in the dark.

Jim enters his final year of a lifelong struggle with deep spiritual wounds, rage, and self-hatred. He wants his mother to love him as he is, to be proud of him as he is, but feels that she not only did not want him as a child, but that she is disappointed in him, even dislikes him. Yet, he continues to try and win her approval, which she is no longer able to give, so much in the habit of seeing his faults.

By 1967, the story has become focused around these main characters, Candelaria and her children, Patty McGrew and her daughter, Sylvia and her husband, Forty, and Tucker Stewart and his father and brother. Tucker Stewart is continuing the family newspaper business and spends his spare time obsessing over Sylvia, whom he believes he would have married. He obsessively tracks her pattern of meeting up with Jim Hart while Beth is at work at the infirmary and Forty is at work at the suitcase factory.

The issues raised by Jim and Sylvia's affair come to the foreground on Easter Sunday in 1967. Tucker Stewart witnesses Sylvia pining for Jim at church and espies her going to his house and follows her. There is a power outage in the Pine Way end of the valley, so the town has been cast into darkness and shadow. Sylvia never meets Jim, though, because Beth has come home unexpectedly and yells at her to leave. Sylvia sees Tucker coming and is ashamed her childhood friend, whom she has always loved, has seen her in her downfall. She no longer sees Jim, though, but needs to tell him that she has gotten pregnant and Forty has left her. She never gets the chance. He vows never to see her after that night, as Beth bandages his cuts yet again. He spirals further downward into alcoholism and depression and winds up killing himself by the end of May. An investigation leads to nothing. Beth has left him. Sylvia has left town to look for her father, who has been murdered. She and Forty divorce. He leaves town to go look for his mother. With the aid of the now elderly Father Jovial, Sylvia strikes up the courage to face her past, to heal the wounds of her childhood, to search for her father, and to forgive her parents. On her search, she comes across a dress shop she is welcomed to come work at and meets Andrew Parker, a free-spirited, ex-university professor, who falls in love with her.

The outcome of the tragedies that fill the valley's history, begins to be seen through a series of events, beginning with Jim Hart's funeral, followed by Robert Cadwallader's, to which the Indians of Laketon have come to attend. Sylvia's grandmother, Char Lee Rosebud is there and makes an impression on Tucker Stewart. With her aunt's help, Sylvia leaves town to join Andrew and they are married. He has agreed to adopt the baby and give it his name. The Hart's residence has been burned down by the arsonist. It seems to Tucker Stewart as though the town has slowly died. Walter closes up shop and rents out the barn, taking Jim Hart's dog, Shep, off Tucker's hands. The post office will soon be be moved into Edenville. The newspaper fails and it is shut down, though not without Tucker's hopeful last effort in creating a final edition to the best of his abilities. Despite his sadness over Sylvia's surprise

departure, he interviews Char Lee Rosebud before she dies and, in so doing, enters a new chapter of his life, becoming friends with the people of Laketon. and telling Char Lee Rosebud's story about the Pine Valley Massacre of 1855. He and Katie visit the Indian burial ground and, his destiny, as Lucy Shoseegan foresaw, becomes known. He goes to work for a big newspaper and takes on raising Sylvia's puppy, Freckles, who plays a role in the valley's unfolding story as well. Aurelia Mendoza comes to live with Candelaria, as they are cousins. Harvey comes to live in the old McGrew house in Pine Way and the Indians of Laketon begin to stir. Lucy's dream of their return is slowly coming to pass.

The fourth book in the series, *Dreamer On The Mountain*, covers the years after Jim Hart's death, from May 1967 thru 1972. Aurelia Mendoza and Harvey Six-Bits are boyfriend and girlfriend. However, when Tucker Stewart and Aurelia meet, they are immediately attracted to one another and Harvey's hopes to marry Aurelia, as well as Katie's hopes to marry Tucker, are dashed. The much younger Aurelia knows Tucker is the keeper of Lucy Shoseegan's dream and urges him to honor his role. He resists, so to cool her passions, she strives to fulfill her own role and seeks an outlet for her creative fires. She discovers a calling to work with wood and yearns for a teacher, which Walter Henry is disgruntled about, since he is the only one in the valley with a woodworking shop. She visits Tommy McGrew, who has a shop in the old Pine Way general store. Despite the reclusive sculptor's efforts to encourage Walter to help her instead of him, Walter refuses. Tommy and Walter agree to ignore her, as they are both familiar with her history and her destructive pattern with men. Tucker attempts to fight his feelings for Aurelia, in an effort to respect Harvey's claim on her, and to avoid repeating "the sins of the father," meaning his father's long-term affair with Charity Cadwallader. With Harvey's blessings, though, nothing stands in his way except his own will, which soon relents.

In the mean time, in November of 1967, Tucker's father commits suicide while in the infirmary. He has been faced with the unbearable guilt of his actions, having used young Charity to alleviate his boredom. Her death haunts him. His wife's death weighs on him. He knows full well that he should not have fooled with Charity in the first place and, even so, should have honored her husband, especially while he was away at war. The burden of guilt is more than he can bear and he kills himself. In the aftermath, the winter of the Big Snow keeps Tucker indoors where he discovers a note left by Charity to his father there in his happy home in Pine Way. Realizing she and his father met there long ago, he drives off and seeks his brother's reassurance, thus hearing more of their father's story. Trying to move on and honor Lucy's dream in his own way, Tucker agrees with Rosa to form an historical society for the purpose of restoring and preserving Pine Way.

Sadly, Lulabelle dies that winter in 1968. Her retreat center is shut down and falls into decay. Meanwhile, Aurelia begins to visit the retreat center and mysteriously receives healing by the spirits of Lulabelle, Lucy, and even Jim Hart. Seeking answers, she realizes she needs to let Tucker go, for she is no good for him, and strives to move on, acquiring another boyfriend, which only gets her fired from her job. Johnny is curious about her, but discouraged from associating with her, earning him a heavier workload in school to graduate early and protect him from the troubled woman.

The following winter, Aurelia and Tucker, on the night of the Big Storm, have agreed to act on their mutual desires for one another. Their evening goes awry when Tucker has regrets about his actions and tells her he cannot let it go on, which hurts and angers her as she storms off into the night. She turns to Harvey, who lives a few doors down, to soothe her feelings of rejection yet, in turn, rejects him by leaving his bedside early in the morning. Unfortunately, she has become pregnant, though it is never told who the father is, whether Tucker or Harvey, or another man, nor is it revealed that she even has the child. Her cousin, Candelaria, is greatly displeased with Aurelia and, with a neighbor's help, tells the young woman it is time to grow up and begin leading a respectable life. Candelaria goes to her second speaking engagement, at The Victory Pavilion in a large city. While there, she meets Sylvia's new husband, Andrew Parker, as he is also a speaker that day. She also sees Sylvia with her baby and wonders if it is Jim's. Nevertheless, evident that Sylvia has greatly changed for the better, she avoids

any encounter with the woman she had always blamed for her son's downfall. When she returns home, Aurelia has turned over a new leaf, which pleases Candelaria and their lives improve. Aurelia takes classes with the support of the bakery owner's daughter, Eileen, another one of Tucker's past dates. Before they discover what they have in common with one another, campus violence across the country closes down schools. Aurelia and Tucker consummate their love for one another after they step into their sacred roles regarding Lucy's dream. Afterward, Aurelia, true to her nature, dumps him and moves on, breaking his heart.

Andrew yearns to join in on anti-war protests across the nation. He convinces Sylvia he needs to go. She accompanies him, leaving her daughter, Rebecca, under her cousin, Dottie's care. However, Sylvia is yet undergoing her own transformation, having yet to face her history with Jim Hart. Their daughter is a constant reminder of his memory. She flees the violent confrontation between the angry anti-war protestors and crowd control police measures, to return home, both Jim Hart's memory and Tucker Stewart's on her mind and in her heart. Andrew soon learns what she has done and returns home and, as they argue, learns that Sylvia wishes to return to Edenville. Dottie, who gave Sylvia a ride home, takes Rebecca back to Edenville with her, with the promise that Sylvia and Andrew will pick her up in a few days. However, as time goes by, Sylvia notices Andrew has changed. He has become quieter and withdrawn. Still needing to see Tucker, she sneaks away with Rebecca, back to Edenville. Andrew soon discovers what she has done and, having looked into relocating them there, accepts a job offer to teach at the high school. Before he meets her there, Sylvia breaks down and grieves the loss of her childhood friend, Tucker Stewart, whom she now knows she has loved all her life, but was shamed by Aunt Justice into giving up. While she was attracted to Jim Hart, she loved Tucker. Ironically, in Tucker's own efforts to let her go, he realizes that his feelings for her were only as a friend. While his mature feelings for Katie will come to naught, since she has a child and still loves Jim Hart, he moves on and again asks Eileen out on a date. They soon encounter Sylvia and Andrew at Sylvia's childhood home, where she has returned to live. Having come full circle from the day she left her father's side to go live with Aunt Justice and lose Tucker, to the day she forgives her father, she is overjoyed to see Tucker once again.

Millie Henry has passed away from cancer and Johnny has gone away to college, leaving an aging Walter Henry alone and very sad. He knows he must follow Lucy's instructions to clear the curse his mother placed on the Hart family, but does not do so until faced with the consequences of his procrastinations thus far, his worst mistake. He meets Harvey Six-Bits who reveals to the old man that he is Jackson Hart's son, the man who abused Jim Hart. Jim Hart's haunting presence is yet felt by Walter and Tucker, who both meet one morning in front of the old blacksmith shop and livery stable, as Walter replaces his father's welcome sign and finally clears the curse, aggrieved that he could have averted Jim Hart's death if he had not put it off. Later that day, Tucker and Candelaria meet at the barn and talk about the past and heal old fears and beliefs. They both experience The Way as Henry Henry knew would be the case.

Walter Henry soon dies. Johnny returns from college. Tucker's and Sylvia's unexpected reunion is soured temporarily when he finally reads the note she gave him back when she left town to marry Andrew. In it, she tells him of her pregnancy by Jim Hart and also that she has always loved Tucker. She asks his forgiveness, but in a rage, feeling betrayed by her once again, he incinerates a large pile of papers he has been accumulating. The story ends with him standing outdoors at night with Harvey Six-Bits and his new friends from Laketon, watching the paper burn and looking up at the stars. He realizes that not only can he finally move on, he can choose what he wants his life to be, no longer ruled by childish fears, but lived spontaneously from his heart.

## **Recipes From Edenville**

## Millie's Famous Ham and Bean Soup

Excerpt from Chapter Twenty-Four of Fathers of Edenville:

"Tucker sank into a horrible mood after that, forgetting his promise to meet Eileen for lunch. He wanted to treat her to Millie's Kitchen, where she never ate, praising its famous ham and bean soup, served with a generous wedge of cornbread."

Ingredients:

pound navy beans
 large smoked ham hocks
 cup sliced celery stalk
 1/2 cups sliced carrot
 cups chopped onion

4 minced garlic cloves 1 bay leaf 10 sprigs fresh parsley 4 sprigs fresh thyme

## Directions:

Pick through beans, discarding bad ones and small stones. Rinse. Place in large bowl. Cover with water and soak overnight. Drain and rinse. Place beans in large soup pot. Add ham hocks, vegetables, and bay leaf. Tie sprigs of parsley and thyme together or sew into a sachet using cheesecloth. Add to pot. Cover with water. Bring to boil. Lower flame and simmer, stirring occasionally and adding water as needed to keep soup from sticking. Cook until beans are tender and ham easily falls from the bone. Discard herbs, ham bones and fat. Skim excess fat from soup. Serve with a sprinkling of apple cider vinegar and, of course, a generous wedge of cornbread!

German Pork Schnitzel "Schweineschnitzel"

It's autumn in Edenville and the apple harvest has just begun! Millie's Diner is serving her seasonal favorites. As described on page 65 in *Mothers of Pine Way*, it is best served "with rolls and a little dish of sauerkraut." Schnitzel is a traditional dish served at Oktoberfest.

Directions:

Use 1 pound pork tenderloin, trimmed of fat and silver skin membrane. Butterfly the pork tenderloin, careful not to cut all the way through. Place between two sheets of plastic wrap and, using a meat mallet, pound to 1/4-inch thickness. (If you slice it too thin, the meat will be dry when cooked) Cut into serving size pieces. Season each with a mixture of:

• 1 teaspoon salt, 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper, 1/8 teaspoon onion powder, 1/8 teaspoon nutmeg, pinch each of ground thyme, ground rosemary, and dried parsley

Have ready three bowls or plates with:

(1) Mixture of 3/4 cup all-purpose flour, 1/2 tablespoon salt, 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
(2) Mixture of 1/2 cup milk, 1 egg, 1 tablespoon cooking oil, seasoned with salt, pepper, and ground herbs de Provence

(3) 1 1/2 cups dried breadcrumbs

Heat 1/2 cup cooking oil in large skillet for frying. Take each piece of pork and (1) dredge in flour mixture to lightly coat, (2) dip in milk mixture, (3) coat with breadcrumbs. Note: Millie has a secret to breading a truly tasty and tender schnitzel. She says it comes with experience.

Place a single layer of pieces into pan and fry over medium heat until golden brown, about 5-6 minutes for each side. Be careful not to burn breading, turning each piece in the pan and lowering heat accordingly. Drain on paper towels. Repeat until all pieces are cooked. Serve with lemon wedges.

#### German Fried Potatoes "Bratkartoffein"

Ingredients:

1 1/2 pounds Gold or Red potatoes, peeled and cubed salt4 slices bacon or 2 tablespoon cooking oil

 $1 \frac{1}{2}$  cups chopped onion

1 cup chopped green bell pepper, veined and seeded

ground black pepper 1 tablespoon minced parsley

Directions:

Cover potato cubes with water in medium saucepan. Add salt. Bring water to boil on medium heat. Remove from heat and drain water. If using bacon, cook until crisp in a 12-inch skillet over medium heat, about 10 minutes. Remove from pan and drain on paper towels. Using the bacon grease or heating cooking oil, cook onion and bell pepper until golden brown, stirring occasionally, about 15 minutes. Remove from pan. If necessary, add additional oil, up to 3 tablespoons, to pan. Heat and cook potato cubes on medium-high heat, stirring occasionally until golden brown, about 15 minutes. Return onions and bell pepper to pan with potatoes, cooking over medium-high heat until a deep golden brown, about 5 minutes. Serve topped with bacon bits and garnish with parsley.

## Millie's Apple Pie

You may recall reading about the diner's apple pie in *Mothers of Pine Way*. On page 66, it describes every luscious detail of Millie's special apple pie: "...lattice-work crust, brushed with a secret mixture, making it crunchy, buttery, and sweet."

Ingredients:

Double 9-inch pie crust, or use two, store-bought pie shells

Filling:	
2/3 cup brown sugar	
1/8 teaspoon salt	
1 1/2 tablespoon cornstarch	

1/2 teaspoon cinnamon1/4 teaspoon nutmeg5-6 cups sliced Granny Smith apples

Directions:

Mix together the dry ingredients. In a large bowl, stir to coat apple slices with mixture. Place in pie crust. Dot with 1 1/2 tablespoons butter. Place top crust over apples or make a lattice-work top crust. Pinch dough around rim to seal the two crusts together. If you made a full top crust, place a few slits in it to form a decorative pattern.

Brush top crust with a mixture of melted butter, brown sugar, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Want to know how much to use? Sorry, but that's Millie's secret!

Place in a preheated 450-degree oven for 10 minutes. Lower heat to 350 degrees. Bake until bubbly, crust is browned, and pie juices form a thickened syrup, about 40 minutes. When cooled, crust should be crunchy, buttery, and sweet!

#### Ev's Chicken Pozole

On page 214 of *Mothers of Pine Way*, it reads: "She began cooking dinner for everyone, simple fare, tortillas, some meat and chiles, and leftover pozole." Ev was another fine cook in Pine Valley. Here is the recipe:

Stock:

1 whole chicken

1 large onion, 2 carrots, 2 stalks celery chopped into large chunks

Wash chicken and place in a large stock pot. Add onion, carrots, and celery. Cover with water. Bring to boil. Lower flame to simmer approximately 3-4 hours until chicken meat falls from the bone.

Strain broth. Set aside. When cooled, remove chicken meat from bone. Set meat aside. Discard bones and vegetables.

Sauce: 1 tablespoon cooking oil 8 dried, whole, guajillo chiles, stems and seeds removed 2 cups water, heated to boiling

Heat oil over medium-high heat in a large dutch oven. Place chiles in pot to lightly saute. Stir and press down as they roast, 2-3 minutes. Transfer to a large bowl. Set aside dutch oven with oil for later. Pour boiling water over chiles to soak and soften, approximately 10 minutes. Stir occasionally to ensure all chiles are getting soaked.

Pour into blender with 1/2 cup chopped onion, 3 cloves garlic. Blend until smooth. Place a strainer over the bowl and pour blended chiles through it. Stir and mash to strain out skins. Set aside. Discard what is left in the strainer.

<u>Chicken Pozole Soup:</u> Cooked chicken 1 tablespoon cumin seeds, toasted and ground 1 onion, chopped (1 cup) 4 cloves garlic, minced Chicken stock

1 tablespoon dried oregano leaf 2- 25 oz. cans white hominy, drained and rinsed salt Chile sauce

Brown cooked chicken in dutch oven with oil the chiles were browned in. Add ground cumin, stirring to blend. Add chopped onion and stir, cooking until browned. Add minced garlic and stir, cooking 1 minute. Pour chicken stock over meat mixture (approximately 6-8 cups liquid). Stir. Add oregano, hominy, and salt, to taste. Add 1 1/2 cups strained chile sauce to soup and stir, saving the remainder for other recipes. Bring to boil and simmer. Cook approximately 20 minutes.

Serve with tortillas and toppings of shredded cabbage or lettuce, lime wedges, sliced radishes, diced avocado, cilantro, jalapeno slices, and sliced onion. For a more filling meal, serve with beans and rice. Serves 8-10 generously.

## Teapot full o' Whimsy Cinnamon Rolls

"Teapot full o' Whimsy made the best cinnamon rolls, in Tucker's opinion. Brown sugar, butter, and cinnamon filling, with a sprinkling of chopped pecans and a drizzle of glaze on top, he much preferred them to those sold at the supermarket, which were encrusted with a thick slab of frosting. He was glad he came, not only for the rolls, but to see Eileen." -page 202 in *A Place Called The Way*"

Ingredients:

2 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
3 teaspoons baking powder
1/4 cup butter or margarine
3/4 cup milk
4 tablespoons softened butter or margarine
½ cup brown sugar
cinnamon, to taste

topping: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup chopped pecans, mixed with 1 tablespoon brown sugar and cinnamon

glaze:  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup powdered sugar mixed with 1-2 tablespoons milk, as needed to make a light glaze

Directions:

Mix flour, salt, and baking powder. Cut in <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup butter until mixture resembles coarse cornneal. Add 3/4 cup milk, mixing quickly, but gently to form a soft dough that does not stick to the bowl.

Place on a floured board and knead slightly. Roll out into a rectangle 1/4 to 1/2-inch thick. Spread with 2 tablespoons butter. Sprinkle with 1/4 cup brown sugar and cinnamon.

Roll up like a jelly roll and cut into 12 slices 1-inch thick. Arrange in a greased cake pan or Dutch oven. Dab each roll with remaining 2 tablespoons butter and sprinkle the pecan mixture on top.

Bake in a preheated 450-degree oven until golden brown, about 15-20 minutes. Cool. Place rolls on a rack to finish cooling. Drizzle with the powdered sugar glaze.

## Ev's Oatmeal Raisin Cookies

Another great food item I would like to share is also from, "*A Place Called the Way*." In Chapter 3, on page 17, Rosa is given oatmeal cookies with milk by her grandmother. Here's that recipe:

Ingredients:

1/2 cup brown sugar1/2 cup white sugar1/2 cup softened butter1 egg1 teaspoon vanilla extract

cup all-purpose flour
 teaspoon baking soda
 teaspoon baking powder
 teaspoon salt
 cup quick cooking rolled oats
 cup raisins

Directions:

Preheat over to 350 degrees. Combine sugars, smoothing out any lumps. Add softened butter, mixing in thoroughly until creamy. Combine egg with vanilla extract. Add to sugar mixture. Sift together in flour sifter, the flour, baking soda, baking powder, and salt. Combine with the sugar and egg mixture. Add the rolled oats and raisins, mixing in to a soft dough. Take pieces and roll into balls and place on greased cookie sheet. Flatten slightly with a fork. Bake 8-10 minutes until lightly browned. Cool on cake rack before storing in a tin. Makes 3 dozen

Hint: If you don't have any brown sugar on hand, mix a little molasses in with some white sugar until it forms dark brown sugar.

### Mexican-Style Frijoles

Another gem from A Place Called The Way, is revealed in Chapter Two, on page 12:

"Candelaria served him his dinner, a plate of frijoles and a chunk of cornbread. She had no patience in making tortillas. She poured him a glass of milk as he got himself a pickled jalapeño and a hot carrot slice from the jar on the table."

Ingredients:

1 1/2 cups beans: pinto, pink, or canary (Peruano)	1 canned jalapeño pepper, minced
1 cup chopped onion	or 4-ounce can mild, diced green chiles
2 large cloves garlic, minced	1 large bay leaf

Directions:

Pick through beans, discarding bad ones and small stones. Rinse with cold water. Place in a large bowl. Cover with water and soak overnight. Drain and rinse. Place in a 4-quart saucepan or dutch oven. Cover with water or soup broth. Stir in onion and bay leaf. Place lid on pan. Bring water to boil on high heat, then lower to simmer. As the beans cook, stir occasionally, adding water as needed to keep them just covered and to avoid sticking to the bottom of the pan. When beans become tender and outer skins soften, add the garlic and canned pepper or chiles. Add salt, to taste. Continue cooking on lowest flame possible to slowly simmer until beans are tender and a sauce forms. If necessary, slightly remove lid to cook off excess water and to thicken the sauce. The trick is to cook a rich pot of beans with a thick, flavorful sauce. (Hint: this recipe works well with a slow-cooker.)

Mash or enjoy as is, with cornbread or tortillas. Top with shredded lettuce, chopped tomatoes, sliced green onions or minced onion, salsa, grated cheese, and sliced avocado. Serves 4-6.

Corn Bread

Ingredients:

1 1/4 cup cornmeal
 3/4 all-purpose flour
 2 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
 3/4 teaspoon salt

egg
 tablespoons melted butter
 tablespoon honey
 cup milk

Directions:

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Grease a 9-inch x 9-inch square pan or 12-muffin tin. Mix together cornmeal, flour, baking powder, and salt. Mix together egg, melted butter, honey, and milk. Combine both mixtures. Pour into pan or divide into 12 muffins. Bake 20-25 minutes until golden-brown.

Hint: Use cupcake holders in your muffin tin, if you prefer.

(The following is a letter Howard Stewart wrote to his niece after she visited him and his wife)

Edenville, California 1968

Dear Patricia Catherine:

Thank you, for attending Grandpa's funeral. It was a pleasure to see you all grown up and to meet your fine husband. I only wish your aunt Marjorie had stayed a while longer, so she could have visited with you, too. You had asked me about the Stewart family history. Well, I have done some research and found the following:

It all began with Phoebe Adano and Harrison Stewart. (Your great-grandparents.) Far as I know, she was born sometime in the 1860's in Italy. Her family had immigrated to California to grow wine grapes. He was also born in the 1860's in San Francisco. They met and married in Napa Valley in 1879 at the Adano Winery. Her father helped him to buy and transport the printing press to Pine Way, when it was an up-and-coming new settlement. He had learned they were looking for someone to open a newspaper office. (That was the brick building I pointed out to you when we took our driving tour of the valley last fall.)

When they first arrived in Pine Way, they lived in the original way station house built by Henry Henry. She worked there as a cook, while he established The Pine Way Weekly Journal. They soon built their own house on Pine Way Junction. (Where Uncle Tucker lives.) Although they had several children, only Grandpa Stewart remained to run the paper. He was born in 1891 and was named Tucker Howard Stewart. In 1913, he married your grandma, Adelaide Jones, who was born in 1892. They lived with her widowed mother in Pine Way but, in 1922, moved into this house here on Fig Tree Lane, when it was one of the newly built, Craftsman-style, "Edenville Homes." Grandpa took over the newspaper in the 1940's when his parents became too old and had moved in with us. A sad turn of fate, the way station fell into neglect and was torn down. (That was the large picture I showed you that Uncle Tucker found.)

Grandpa and Grandma Stewart had eight children: Your mother, June, born in 1919 and, as you know, died during childbirth in 1947; myself, Howard, born in 1922. I became an insurance salesman and married your Aunt Mary Weatherby (born 1925). Their third child, Dewey, was born in 1923, fought in World War II, and died in 1953 by his own hand. (I told you about that.) Henry was born in 1925 and died in 1944, while in the war. Ted was born in 1927 and died in 1945 also in the war. Two more girls, Marjorie, born in 1930, is still living, and Lois Louise, born in 1933, still living. (If you ever run into them, tell them their brother, Howard, said, 'hi.') Lastly, their youngest, my little brother, Tucker James Stewart, was born in 1934.

Harrison Stewart developed Parkinson's. Grandma died of heart dropsy in 1945. Unfortunately, Grandpa also developed Parkinson's and Uncle Tucker and I placed him in the Spring Hill Residence & Infirmary in 1964. As you know, my wife and I never had children. Uncle Tucker remains a bachelor. He was the last of the Stewart family to operate the printing press. He wrote for the newspaper after it was renamed The Edenville Weekly.

Well, that's all I can come up with for now. I hope it answers some of your questions. I hope we can visit again sometime real soon.

Yours truly, Uncle Howard