### Life and Times of Elmer Bjornstad

March 10, 1927 March 10, 2011

# Growning up in Evansburg

Ernie, Elmer, Carl, Hilda Biornstad 1929 Bjornstad Family 1940

# Youthful Elmer





# Evansburg – 1927 - 1948



**Bjornstad Gas Station** 



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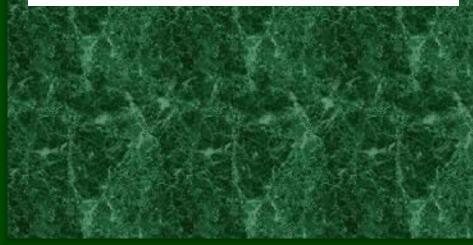
## Courtship leads to Marriage



# Life in Mercoal 1949 - 1955



First Mercoal House where Elmer and Lenore lived





Last Mercoal house



#### Move to Lindbergh, 1955

Elmer was sick with rheumatic fever when he move happened in 1955. He had just completed his second class steam ticket.

## Family Grows In Linbergh

#### 1950s

1960s



# Always had time for fun





# Surrounded by relatives



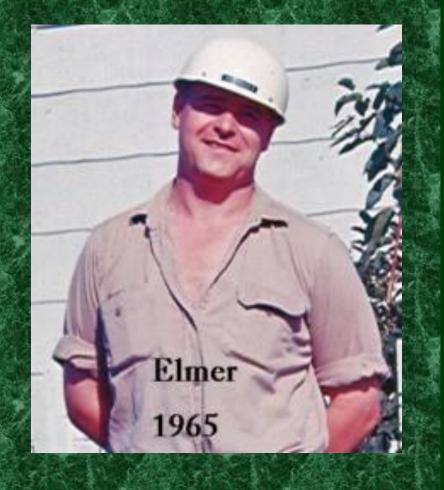
# Caring for others

Francis Ford 1980s Farquahar Macleod Mac 1982

### Working Life



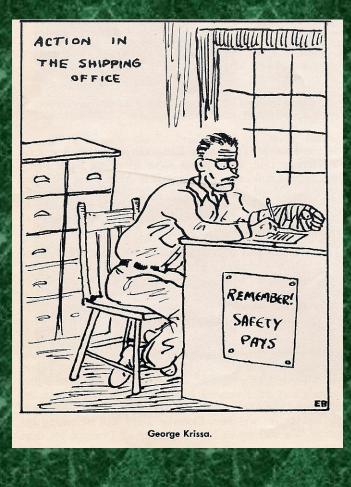
Maintaining his basic strong character in spite of changing responsibilities



#### Work Life

Using humor to ease the work life of all
Developing his own style of management





### Lifelong Learning

• Did most of his professional training by correspondence courses. • Finished First Class Steam ticket in 1959 Always read and studied late at night



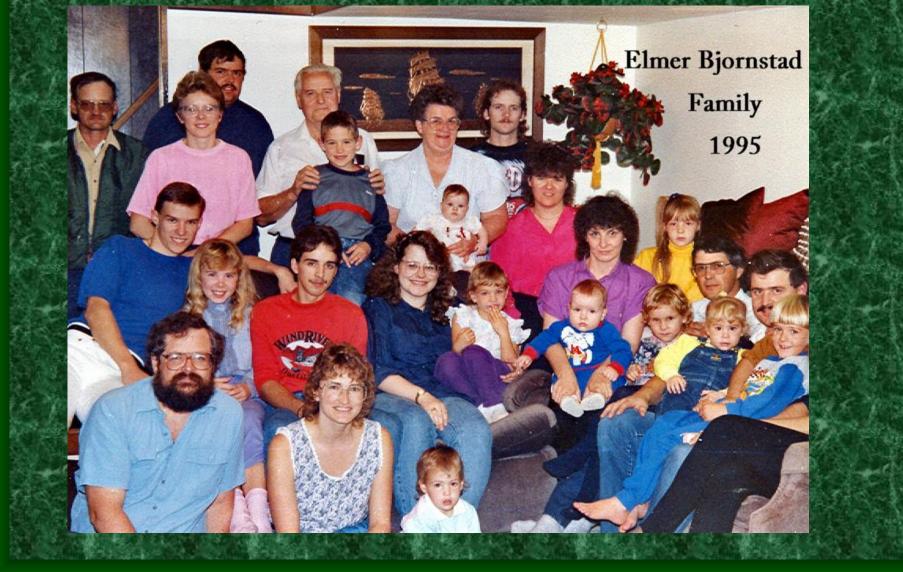
#### Growth through life interests

Photography
TV and movies
Newest gadgets
Computers
Carpentry
Reading



A well organized home office

# Family Expands



#### Fixing a better space for family



Moving to House in Elk Point

Fixing Basement in Lindbergh

### Fixing a better space for growing family – Lake Cabins



Whitney Lake

**Muriel Lake** 

#### Always caring for animals

#### Elmer with Daytona and Angel 2005



Herman - the cross eyed cat

**Active Community** Interests • Windsor Club • Lions • BPOE Elks Cribbage • Curling



Henry and Florence Lorenson 85 L F Elks Dance 1986

#### Active in Family Activites

- Many Family Reunions
- Hosted many yearly events
- Visiting his children's families
- Family work bees

Elmer in Rec Room at Lindbergh House 1980s



Building the deck at Muriel Lake Kara, Marvin, Leanne, Elmer 1994

# Retirement 1992



#### Being welcoming of others

- Accepting of whoever he met
- Accepting friends of his children as they passed through our lives
- Accepting our spouses with only a little teasing



# Generosity of time, money and spirit

- Giving freely of time to family, friends and organizations.
- Wining and dining the many strangers who arrived at our house or cabin
- Always ready to visit whoever dropped by

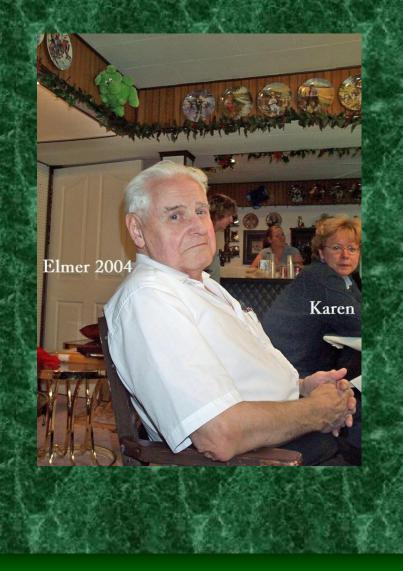


#### Inclusiveness

- Always welcoming strangers to his world
  Gently teasing to make new friends feel more welcome
  - Welcoming friends ...and their friends

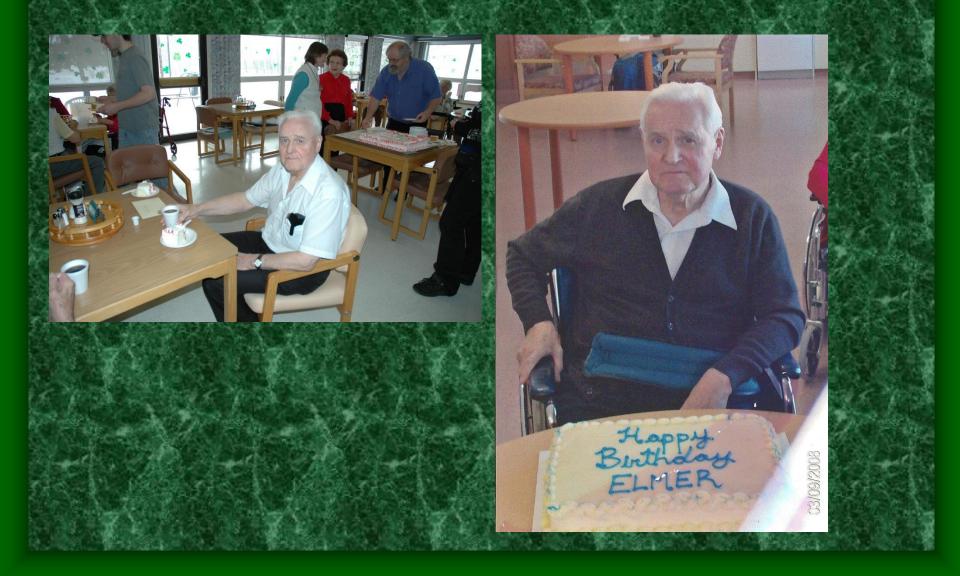
Mac and Herb Wyness 1964

#### Health Declines 2001 - 2011



 Slow decline of memory and skills • Knowledge of what is happening but still challenged to be himself • Almost a 15 year process

# Struggle with Alzheimers



# Leaving us all with a life to admire





## Gone but not forgotten

