

NAMES CHANGED FOR PRIVACY

CHILDHOOD:

Savannah was born on March 16th, 1942. She grew up in the suburb of Columbus in Whitehall, Ohio. Her grandparents, aunts, and uncles all lived nearby. Her father built the house and finished its construction in 1941 where the house still remains. Savannah is the eldest of six siblings.

Savannah's parents made many sacrifices for them growing up. They would get the newest shoes and would participate in school activities even when money was tight. While she grew up poor, her parents never let her know. In elementary school, Savannah wanted to be a majorette. When she tried out for the roll at her school, she got it. She needed to buy special Majorette boots for her outfit, however money was tight. Savannah's father walked to work for a week to save up money that would be spent on gas and bought the boots for her.

In high school Savannah had to write a paper about a great sacrifice. She decided to write about her father's sacrifice to get the boots. She was a straight A student in high school but got a C+ on that paper. Savannah worked extra hard and eventually got a B+, which would be her only B+ in high school. She chooses not to carry that burden anymore. While her teacher did not feel that the content of the story was a sacrifice on her father's part, she knows that it was not only a great sacrifice, but a paper worth an A+.

LOOK BACK IN TIME:

After high school, Savannah went to a business university for two years. After, she was employed at an insurance company. She worked there for four and a half years and loved the job. She was a claims adjuster at first, then a private secretary, and finally an underwriter. As an underwriter, she would sell insurance to business companies. She would bid on the prices and convince the company to choose their insurance company. Underwriting was her favorite position.

After one of Savannah's high school friends met an Air Force serviceman at a dance, she invited Savannah, the man, and his friends to a cookout. At the cookout, Savannah met Bob Jackson. They dated for two years and got married on February 25th, 1962.

The wedding was on a warm day despite being in late February, however many things happened that day. Savannah's mother was pregnant and went into labor on the day of Savannah's wedding. Savannah's aunt took the place of her mother at the wedding. Savannah's father was able to walk her down the aisle but had to be at the hospital during the reception. Aunt Helen fell and broke her leg at the wedding venue and needed to be taken to the hospital. Her grandmother also couldn't make it and was in the hospital. Savannah was able to visit her mother and grandmother in the hospital wearing her wedding gown so they could take pictures.

Savannah and Bob had their first child two and a half years later and his name was Bob Jackson Jr. She was thrown three baby showers because everyone was so excited. One was by

the employees of the insurance company she worked at, one was from her cousin, and one was thrown by the church ladies.

Bob Jr. weighed nine pounds and 13 and a half ounces. The doctor at the Lockbourne Airforce Base said he was the largest baby he had ever delivered.

TREASURED MEMORIES:

Savannah's father was drafted into World War 2. When he was away, he used to write letters to Savannah's mother. During one of the exchanges, she asked him to write a letter to his daughters. He wrote a letter to each daughter, and they still have them to this day. He would return September 2nd, 1945.

After adopting, Bob Jr. and his wife did not have all the things they needed for the new baby. The adoption agency tells you not to buy anything, other than a car seat, in advance. So, Savannah went to Target and bought t-shirts, blankets, and toys. While walking around the store, she saw a bassinet but there were none in stock. There was only the "model" version on display. The manager gave it to Savannah at a discount because it was the display model. They still have that bassinet to this day.

After Savannah and Bob separated, Charlie and Savannah dated for six years. Through the relationship, Savannah became close with Charlie's mother, Beth. Beth had breast cancer and was a cancer survivor. Savannah and Beth spent many Sundays together. Beth wanted to go swimming in her daughter's pool, so Savannah suggested Beth and her go swimsuit shopping. Beth told her that she had one breast removed because of the cancer. Savannah knew a friend who had her own custom bra making business, so she took Beth to the friend and got her a new bathing suit and bras. Beth visited her daughter in Arizona and had a great time.

When Beth got back from Arizona, she found out that her cancer had returned and moved into her lungs. Beth's doctor called Savannah and asked on Beth's behalf if she could care for Beth. Savannah called Beth and said yes. Savannah had gotten a job offer but turned it down. The employer told her he understood and said that after she was done taking care of Beth,, she could come back and get a position. Savannah took care of Beth full-time for 4 months.

After Beth passed, Savannah and Charlie stayed together for three more years.

STORIES WORTH SHARING:

Savannah and her sisters enjoy shopping, especially thrift shopping. Once a month they all get together and go shopping together. However, they shop for others. For instance, they will buy shoes for the Amish children, or they will buy clothes for the church's clothing donation program.

Bob got orders to move his whole family to New Jersey. Savannah liked New Jersey because they could go to the beach and the lake, and they had a small boat. They lived there for five years. Then they got orders to move back to Lockbourne Air Force base in Ohio. After this,

they moved again to Plain City, Ohio for five years where they lived among the Amish and the Mennonites.

Savannah met Dave on “match.com.” Dave had recently lost the love of his life and needed some time, and Savannah understood. He asked her to put the “chicken and noodles on hold” because it was a dish that she had promised to cook for him. He would send her birthday wishes every five years. For the last birthday wish, he didn’t just write “Happy Birthday” he also wrote, “for all the times you lifted me up, would you let me celebrate your birthday with pizza and a glass of wine.” Savannah waited eight days to respond, but she said yes. A few days later, Dave asked to postpone it because he had to do something for his daughters. Savannah really respected that he cared so much for his daughters.

Savannah and Dave became exclusive in 2014. Eventually, he asked Savannah to go to Florida with him for three months during the wintertime. This would be the first trip they took together. Dave’s two daughters, Naomi and Cece, flew over for a week. One night, they all sat on the patio and talked for a while. Eventually, everyone got tired and went to bed. At 2:30 a.m. Dave got up to use the bathroom and told Savannah, for the first time, that he loved her.