

PROLOGUE

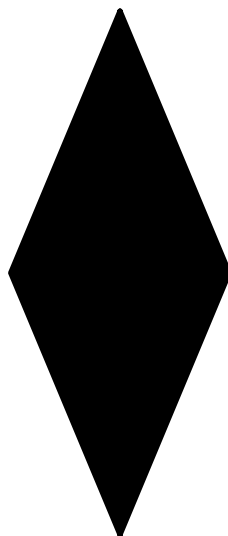
I want to apologize for the script mistakes. Especially, forgive my errors in words of similar sound, their - there, and hear - here. In my rush to complete this during the slow winter months, I let a number of small errors slip by. Hopefully, they will not diminish the content of the text.

As an after-thought, I added a pictorial section to assist the reader in relating to the various individuals named. It was necessary to reduce the size of many of the old, faded photos. This meant copying the original two times, which compromised the quality more than I had hoped. Some people are not pictured at all, although I did have pictures of them. [I do not have these photos; nor will I seek them. They are not good quality.]

The reader may wonder why I have failed to mention certain persons at all. The size of this story began to be as long as I am old. I had to limit content. Furthermore, my husband is recording his life on tape, and since both of my children love to write, I expect them to tell their own stories. It is not my intention to up-stage them.

The cartoons included seemed to be applicable to this treatise. I have my ideas about memories, and so do others as in "Out Our Way". Abe Martin touched on a few pertinent concepts also. Hopefully, these will set the tone for what you are about to read.

Nancy Diehl Singer, © December 31, 1996



OUT OUR WAY

1944

WHEN I SEE AN OLD ABANDONED FARM HOUSE I THINK OF THE HAPPY, HEALTHY PEOPLE WHOSE LAUGHTER RANG THRU THESE ROOMS-- THE SMELL OF FINE COOKING-- THE BIG CHRISTMAS DINNERS, AND--

NOT ME! I THINK OF ROLLIN' OUT AT FOUR A.M. AN' PUTTIN' TEN HOURS BETWEEN A PAIR O' PLOW . HANDLES--THEN FEED AN' MILK TH' STOCK AN' OOH-- OWOO!

THAT'S JUST WHAT MADE 'EM ENJOY THEIR GOOD TIMES MUCH BETTER! TH' WAY YOU'D LIKE TO LIVE IT WOULDN'T BE LONG TILL YOU'D THINK TURNIN' OVER IN BED WAS WORK!



T. M. REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

WHAT IS UTOPIA?

J. R. WILLIAMS 12-28
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Abe Martin Says



Never count on anythin' turnin' up but your toes.

Abe Martin Says



Lots o' things baffle description,
but they don't baffle folks that
try t' tell about 'em.

Abe Martin Says



Father Time certainly steps on
it after we git all set an' ready t'
live.