1: My grandmother, Santos Pommier, was one amazing woman. In her 90 years of life, she filled many hats. She was her children’s best friend and her grandkids’ biggest fan. She was a wonderful sister and a friend to many. And, between all of that, she still had time to be a great wife.

2: My grandma was born on May 7, 1922, making her the second of six children. She grew up on a farm in Corinne, UT and married the love of her life, Godfrey Pommier, on April 25, 1953 after meeting him at her favorite dance hall named Berthana’s.

Video: As a child, she didn’t have the easiest time when it came to school. She used to tell me stories about how the teacher would inevitably make her stay after school just long enough for the bus to leave, making it so she had to walk the long trek home. She also told me how she would get locked in the closets during assemblies. But don’t worry. My grandma got even. While locked up, she knocked every school supply off of every shelf in that closet. Paint spilled, ink flied, glue oozed, and paper ripped. “You should have seen the look on my teacher’s face when she opened that closet to let me out,” she would reminisce. She was never locked in the closet during an assembly again.

3: Here are just a few of the numbers that represent her life. 12, 32, and 14: Those were some of her favorite Utah Jazz players. 5: The amount of siblings she had. 3 is the number of kids she brought up. 8: The number of grand and great-grandkids she spoiled. 118,234: That’s the amount of miles she travelled to cheer her grandkids on at every activity we decided to participate in. Luaus, soccer games, tennis matches, swim meets, softball games, plays, vocal performances, dance recitals, basketball games, and piano recitals are just a few of the events she would attend.

Video: She loved being around sports. In fact, she used to tell me how she was the catcher for her softball team. She used to say, “Those girls would pitch the ball so hard, and the mitts weren’t as soft then as they are now.” Because of her love of softball, she used to come to so many of my softball games. One summer, when I was 11, my parents went to France. I got to stay with my grandma for a whole 10 days. During that time, she took me to a softball tournament in Roy. I was the pitcher for my team, and I wind milled the ball to the plate as fast as I could. The hitter probably would have had a homerun if I didn’t block the ball with my face. Never the less, my grandma rode all the way to the hospital with me in the ambulance and fought for 2 hours to get a doctor to come check me over while I laid unconscious on the ER table. Although she was overly stressed out, she stayed awake the entire night making sure I was okay. The next morning when I woke up, all she had to say to me was… “Chandra, don’t ever do that again.” Grandma always gave really good advice.

4: My grandma had spunk. Because of her sly personality, she could get anyone to do anything for her. All she would have to do is give you her innocent look and you couldn’t help falling for anything she had up her sleeve.

5:One of my grandma’s favorite places to be was at the cabin in Island Park. Her and my grandpa used to pack all the grandkids up in their blazer and haul us up to the cabin for a few days. When we went with her, we never had to look at a weather forecast. We just knew that there would be a 100% chance of rain. In the winter, when the snow was deep, she loved to sit by the fire and crochet. Though she hated being cold, she could make an awesome looking snowman!

6:Another thing my grandma was known for, is her innate ability to collect things. She collected EVERYTHING, as you can tell if you have ever been to her house. She displayed everything anyone has ever given her. She also loved buying things. She had a saying that went something like this: “If everything is going wrong, go buy yourself something nice.” She loved bidding on items at the DI, going to the auctions with my grandpa, and her favorite place to shop was a good yard sale. I think she just liked haggling.

7:One time, she saw a bowl that looked like one she had when she was little. The bowl was $1.50, but that was way too much for her to spend on a bowl. So, she started telling the lady how much this bowl reminded her of her childhood. She went on and on until the lady sold her that bowl for $.25. My grandma, satisfied with her negotiation skills, paid her quarter and was off to find her next bargain.

8:The hardest part for her getting older was not her fear of dying. In fact, she had many spirits around her constantly. She had quite a connection with them too. Everyone said that her house in Corinne was haunted. “It’s just the house shifting,” she would say with her cunning smile. My mom and aunt Cathy were relieved to move to the new house in Brigham, leaving Grandma’s visitors behind in Corinne. However, much to everyone’s dismay, Grandma’s friends followed her and made the new house “shift” like the old one.

9:Anyway, as I was saying, the hardest part of getting older for her, was her loss of physical movement. Not only could she not walk at the end, but she struggled to move her arms. Yet, this did not stop her from making an exquisite Snow White costume or shaking her finger at grandpa. Which, might I add, lead many people to believe that his name was “No, No Godfrey.”

10: Besides Santos, Mom, Grandma, Abuelita, Mrs. Pommier, Mouse, Santosh, and Shorty’s Wife were just a few of the names in which she would respond. Each person knew her by a different name, but everyone knew her as the remarkable woman she truly was.

Although she is no longer with me, my memories of her will last forever.

11: I hope that wherever she is, she is crocheting, walking, cooking, and doing all of the things that she was unable to do these past few years. We will all miss her terribly, but knowing that she is in a happier place makes her passing a little easier.

12: Te Amo Abuelita