

MEMORIES OF THE BLIZZARD OF 1948-49

Dear Friend,

This missive is being written just as memories and thoughts come to mind. Yes, indeed, I do have a LOT of memories of that winter. My family (Dad-George Zikmund, Mother-Murl Zikmund, brother-Dale Zikmund, and me, Susan) lived 3 miles northwest of Ord. Dale and I attended District 54. Somehow we got caught at school and had to spend a few days at the Ray Melia home. My Dad usually came to school with the team and wagon and picked up those of us going in the direction of our home. He did that many times. They had children our respective ages, plus a couple more, so we had a good time. To this day I hope we have all of the families straightened out and the correct children with their correct parents! The neighbors spent a lot of time at our home as we had coal heat so the house was always warm. The neighbors helped my Dad break the ice in the tank so the animals could get water. There was always lots of homemade ice cream at that time of year, blizzard or no blizzard. There was a HUGE drift just north of our driveway and it had to be manually scooped so everybody pitched in the dug. We lived a mile from Highway 11. Once the highway was cleared my Grandpa (Ed Zikmund) would drive out and pick up my Dad. Dad would then go to town to get groceries, if needed. We had milk and lots of meat but still some things were needed. Then they would reverse the process and Grandpa would drive Dad to the road and he would walk the mile home. When Spring finally came a loaf of bread was found in the ditch. We were safe, warm, and, being children, did not fear anything. My brother, being older, probably has memories different from mine. Will see if he will write those.

My Dad had given me a diary and when I quite writing in it after a few days my Mother took over. I am sure that is still at the farm. Will look for it when back there next month. We do have some great black and white pictures of the blizzard. Will look for those, too.

Susan Zikmund Bute

Yuma, Colorado