

Great Grandma's Goodbyes
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Childhood memories of my great grandmother's house always bring a smile to my face. I remember the smell of her freshly baked stromboli and the delicious broccoli soup she made. I remember running around in her backyard, picking peaches, and playing with sap from the trees. It's no wonder that I never wanted to leave and would throw a fit loud enough for the neighbors to hear upon departure.

My grandmother would do her best to ease these goodbyes, but one goodbye remains my favorite. As we were saying goodbye, she told me she had special earrings for me. She walked into her sewing room, grabbed some thread and returned to the kitchen where she proceeded to pick up two red shiny cherries and fashioned them together so that a loop of thread was at the top. She made two earrings this way before looping them upon my delighted ears. I enjoyed looking at myself in the car mirror for just a few minutes before gobbling up the cherries.

As a child, she was simply my beloved great grandmother. Looking back, she was a woman who time and time again chose kindness in all areas of her life. Her many simple acts of kindness remain a bright spot among my childhood memories.