

Polio x 2 Lives

Patricia Glover Knupp and Alike Knupp Cotten

a picture of the variability and extremes of polio disability and PPS



ca.. 1945

21 July 1926 - 5 January 1998



ca. 1975

14 August 1955 -

Patty Glover grew up in **Newton, Kansas**, a late child to a family with a long medical tradition. This tradition would later **become** a great support for her.



Patty Glover as a young girl in **Green Mountain Falls, Colorado** where she spent her summers growing up - and as a young woman in Colorado “out fishing”. She loved outdoor activities.

Patty graduated from University of Kansas in Petroleum Geology where she also met her future husband Hal Knupp.



Pattv married Hal Knupp in 1948



Patty with her first daughter, Kathy in 1951

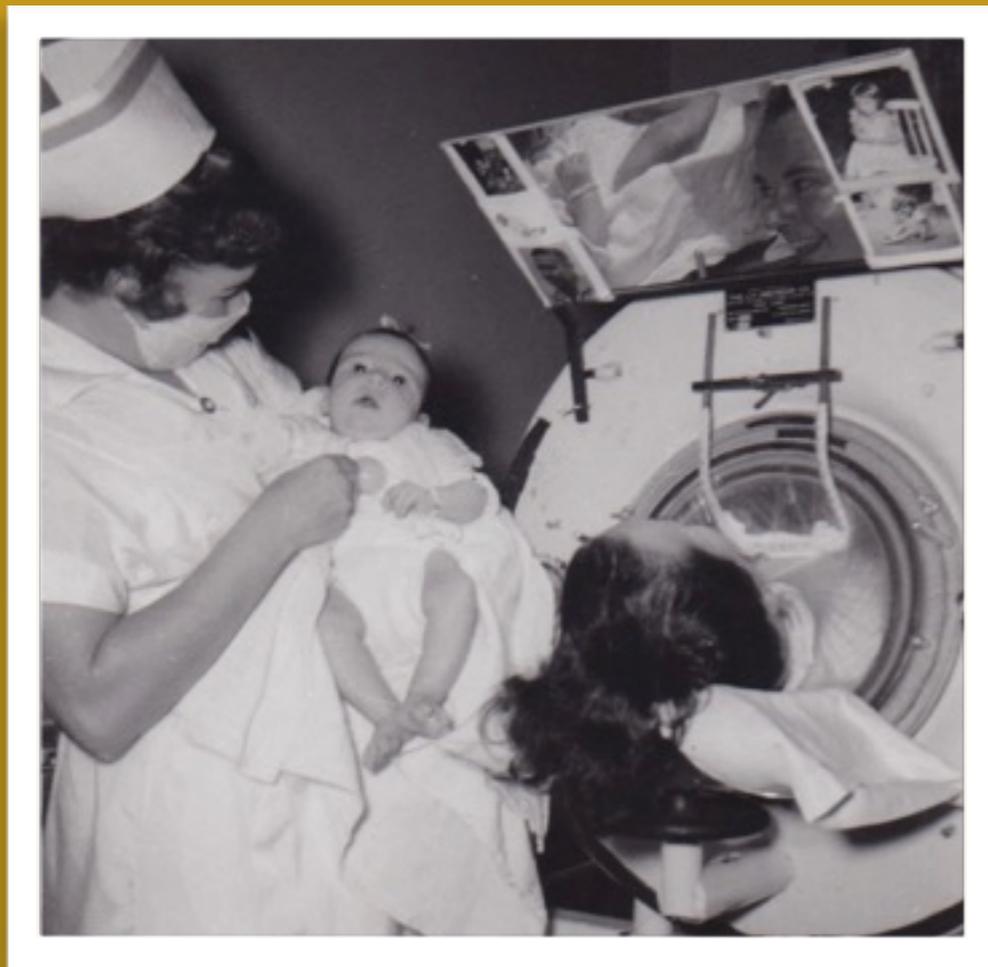


Patty with second daughter, Margie in Hawaii in 1955

Hawaii

August 14, 1955

It was **in the night directly after the birth** of her third daughter, Alika, when Patty collapsed and was diagnosed with **Polio**. Patty continued to hold and breast-feed her baby until she became too ill. Alika also became very ill at **10 days old**. Patty was already in an iron lung.



Hawaii



Patty and Alika were in the **Queen's Hospital, Honolulu, Hawaii** from August 14, 1955 until transport to the **March of Dimes Rehabilitation Center in Omaha, Nebraska** in December 1955.

Family

14 August 1955

Honolulu, Hawaii

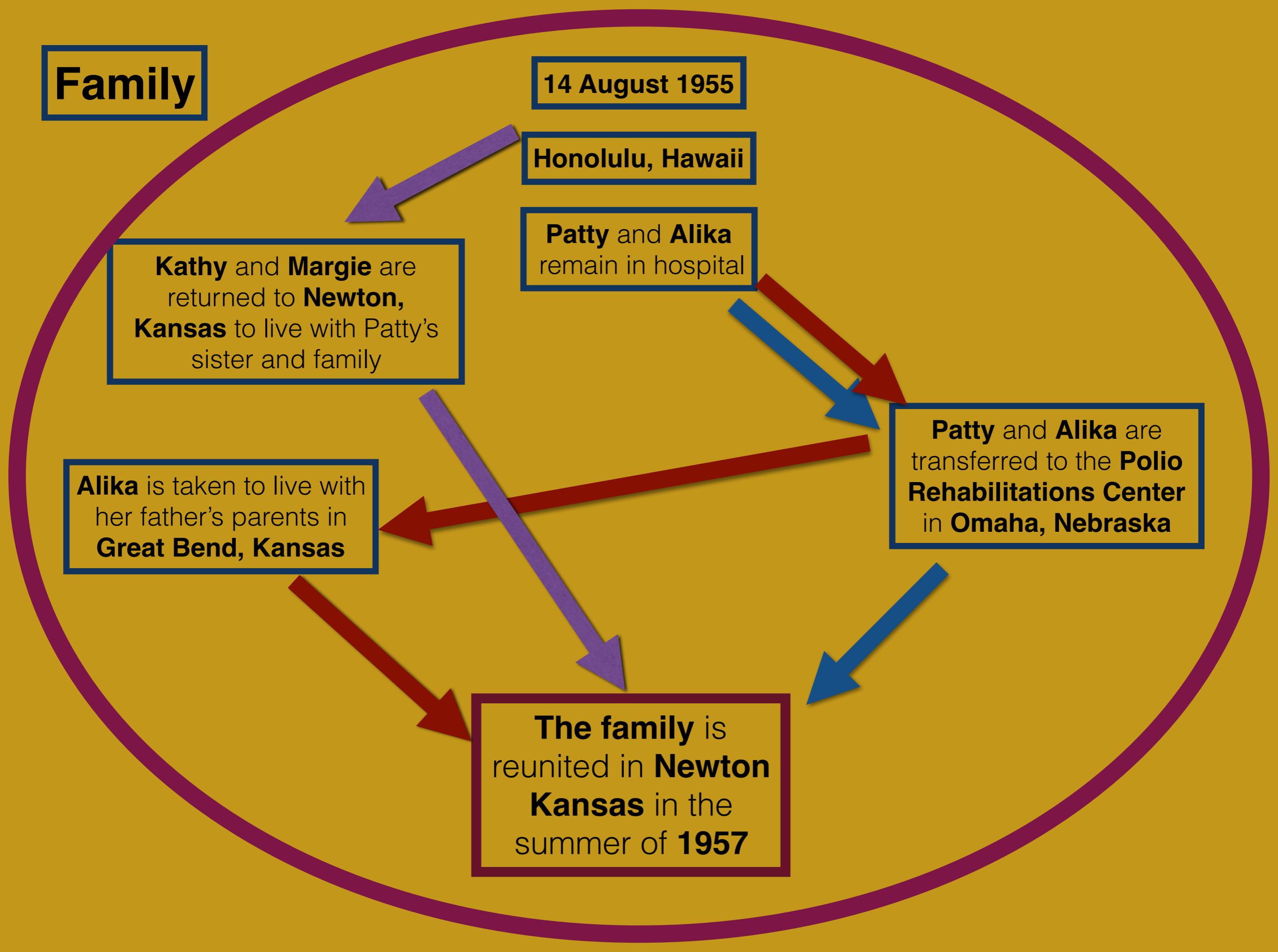
Patty and **Alika**
remain in hospital

Kathy and **Margie** are
returned to **Newton,**
Kansas to live with **Patty's**
sister and family

Alika is taken to live with
her father's parents in
Great Bend, Kansas

Patty and **Alika** are
transferred to the **Polio**
Rehabilitations Center
in **Omaha, Nebraska**

The family is
reunited in **Newton**
Kansas in the
summer of **1957**

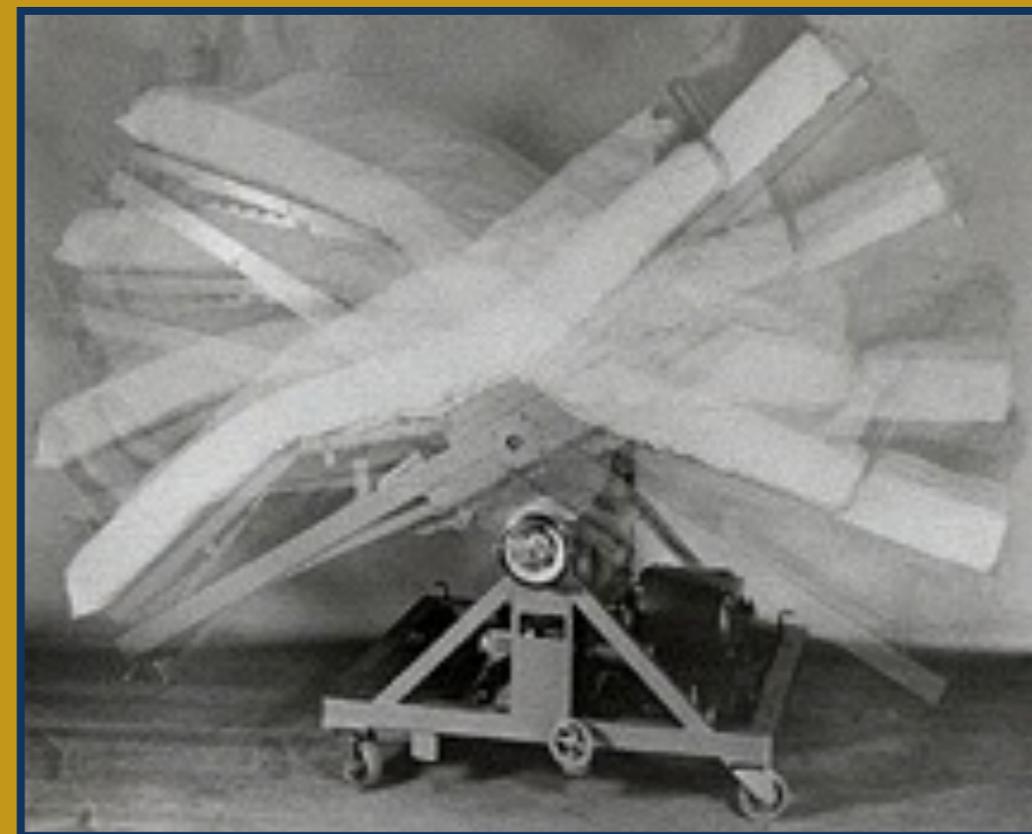
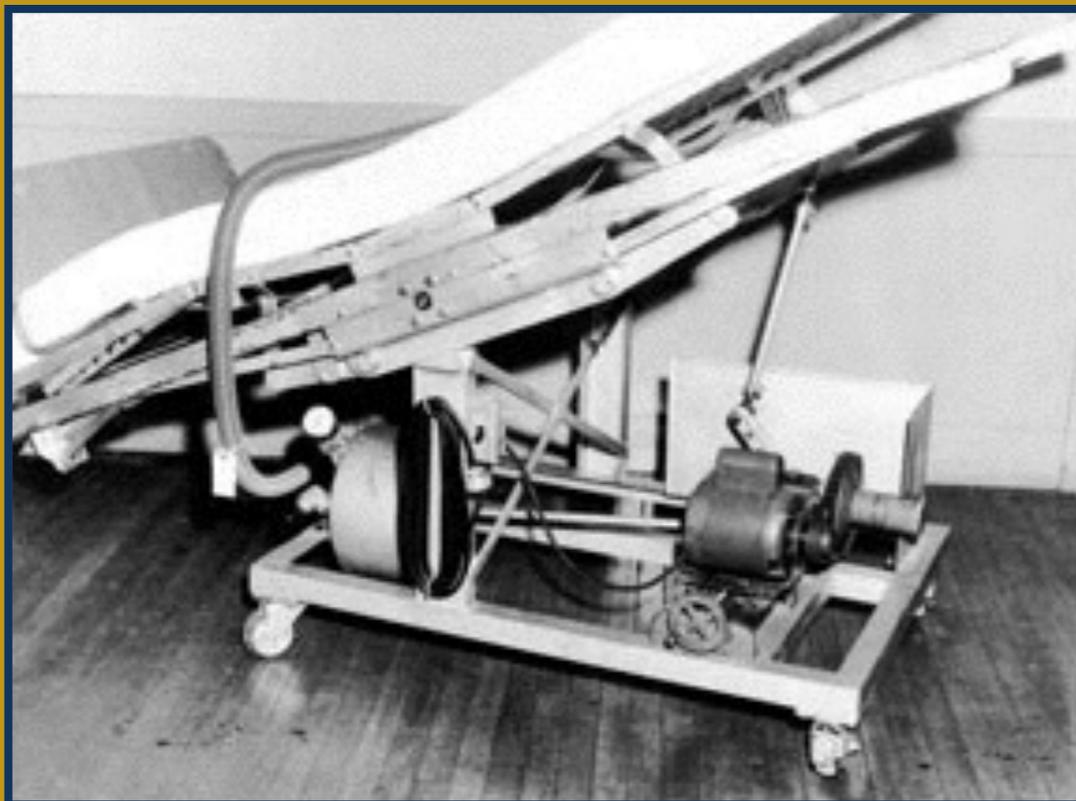


In Omaha



Patty spent from December 1955 to Summer 1957 at the **March of Dimes Polio Rehabilitation Center in Omaha, Nebraska**. While there she was able to move from the iron lung to a cuirass mechanical breathing system. Although not as efficient it was considerably easier to work with.

Negative Pressure systems, such as the iron lung and cuirass system pull the chest wall outwards to cause the patient to breathe in, then release pressure for the chest to fall and the patient to exhale. The Rocking Bed allows a rest from that, supports breathing with the help of gravity moving the diaphragm up and down with the motion, and also helps digestion and circulation.



1957 Patty comes home to Newton, Kansas



In the Summer of 1957 Patty was transported in the iron lung back home to **Newton, Kansas** where she was reunited with her family.



Patty was very happy to be at home again and enjoyed “family life”.

Patty was very disciplined and kept a strict routine:

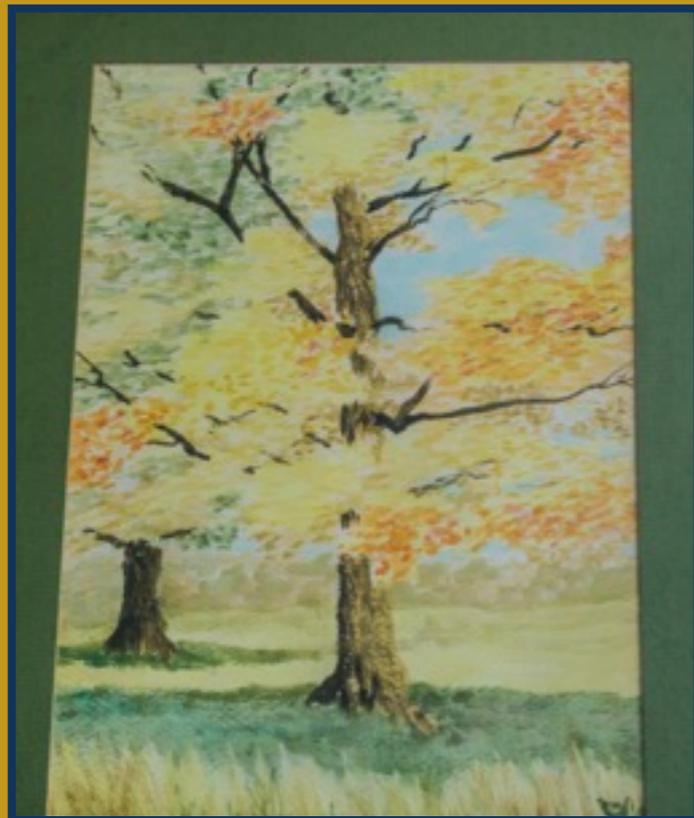
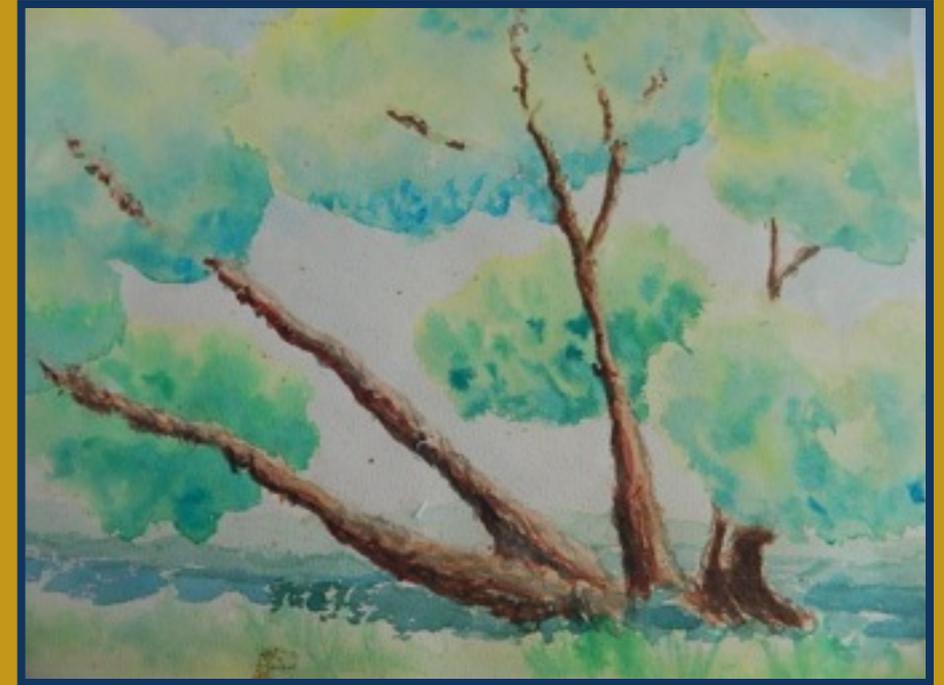
- standing
- daily bath and skin care
- range of motion exercises
- rocking in rocking bed
- carefully planned meals
- system of pads to lift pressure points
- going outside when possible
- running the household
- her daughters were all care-givers as soon as they were strong enough
- Patty could manage nearly anything with a little creativity!!



Patty was the heart of the family and she was “the boss”! Her three daughters grew up well and were good care-givers as well as good students.



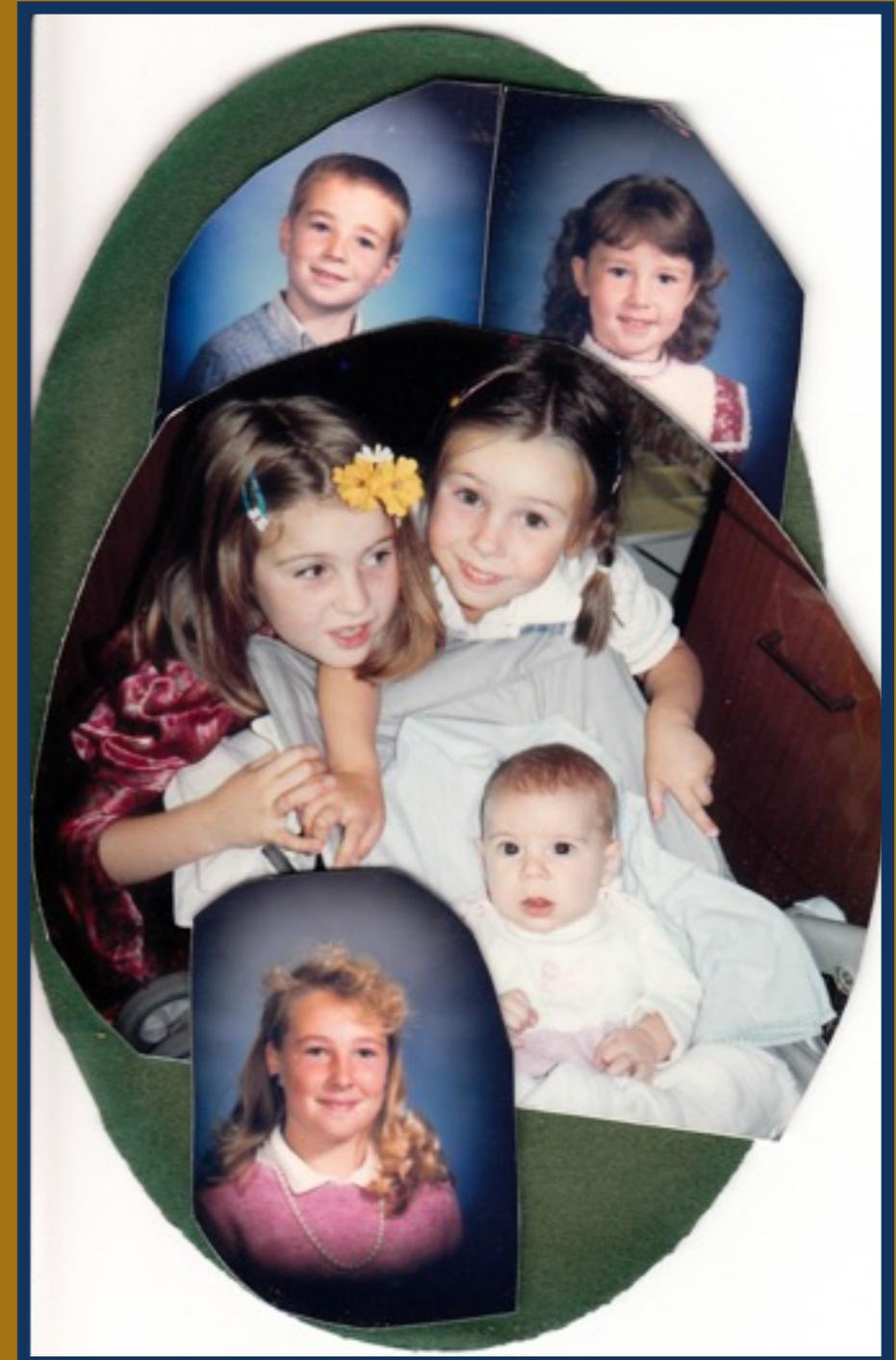
Some of Patty's paintings and drawings



Because of an illness in **1980** Patty was put on a ventilator when the iron lung was no longer available. She became ventilator dependent (25 years after polio, at 54 years of age). Patty adapted to the new system and lived another 18 years!!



Patty and Alika with Alika's three daughters. Patty enjoyed her 6 grandchildren very much!



Patty: still painting using supports designed in Omaha. She remained “active” until her death in 1998. (42 years after polio)



Patty was an inspiration to many people because she accomplished so much - in spite of a disability that most people cannot imagine living with.



Alika



While in **Omaha**, physical therapy was developed for Alika, and taught to her grandmother who then took Alika to live with them in February 1956.



Alika: learning to walk was quite difficult, but finally accomplished while living in Great Bend, Kansas with her paternal grandparents.



Alika: problems remained with the left leg and both shoulders. Her parents encouraged her to run and play with all the other kids often resulting in falls, and scraped knees and elbows! It also allowed Alika to develop balance and control. PE classes remained an uncomfortable experience however.



Alika:

- Kansas University (Biology/French)
- worked as a lab technician in Cancer Research
- raised 3 daughters also :-)
- retired at the end of 2015
- PPS** is now a serious problem

Family



Photography



Pottery making



My View: PPS unexpected and unknown

Recovery after Polio



The Post-polio “Coffee House” is a closed group on Facebook moderated by **Dr. Richard Bruno** whose book **“Polio Paradox”** is excellent.

PPS



“Breathe”
New Film about
polio disabled
Robin Cavendish
(1930 - 1994)