

Tula C. Mylar
April 12th, 1912 – December 13th, 2002

Nana belonged to a special group of people that soon will no longer be with us. They lived during what may have been one of the most important centuries of the last two thousand years. Tula was born in a world of no TV sets, no indoors plumbing, and for a part of her youth, they had no food on the table either. However, partly due to her strong health, and a heavenly providence, she lived well past her ninetieth birthday.

I came to know Nana thirteen years ago when she visited us for Christmas. She was a healthy senior citizen who had no intention of letting external events lead her life. She had many emotional barriers set up surrounding her to make sure that she would not be heartistically hurt by anything or anyone. My first clue of this was when she told me that she would not come at the birth of Andrea, which was schedule to happen eight months later. She tried to make me believe that she didn't much care about the whole situation.

I had an uneventful pregnancy for six months, then, the Heavens made sure that Nana was going to be around for the birth of the child because I became sick and needed help badly. I was so sick that Nana had to abandon everything back where she was in Arizona, including a kitten she had just acquired, and she rushed back east to take care of me.

She had to take care of me until the time of birth. The baby came, and Nana had to acknowledge to herself that there was no way she was going back to live a solitary life in Arizona. She stayed, and she now looked at Andrea as the most precious being in her life.

For the past years we were together as a family, people were very surprised that Nana and the rest of us lived a very harmonious life. We didn't have the expected mother-in-law daughter-in-law kind of problems, and we managed very well together. This is due greatly to Nana's life philosophy.

Nana didn't care much for bigotry of any kind. She had a critical mind, she was very astute, fairly well educated, and open minded to others' culture, life style, and religious beliefs. Because of this she made friends that have lasted her entire life.

Due to her hearing impairment I did a lot of listening and little talking with Nana. She would tell me what she thought about past and current events in her life as it related to her and the rest of mankind. I found myself agreeing with her more than I imagined I might. I believe that she went out of her way many times for others throughout her life, and that people like her should be observed, studied, and imitated for the kindness and good humor that they bring into the world.