

## My Travels

I had lived in Arkansas all my life. I went to Memphis and Little Rock a few times, but that was all. I moved to Blackwell, Oklahoma in 1953 because my mother and father lived there. My husband couldn't find work, so we moved to Oklahoma City after a month. I hadn't seen a big city before. I wanted to get back to the trees.

My husband went to work in a junk yard. My kids were little, so I didn't go out much. When my baby was five, I went to work in a laundry for 50 cents an hour. My husband died in 1988. We had little money and times were hard.

After some time, I married again. He died in December 2008. My daughter said, "Mom we should go on a trip," so we did. We took two of our grandkids.

We went to Colorado first. We stayed a few days there. We went to "Pike's Peak" a big mountain. We went on horse rides.

We went to Wyoming next. We got a motel in the mountains. It was so pretty that we stayed a week and had a good time.

We went to a little old town. I love to see old things. I liked the quilts. I also make quilts. I like antiques. I wish I had some of the tables like my Dad used to make. He could make anything out of wood or iron. He was a blacksmith and carpenter. My mother was a good cook. She made Vinegar Pie. I bet she could have won a prize. I have tried to make them, but I just can't.

In Yellowstone Park, we saw "Old Faithful." We had to stop for buffalo to get out of the road. There were five or six at a time in the road. They were so big that a

cow would look little. Then, it was time to go home.

A month after we got home, we packed up and went to Kansas. We went to "Boot Hill" where we saw a lot of outlaw's graves. It is where the TV show "Gun Smoke" was made.

This is the end of the story. I hope to see you next year.

Forever Yours,

Mattie Black