

**Helen McNulty (HM) and Janice McNulty (JM)**

HM: Oh, it was tough living, I'm telling you.

JM: What did Grandpap do for a living, mom?

HM: He was a coal miner – big guy, nice looking man. Grandma was very nice looking too, she's a good mother, she had all those kids – Lucy, Jenny, Grace, Mary, Rosy, Helen – that was me – Joe, and Natalie. Eight kids! Everybody loved each other 'cause, that's all you had there.

JM: Grandpap had a brick oven – outside brick oven?

HM: It's still – that oven still stands down there.

JM: Yeah?

HM: He made, uh, bread in it. Oh, you could smell it all over, bacon --

JM: And what would they say?

HM: [Benzie's?] your bacon bread today! [Laughs] Real thick crust and everybody loved Dad's, you know?

JM: Yeah, oh yeah. Good crust --

HM: And you had to make your own butter – you couldn't go and buy it, cause it was poor, poor people!

JM: And then you met somebody named James McNulty.

HM: Yeah, he lived up in the country. The only place we'd ever go would be square dances. And that's where you'd meet somebody.

JM: Well, it's funny you should say that, Mom. 'Cause in your high school yearbook, under your name, it says, "Goes for square-dancing in a big way," that's what it says in the yearbook!

HM: We had square dancing and, uh, polka parties like, you know? Those things you created yourself and they were good things, you know?

JM: Dad had seen you, and there's all your sisters, and he said he wanted the one with the red hair. And Russ, Uncle Russ, said, "No, you don't want her, you want Rosy," do you remember that, Mom?

HM: Yes, yes, yes.

JM: And he said, "No, I want the one with the red hair."

HM: But he was ignorant.

JM: Who?

HM: Uncle Russ.

JM: Uncle Russ was. Yes, he was. [Laughs] So Dad married you and made you a farmer.

HM: Yeah.

JM: That was tough.

HM: Doggone tough, tell me about it. [Laughs] Yeah, we were a farmer, buddy, but it was good living though. Important thing was to get your kids educated, so that they could have a better life than

what we did. And I wanted all of you, all to have college educations –

JM: And that's what you did –

HM: And you all did, and that's something nobody can take from you.

JM: Yep, that's right. No one can take that from you.

HM: Wish the sunshine would come out, I hate gloomy weather.

JM: I don't like it either, what are we going to do about it?

HM: Can't do a damn thing about it. [Both laugh]

JM: Well, Mom, I want to tell you something.

HM: What?

JM: I love you so much.

HM: Aw, Mommy loves you too.

JM: I really love you, a lot.

HM: I hope God let's us be together for a long time.

JM: I hope so too.

HM: Yeah, who wants to lay up there in the cemetery?

JM: And you be a good girl!

HM: I'm always a good girl, it's the other sucker that's bad.  
[Laughs]

JM: That's it, you say that I know you're doing fine.

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