

## The Times of Ellie's Life

**1919** – Elinor Grace Keck makes her surprise debut in Menomonie, WI, on April 23, just ten minutes after “big” brother Sam. Storybook childhood in Watertown, then Huron, with Sam, sister Lois, and parents Rev. Dr. Sam Sr. and Mabel.

**1933** – Enters Huron High, voted “Most Courteous” senior; not at all the title hoped for. Meets Hap via Sam’s school dance band, later attends/graduates from Yankton College.



**1945** – After Red Cross service at Oakland’s naval hospital, marries Hap at Ft. Jackson in Columbia, SC, on January 15; two weeks later he’s shipped to Germany for 16 months. Bides time up in Chicago with Sam, as Marshall-Fields’ tea room hostess.

**1947** – First summer at Doc Lee’s new Black Hills Playhouse; Hap acts, she’s Doc’s secretary and runs camp PX store. Thrilling year in New York City follows; Hap auditions a lot, no results but they have a ball. He teaches at U. of Conn. next year.



**1952** – A son is born on May 30 at hospital of Stanford U., as Hap works on PhD there. In extended labor she threatens to jump out window, Jim will remain an only child. Immediate cross-country move out to Hap’s next teaching job at U. of Buffalo, NY.

**1954** – Back at Stanford, Hap earns PhD after endless delays, she types away merrily at secretarial jobs. BHP summers lend continuity; Hap now directs shows, she runs daily mail, shops for the company, watches over Jim, throws happy hours: all pure heaven.

**1963** – After temp teaching gigs, Ventura College hires Hap and becomes blissful home base for 27 great years. His career blossoms, she kicks off her extended run of typing jobs at Girl Friday, arranging faculty parties, and indulging in those “martini-burgers”.

**1974** – Big year: Jim’s 1st wedding, their 25th season at BHP ceremony, and the purchase of their adored Remington Rd cabin with sister Lois. Blissful summers spent there, no water or electricity, but scenic splendor all around, and of course cocktails.

**1979** – Another big year: Hap’s thrilling sabbatical venturing all around Britain, and the birth of their 1st magnificent grandchild, Brent.

**1988** – A mere nine years after Brent, 2nd magnificent grandchild, Kate, is born. After Hap’s retirement, they move to balmy Channel Is., then later, wild snowy Deadwood.

**1994** – Wedding bells chime in Cleveland, OH, for Jim and Sharon’s nuptials: she loves the grand event, loathes the flights, threatens on return leg to ditch Hap at the airport.

**1997** – Following a nostalgic winter’s interlude in Yankton, plus recovery from a broken arm, they move to the welcome comforts of Rapid City’s Fremont apartments.

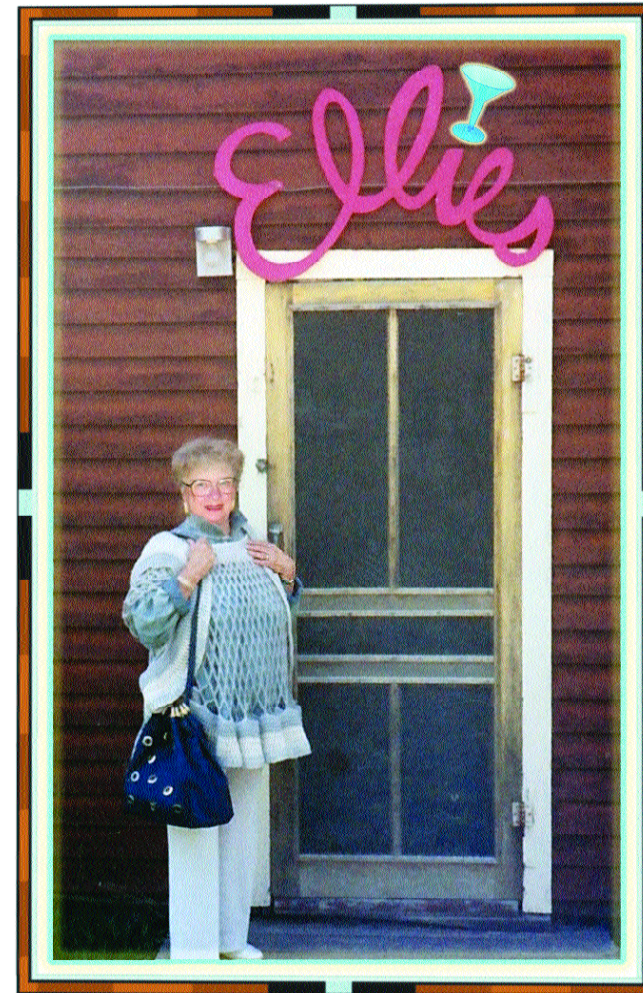
**2000** – After their 42nd and last summer at the Black Hills Playhouse, her increasing pain from lower-spinal arthritis soon leads to routine wheelchair use, yet no less shopping.

**2007** – A joyful summer capped off by a luxurious mountaintop reunion in Lead, precedes a disastrous autumn as her thigh-bone is broken in a fall, and major complications quickly follow.

**2008** – Increasingly disabled, she moves to Golden Living nursing home, is looked after lovingly for 5 years by their caring staff and her new guardian angel, cherished roommate Teresa.

**2013** – Peacefully reunited with her beloved parents and adored Sam on February 28.

APRIL 23, 1919 - FEBRUARY 28, 2013



## A HAPPY-HOUR CELEBRATION OF ELLIE HABERMAN

4 PM TO 6 PM

Sunday, May 12th, 2013 • Alex Johnson Ballroom, Rapid City