

The Story of Emmy Lou Foley

The time: October, 1960.

The place: Mount Joy, Pa.

A five-year-old girl is playing happily with her ball in front of her house.

The ball rolls out into the street in front of an oncoming car. The little girl is intent only on retrieving her ball and runs out into the street after it - and suddenly her life and the lives of her family are altered.

For thirty-five days she is unconscious, lingering between life and death, while her family keeps an anguished vigil in the hospital.

At last, they learn that their little girl will live, but her brain has been severely damaged, her pituitary gland crushed.

They are told that their daughter must learn all over again to walk and talk and do all the simple activities of everyday living.

Thus begins a story of frustration, courage, toil, faith, and love - and with ups and downs, the slow rebuilding of a human life, the life of Emmy Lou Foley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Warren H. Foley.

From the time of the accident the Foleys had the unflinching help and counsel of Dr. Laurence J. Adams, Lancaster neurologist. He was a tower of strength with his down-to-earth, no-nonsense realism.

The Foleys were determined that their little girl should lead as full and normal a life as possible and not be cut off from the mainstream of life with other people. She received therapy to help her physical coordination at the Elizabethtown Home for Children, but started public school with her peers in Mount Joy. It was difficult for her to keep up with the other children, and often she would come home exhausted and dejected.

Then the Foleys received help from Dr. June Smith, county school psychologist. Dr. Smith, unlike some educators, agreed with the Foleys that Emmy Lou would benefit most by continuing in public school with other children, instead of attending a special school for exceptional children.

Dr. Smith recommended that the Foleys get a special tutor for Emmy Lou to help her in her regular school studies.

(Based on her experience with Emmy Lou, Dr. Smith later set up similar programs for other children.)

A very significant person entered Emmy Lou's life, Jeannette (Mrs. Warren L.) Hayman. Mrs. Hayman had once taught at the Devereaux School for exceptional children near Philadelphia, and agreed to be Emmy Lou's tutor.



Emmy Lou Foley

There were obstacles to be overcome, however. The public schools with their standardized program for the mass of children were not geared to the needs of the unusual child. A room had to be set aside in the school in which Jeannette Hayman could tutor Emmy Lou.

Almost immediately, Emmy Lou's schoolwork picked up.

She had learned about the story of Helen Keller, who was both blind and deaf, but learned from the finger of Anne Sullivan writing in the palm of Helen's hand how to communicate with other people. Helen Keller became one of the most sensitive persons the world has ever known. She also became an inspiration to Emmy Lou Foley.

In some ways, Jeannette Hayman played the role of Emmy Lou's Anne Sullivan.

There were others in the Donegal schools, like Mary Margaret Perraro, who gave Emmy Lou a strong helping hand. Mrs. Perraro will never forget the day Emmy Lou stood up and gave her scheduled speech to the class in her well measured words. Her subject was 'Helen Keller,' and it was one of the most moving speeches the class had ever heard.

In her freshman year at Donegal High School Emmy Lou made the 'B' honor roll, and when she was graduated in May, 1974, she received the Jeffrey L. Haines award for outstanding achievement.

Last month she started working at the Mount Joy Library, successor to Robert D. Schenck, Jr., who resigned prior to moving to Florida.

Someone said lately that Emmy Lou's life is 'a real success story.' There were lots of people who contributed to this success, including a group of Mount Joy ladies who prayed for her at their weekly meetings. Most of all, of course, there were her parents, whom Emmy Lou describes as 'unique, because of their patience and understanding.'

Acknowledging and grateful for all the professional and friendly help he and his wife have received, Emmy Lou's father makes a strong point, however. In the last analysis, he says: 'Emmy made it on her own with her determination and desire.'

It is Emmy Lou's own indomitable spirit that has seen her through her ordeal. 'I'm tough and opinionated,' she says. She also has a very good sense of humor, Jeannette Hayman says, to help see her through the harder times.

Emmy Lou smiles at you, and her smile cuts through to a core you didn't know you had and melts something there with love.

We all have a lesson to learn from Emmy Lou, a lesson of courage, hope, love.

She reminds us that we are all a little handicapped, in one way or another. She also reminds us that lurking somewhere within us we have a determination to make something of our lives, despite our handicaps.

Let us learn from Emmy Lou Foley how to make the most of our lives.

Duke awards Schock Memorial Trophy Sat.

by Barbara Landis

The photo below shows Mr. Jere Duke, chairman of the Athletic Council, presenting the Clarence Schock Memorial Trophy to the Hempfield Girl's Track Team. This is the first year a team trophy was presented at the county meet and a traveling trophy, to be kept by the first team to win it three times consecutively, was created in honor of Mr. Clarence Schock whose generosity made possible the building of Donegal's all weather track.

Donegal's track served as the meeting place for the Lancaster-Lebanon girl's track teams. This rendezvous resulted in the best county meet ever held in this area. Donegal's heroine for the day was Pam 'Butch' Kolp who threw the javelin 103 ft. 11 in. to set a school record and earn the bronze medal. The joint meet started with time trials in the 80 yd. hurdles, 100 yd. dash, and the 220 yd. dash. Following was the mile run in which Donegal's Joan de Vitry again set a record of 5 min. 48 sec. breaking a record set only last Thursday. The winner of the mile ran an amazing 5 min. 19 sec. to set a meet record by nearly 30 sec. Also, in the morning, the field events were held. The high jump record of 5 ft. 1 in. fell to a jump of 5 ft. 4 in. while the shotput record also fell. Marcia Weidman finished a very commendable 7th in the league in this event. Records which will probably stand for quite a while were established in both the discus and the javelin since they are new events this year. Due to a four place tie it was necessary to have a run off to determine the qualifier for the 100 yd. dash finals. The 440 yd. relay record was

broken by a strong Hempfield team. Donegal, however, was unable to complete the race as Helen DeJesus took a bad fall due to a faulty spike. In the spill, Helen was very fortunately unhurt. The 440 yd dash record was destroyed by Brubacker of Elizabethtown as the first three finishers broke 1 min. Eleven sec. flat was the astonishing run of the 80 yd. hurdles. Perhaps the best race of the day was the final of the 100 yd. dash in which Wickenheiser of Hempfield shocked the crowd by racing without starting blocks and finishing the race in 11.2 sec. and breaking the record of 12.0 sec. The records for the 880 yd. relay and the 880 yd sprint medley relay were both demolished by the Black Knights of Hempfield. The team of Meszaros, Parker, Derr, and DeJesus again set a school record for Donegal in the 880 yd. relay. In the 880 yd. run Norma Heisey who just finished a winning streak of 3 races and Helene Dalkewicz who is within 3 sec. of the school record recorded excellent times. The record was broken in the 220 yd. dash as the Hempfield girl nipped Manheim Central's girl at the string. Throughout the day, the meet which was run by Coach Prowell went smoothly and according to schedule. Afterwards gold, silver, and bronze medals were given to first, second and third place finishers and the team trophy standing almost 3 ft. high was presented. The weather throughout the meet was absolutely beautiful as evidenced by the sunburned participants. Donegal's reslit track with its spongy quality was extremely fast as the meet record for 13 of the 14 events fell.



Jere Duke and Hempfield tri-captans

MOUNT JOY MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

The Mount Joy Merchants Association, which is sponsoring a Spring Bonanza city-wide sale this weekend, got it's start in 1971. That is when Al Newlin, Claire Mummau, Arthur Hostetter and Walter Sloan decided that it would be of mutual benefit for all local merchants to coordinate their efforts.

With Al Newlin as their first president, the organization started off in a format that is still their yearly procedure.

The group meets monthly for luncheon discussions of common problems, and arrangements for their 3 or 4 yearly promotions. The promotions offer their customers special bargains, free parking and big prizes.

The merchants also arrange for free parking during the Christmans shopping season.

The merchants monthly meetings are not all business. Once a year they throw a big bash and invite their mates to a festive party.

Carolyn Sloan is 1975 president of the Merchants Association. Al Newlin, Claire Mummau and Don Yingst are past presidents.

The following local businesses are current members: Central Hotel, Coleman's Creamery, Dauphin Deposit, Greer Jewelry Store, Jack Horner Shoes, Hostetter Dining Service, J.B. Hostetter and Sons, Inc., Hostetter Hardware, Inc., Hy-Lo, Kinsey Arrow Shop.

Koser Jewelry Store, Leaman Tire Co., Lincoln Restaurant, McComsey's Sporting Goods, Martin's 5 and 10, Merchandiser, Mount Joy Restaurant, Mummau Fireston, G. C. Murphey, Myer's Gift Shop.

National Central, Newlin's Interiors, Orange Owl, Lester Roberts and Son, Rutts Appliance, Sloan's Pharmacy, Sipling's Pet Shop, Stehman's IGA, Susquehanna Bulletin, Taste Freeze.

Union National Bank, Wissler's Motors, Western Auto, Yingst Auto Sales.