

Ines "Mae" Fiedler 100
Battle Creek MI

Ines "Mae" Carl was the youngest of three siblings. Her brother Elwood was the oldest followed by sister Charlotte. They were all born and spent their childhood in Flint, Michigan under the careful supervision of her parents, Archie, and Helen. Archie worked at General Motors, while Helen, kept a tidy home. Helen was also well known as a seamstress, and she made drapes for many of the banks around town. At one point, she had enough customers, that Archie built a second story onto their garage, so she had a dedicated workspace.

As a child, Mae recalls that she enjoyed playing school with the quilts that her grandmother made for her, using the squares as children. She liked school and attended Owosso Bible College and High School. While there, she met her future husband William "Laurel" Silvers in the library while studying. The two had not been dating long before Laurel had to leave school to care for his father. Laurel returned to give a ride to some friends from school who lived in his area. But first, Mae asked if Laurel would take her and some of her friends out for a "goodbye" meal, which he obliged. It was raining so they decided to have ice cream, and then Laurel took them back to school. Mae lived in a home where she provided housekeeping services, so Laurel took her home last after they drove around for a bit and talked.

They were married in 1942 and shortly after that, moved to Dayton Ohio so Laurel could once again, assist his ailing parents. While there Mae found work at a company that, she described as doing "secret war work". She polished lenses that most likely had been related to aircraft. One day, while she was at work, Wilbur Wright (yes, the surviving Wright Brother) was touring the plant when he stopped to ask her what she was doing, which she explained in detail.

After Laurel's help was no longer needed, the couple returned to Michigan where Laurel began pastoring at a church in Ashley while completing his studies. Mae too went back to school to finish her degree while working as a teacher. During this time their three daughters, Janet, Marcia, and Rhea came along. After Laurel graduated, he started working as a minister for the Pilgrim Holiness Church in Owosso while Mae, who completed her degree in education, continued teaching talented and gifted children.

Mae and Laurel enjoyed traveling and were able to travel to Europe, Alaska, and many places locally. They found a piece of land near the little village of Ellsworth where Laurel built several little cottages. He even dug a canal that led out to the lake so he could take the family boating. Although Mae could not swim, she thoroughly loved the water and enjoyed boating. The family spent many happy days at the cottage.

Laurel passed in 1986 so Mae, needing a change, moved to Nashville Tennessee to teach at Trevecca College. While there, she married Dean Fiedler, who shared Mae's love for music, travel, and the church. The couple spent several years traveling all over the US in their RV. Dean passed in 2018.

Mae has always had a love of music and learned to play the piano by ear. Once, Mae attended a friend's wedding at their local church and the pianist didn't show up. The church staff asked Mae if she would play, and though Mae was nervous, she agreed. Mae sat on the piano bench, prayed, and began to play.

One of Mae's favorite hobbies was painting, and she was quite good at it. She would paint many different still life's which she shared with her daughters. Mae feels that her greatest accomplishment is

helping gifted children. She always has had a passion for children which showed in her play as a child and in the many awards she received as an educator.