

Sophie's Wedding

COLLECTOR: **Gertie Fowler**

CONTRIBUTOR: **Sophie Roberts**

Gertie Fowler:

My name is Gertie Fowler, and today is February 3rd, 2010 and I'm here in Forteau with Sophie Roberts and Sophie is going to share some memories with me now about her wedding day. Sophie would you like to share some memories about your wedding day with me.

Sophie Roberts:

Yeah, will I tell 'ya, we got married ingot married on October the 28th, 1958. And we got married here in Forteau. The service took place in the United Church and ah...Billy wanted....well he had to go down, mom and dad wanted us to come up for supper for to see us married. And he went down and picked us up in a pickup...in our pickup. Of course, we taught one time we had a Cadillac, but it was only a small pickup.

But he brought them down ...

Gertie Fowler:

Down to....

Sophie Roberts:

...down to L'Anse au Loup.

Gertie Fowler:

Okay.

Sophie Roberts:

He went down and got them and brought them up and then we ah...got married somewhere around four o'clock in the evening, afternoon. So we had supper and then after supper then, he took them back. But now for supper we had ah...a soup supper. Everybody was invited to it. We had a soup supper and we had pies, you know, we had pie for dessert and ah...I believe ah.... the soup was made by everybody. Everybody brought a boiler of soup, you know and ah....donated it to us, gave it to us for our supper.

Gertie Fowler:

Yeah.

Sophie Roberts:

So I made the pies meself.

Gertie Fowler:

What kind of pies?

Sophie Roberts:

Like ah... partridge berry pies, that's what we had, yeah. And Clarise Davis' she made a cake, wedding cake.

Gertie Fowler:

Did she?

Sophie Roberts:

Yeah. And ah...so everybody was invited at that time. You'd just set the table first and the first crowd would get in with the bride. But the brides girls, you didn't see 'em with the bride and the groom, they would serve tables.

Gertie Fowler:

Okay. That's what you'd have them for.

Sophie Roberts:

At that time, you know, they use to serve tables. You know, serve the meal. And ah ... they had to set the table, oh ah...half a dozen times or more for to feed everybody that came there, like you know. So supper went on for about ah...ten or ten thirty or something.

Gertie Fowler:

Hmmmmmm.

Sophie Roberts:

And then after supper then ah...Billy brought mom and dad home and they came back.

Gertie Fowler:

So why did he bring them home so early?

Sophie Roberts:

Because they wanted to go home, because she had a small baby home, right. Dorman was a baby then.

Gertie Fowler:

Okay.

Sophie Roberts:

Dorman was born...he was only born in January, see.

Gertie Fowler:

Yeah.

Sophie Roberts:

The 9th of January so he was ah...he wasn't ah.. he wasn't quite a year old then so I guess she was probably breast feeding.

Gertie Fowler:

Yes.

Sophie Roberts:

Yes. So she had to go down, she wanted to go down so then ah.. he came back and then after that then the square dance started.

Gertie Fowler:

Okay.

Sophie Roberts:

So we had a square dance and everybody had a grand time, but now I don't know...I don't know who paid for the dance. I don't know unless it was Wif Roberts or someone like that probably. At them times Wif use to play the accordion. But I don't know who played for us, to tell you the truth.

Gertie Fowler:

So can you tell me what the square dance was ... a little bit what the square dance was like.

Sophie Roberts:

Well the square dance, you know, when you started off...what they use to say, more or less it would be like six people you know, on both sides. There'd be two on each end and ah...if we're in set, they call it.

Gertie Fowler:

Yeah.

Sophie Roberts:

So then they'd ah... you'd go through and you justyou just run through first and then you'd swing the first time, you know and then after the next time, you would say...the ladies in the center or something, you'd rise your arm up and then when you're going through ... and then you rise up your arm and they'd go through under your arm.

Gertie Fowler:

Yeah.

Sophie Roberts:

And they'd do that a couple of times, and then after that then they'd ah...they'd ah have

ah...same, they'd call it dough boys, whatever they'd call it. They'd mix it all up and all hands would go through and fix it all up and you know, you'd cut back and forth the floor a few times, you know different ways. Then you'd swing, you know.

Gertie Roberts:

Yeah.

Sophie Roberts:

And then after that then you'd ...on the end of it, well you'd ah...they'd say ladies in the center and they'd go out and you'd ...everybody would go back and catch 'old and you run, you know, you'd go around the center. And you'd let the fellow...one go and you'd pick up the man and take another woman and go on this way, you'd go until you'd get to your partner again.

Gertie Fowler:

Oh, yeah.

Sophie Roberts:

And then you'd take your partner and you know well it's like that and you'd take your partner and then you'd go on back to where you started off, you'd swing and then that would be the end of it.

Gertie Fowler:

Okay, so you'd dance for hours?

Sophie Roberts:

Yeah. So you'd have your square dance, you know and

Good bit of fun, you know, because that's all it was for. Have a bit of fun with it.

Gertie Fowler:

So where did you get your wedding dress, Sophie?

Sophie Roberts:

My wedding dress I had it come from Eaton's.

Gertie Fowler:

Do you remember now how much you had to pay for 'em?

Sophie Roberts:

Yes, I paid twenty five dollars for 'em.

Gertie Fowler:

Is that right?

Sophie Roberts:

And I paid \$10.00 for my ring...for the rings...the set that I had.

Gertie Fowler:

So did you have any flowers or anything?

Sophie Roberts:

Yeah. I had me flowers. I had them come from Eaton's too.

Gertie Fowler:

Yes, maid.

Sophie Roberts:

I had one bouquet and then we'd have just the flower to put in your...in your dress like ...in

Gertie Fowler:

Corsage.

Sophie Roberts:

Corsage, like yeah. Use to have for the men and the women, you know.

Gertie Fowler:

Yeah.

Sophie Roberts:

Yeah.

Gertie Fowler:

So sticks out the most, you know, about that night.

Sophie Roberts:

I don't know. Just the excitement of getting married, you know. So one...at that time, you know, we really didn't know what we were doing...young going to church, you know. The time I walked up the church, my dear, I ...when I walked in, I couldn't feel the floor in under my feet. I was like I was walking on air.

Gertie Fowler:

Is that right?

Sophie Roberts:

Yeah. I didn't, I couldn't feel a thing that's the way....'cause I felt like I was right on top of you.

Gertie Fowler:

It was right over the....

Sophie Roberts:

It was excitement I suppose.

Gertie Fowler:

Yes.

Sophie Roberts:

Good thing, my dear, you know you're getting married. It was a big thing at that time, to get married, hey.

Gertie Fowler:

So how many years, have it been now?

Sophie Roberts:

This is fifty one years.

Gertie Fowler:

Go ahead.

Sophie Roberts:

Fifty one years, going on fifty two now. Fifty two this year, in ah...

Gertie Fowler;

Okay so...

Sophie Roberts:

And the minister...the minister that married us was ah...Reverend Sam Johnson, that's ah..

Gertie Fowler:

Yeah. So tell me a little bit about your children now before you ends off. How many children did you have?

Sophie Roberts:

Well I had two children. I had a daughter, she'll be forty-nine her birthday and our son will be forty-five.

Gertie Fowler:

Okay. So who are they?

Sophie Roberts:

Ah... Alvina is my daughter's name and Jimmy Roberts is Jimmy's son. So they are both married now and they got their own families and got their own jobs.

Gertie Fowler:

Okay, that's good. Was there anything else now you'd like to add to your story.

Sophie Roberts:

No, I think that's alright.

Gertie Fowler:

Oh well that's perfect, Sophie. That's beautiful.