1916

86 Northwick Drive
Rochester, N.Y. 14617
Jan 30, 1993

Dear Niagara Gazette,

Officially I can not enter your contest. I did not honeymoon at Niagara Falls, but my parents did. I wanted to share their story with you.

It was the longest day of the year, June 21, 1916. So it must have been sun up when my father drove his new Maxwell to the farm where my Mother's family lived. The wedding was scheduled for 6 A.M. so the bride and groom could be aboard the morning train from Elkins, W. Va to Pittsburgh, Pa. From there they went to Niagara Falls and stayed at the Watson House. Some years ago I wrote the Chamber of Commerce there and they told me the Watson House had been torn down to make way for a parking lot. They visited the Shredded Wheat factory. We found the brochures among Mother's souvenirs. After nearly a century we returned them, where they were warmly and gratefully received.

From the Falls they went to Toronto, then home by way of a trip down the Hudson River stopping at West Point and New York City. It was a wonderful trip for a young farm couple from W. Va. A trip their children never tired of hearing about. Mother died in 1983 at the age of 96. Through the years, as she visited us in Rochester, we always tried to see that she got back to Niagara Falls.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Harper Gay