

A WONDERFUL SURPRISE

It was warm but nice, on the second afternoon of the 2006 Lancaster County Fair. My husband Dick and I decided to go to the large tent where a Kiwanis Club was providing sandwiches, potato salad, chips and a drink. We found a couple from our church and sat down with them to eat our meal.

After we finished eating, we decided to have some 4-H ice cream they were selling. Dick returned with the ice cream, and about that time the small band and the singers who were performing decided to find the couple who had been married the longest. One of the fellows said, "How about 50 years?" and quite a few people stood, including us. He went on 51, 52, 53, 55, 57, and when he reached 59, one other couple was standing besides us. The man called the couple of 59 years to come up to the stage. At that moment someone saw Dick and me still standing, and he said, "How many years?", and Dick said "63". He then called us up to the front of the stage and put us in two chairs side by side.

The six singers started to sing "I Love You Truly". On the second verse one of the men came down from the stage and knelt down in front of us. Oh me! All those people looking at us! At the time the fellow came off the stage, he said something to Dick. As he started singing the second verse, Dick handed me a beautiful bouquet of long-stemmed roses. A whole dozen! Before he had started singing he had given them to Dick who put them on his left side. I was on his right. I felt like crying, but didn't want to in front of all those people. The fellow congratulated us and we got up from our chairs.

We almost didn't go to the fair. We had two tickets to the Saltdogs game, but I had forgotten about them.

Such a wonderful experience, and we did so enjoy the roses! Lots of people saw us and congratulated us as we left. Oh, such a great time! I believe fate had something to do with the event. Our neighbor took a picture and we have framed it, so I see it often and remember a wonderful time at the County Fair.