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Saint John Vianney

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Woodbridge 2017 Essay Contest

Let me tell you a little bit about my charmed Woodbridge life. I am Emily. I am one of the proud daughters of Mr. Hugh Williamson Kelly and Mrs. Nellie Kelly. I have a beautiful older sister named Augusta. Our family lives at 86 Green Street, after the Valentine's sold it to us in 1922. My dad is the publisher of the Woodbridge Publishing Company, which produces the Independent Leader, Fords Beacon, and the Carteret Press. He is also the owner and president of the United Railway Signal Company in Port Reading. As you can tell, my father's interests went further than just journalism.

I am busy doing something everyday of the week. It is either my mom is hosting people and clubs or I have my friends over. My sister, Augusta, got married to a Steelton, Pennsylvania man at a quiet home wedding. (Woodbridge Independent, June 13, 1930.) Augusta's husband's name is Edward Mahlon Williamson. After she got married, I spent a lot more time with my friends because it seemed as if everybody was too busy to be with me.

On April 10, 1931, my family and I attended Miss. Florence Brown's wedding to a Rahway man. (Woodbridge Independent, April 10, 1931) It was very exciting to see Miss. Florence get married! I had personally not known her, but my parents are friends with her. Most things are that way, though. My parents know almost everybody in town! That same day, my dad attended the Annual Parish Meeting of the Trinity Church and he was elected as the vestryman. (Woodbridge Independent, April 10, 1931) A vestryman is a member of a parochial vestry.

On June 1, 1934, my father attended a dinner in tribute to a beloved schoolman, John H. Love. (Woodbridge Independent, April 1, 1934) My dad was a speaker that told of the esteem in the honored guest. During the dinner, music was playing by Miss. Anne Fraker. The high school faculty quartet also sang. While my dad was enjoying himself at the dinner, my mother and I were at home.

One word to describe my family is successful. My dad purchased a new building, a web press that prints 5,000 newspapers an hour, and added 4 pages of colored comics! (Woodbridge Independent February 26, 1937) I am very excited that he added 4 pages of colored comics because I personally love to read them! The new web press also made life a lot easier when we needed to print more papers in a quicker amount of time.

Overall, I lived a very wonderful life! You can maybe even call me a little bit spoiled. My mom sold our house in 1943, after my father died on August 7, 1942. My dad was 64 years old when he died. I missed my father greatly because I was close to him. I eventually came to peace with my father's death and went to do many things in my life, such as raising a family of my own!