

November, 2019

# Visiting Angels Times Pueblo

Featuring this month- Ms. Lila Taton

## Lila Taton

94 Years Young

Wife, mother, grandmother,  
singer, adventurer, traveler  
and gardener.



3 Daughters

3 Son-in-Laws

5 Grandchildren

9 Great-Grand children

2 Great-Great Grandchildren

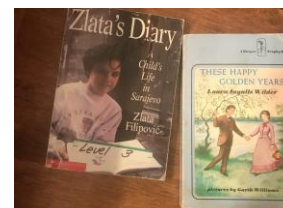
Walking into the home of Miss Lila Taton we were greeted with a wonderful hug and a complete feeling of “home”. Ms. Taton just turned 94 July of this year. As a child, her father nicknamed her Toots! He was the only one who called her this. Most everyone else would call her Ms. Lila. Ms. Lila grew up on a Wheat farm and helped break wild horses. She had a favorite pony she loved, her dad sold this pony to the Calvary because they needed a horse and he needed the money. She really missed that horse then and still misses it today. She loved school and would walk a mile everyday to get there. Education was important, so important that she would collect books all year and give to the kids at Halloween. She did this every year for 26 years. Ms. Lila would collect about 180 books to have enough for the kids.

She lovingly talks about her family, she raised 3 beautiful daughters, whom all went to college and are professionals in their field. Lila has been blessed with 3 wonderful son-in-laws, 5 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren. An interesting fact, she had two siblings both girls and she had 3 daughters, one of her sisters is left handed and one of her daughters is left handed. She has a beautiful granddaughter, Hillary Allen, who had a horrible accident while she was trail running overseas. She had to endure many stitches and hardships. Ms. Allen was strong and came back with strength and courage to run again, running sometimes 91 miles through rough trails. Ms. Allen was featured on Women’s Running Magazine cover in July 2018. She sounds to be as strong as the generations before her. Ms. Lila is a very proud grandmother of all her grandchildren.

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Hillary Allen



Ms. Lila and her husband Meryl moved to Canon City when her children were 4, 5 and 7. They bought 3 acres on Grand Street which had a house and a barn on it, the cost was \$6000 which was a lot in that day. To sustain a livelihood, when they first moved there, Meryl cleaned ditches and Lila sold cemetery lots. Lila said she enjoyed working for Mr. Whitehead, her boss, he was a nice man. Later on, Meryl worked for a company that made conveyors. He designed and worked on many; probably most of the airport conveyors that transport luggage were invented by Meryl or he helped configure them. In fact, Meryl invented the 180\* turning conveyor you see now at airports. She traveled with him sometimes for work and went to places like Dallas, New York, Hawaii and Denver. Lila was a riveter on planes for a short time and used one of her checks to help her dad buy a tractor. She sang in the church choir for 50 years and first started singing in public at age 6. She worked in a hospital for 24 years and sang a hymn on the intercom every morning. The hospital still mentions it today. Ms. Lila also sang in the prisons for about a year. Freemont Civic Choir was proud to have her as a member for numerous years.