

## Got 3 minutes 15 seconds? Need A Story First Before Facts For Best Memories!

Did you have a favorite presentation at the Rootstech 2022 Conference? If so, please share as we all need inspiration. Below is the result of one person sharing their favorite 3:15 minute presentation.

Sometime when acting as genealogists, we are mostly concerned with discovering dates, places and names of relatives. However, be aware that family history memories are equally important. For example, my brother in-law just viewed a very informative presentation during the recent RootsTech 2022 Conference. Check out this video at <https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/session/dear-sirs-promo?lang=eng> (3:15 minutes) which definitely has the “Spirit of Elijah.” The presenter got inspired for this unusual family history story by finding a large knife well hidden under his grandfather’s bed which eventually lead him to discover other personal artifacts in his recently deceased grandfather house that literally jump-started the project of this video clip into an ambitious life-changing experience that only happens to those who truly motivated by the “genealogy bug.” In which, he produced an exciting video that led him to biking across Germany and France to visit Nazi construction camps and more of where his grandfather was held prisoner. It is a heart-warming story to say the very least that can be developed into a gift of a good story-teller as you will learn from his presentation. For good overview of this story, go to <https://www.dearsirsfilm.com/the-story.html>. Perhaps you can be motivated by the procedures cited below to utilize with your own family history challenges? There will be a special movie produced and made available soon from this website.



My brother in-law wants to preserve memories of his 2<sup>nd</sup> great-uncle who is 91 years of age to summarize significant events in their family history with extensive pioneer heritage. He definitely has a mission ahead of him as he interviews other long-lost relatives for future generations that stem from their grandfathers. Here is how he dealt with this matter. Instead of just getting facts, he desires in obtaining the real story of his distant relative’s grandfather, who was the first Japan Mission President for our Church at the very turn of the 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century well over 100 years ago. Here are his strategies for researching/writing the real

story going beyond dates and facts from ones oldest living pioneer family member. Below are his five well-thought-out questions for his 2<sup>nd</sup> grand-uncle to ponder before the interview takes places shortly.

To begin with, he sent his second great uncle a list of questions to begin this family history odyssey as the oldest living relative to converse with. **One:** would like to explore the character of your grandfather (his 2nd great-uncle)? **Two:** much has been documented concerning what he did and where he went. **Three:** to the best of their knowledge, I would like to know his personality and motivation. **Four:** *why and what* made him the way he was? **Five:** let's bring it forward in what ways did he influence and shape your life?

### Closing Comments: You too can become a good story-teller for Genuine Family History Memories

Sometimes family history success needs more than just random luck. Without a plan, research success can be incomplete or partial. Getting strategies together can be a key ingredient. Strongly suggest you go for memories first whenever possible as people tend to open up more and are more likely to share specific data after you have established a warm relationship with an emphasis on memories. And we all need good family history memories to bring data to a realistic setting with photos, videos, audio interviews and stories.



