

CHAPTER 3  
**ANN AND IRA—A LEGACY OF LOVE**



*Ann and Ira, 1943*

I am talking to Ann and Ira together at their home in San Diego on Saturday, December 4, 2004. Ira, after you met Ann and drove her home, what did you do next? How did you get in touch with her?

**Ira:** I called her up.

And what did you say?

**Ira:** Oh, I don't remember what I said. I think we probably just went to a movie or something. In those days that was a good start. "Hey, you want to go to a movie?"

**Ann:** Now we haven't been to a movie in I can't remember when.

**Ira:** In those days it was a big thing, wasn't it?

**Ann:** Yes.

So then you dated each other for a while.

**Ann:** Yeah, a long while.

**Ira:** Oh, yeah. We were dating for quite a while. At least six months.

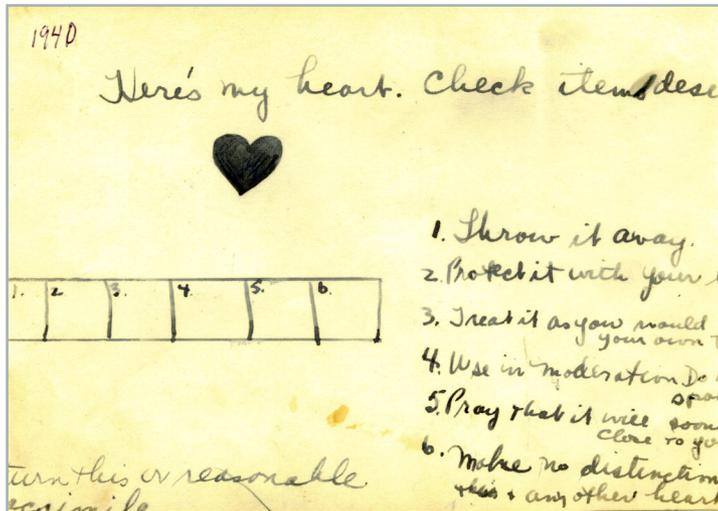
**Ann:** Oh, longer than that—what are you talking about?

**Ira:** Well, then I went into service and then we were apart for about six months, remember? I came home on a furlough, and I think your mother decided that we should get married.

Steve was interested in your courtship. He said to me, "I want to know how long they dated, and . . ."



Ann with photos of Ira, 1940



Writing on reverse side of photo

**Ann:** I'll tell you one thing about our dating. We would go out for whatever, a movie or whatever. Then he would drive me home, and he would come in. It would be late enough that my parents are upstairs already, in bed. So we would sit on the sofa and then we would lie down on the sofa. And then we would kiss on the sofa. And then I would say, "You



*Ira and Ann, 1941*  
*Notation in photo album:*  
*"We mean it, too!"*

know, we have to go to work tomorrow. So I'm going up to bed; I have to get myself ready and I have to go to work." So he says, "Okay, okay." And I say, "Goodbye, good night," [kissing sound], and I go upstairs. But he would fall back to sleep, on the sofa. And my father would get up to go to work, and he'd come downstairs, and there's Ira sleeping on the sofa. So he'd wake Ira and say, "Ira, Ira, you have to go to work. Go home and change so you can go to work." He never hollered at us. He just woke him up and told him to go home so he can get ready to go to work and not be late for work. [laughs] Pretty good pop, huh?

**Ira:** Do you remember when we'd be sitting in the car in front of the house, and your mother would light the light and open the window and say "Anna, it's getting late." [laughs] You remember that?

**Ann:** Very vaguely. I remember the sofa one better. [laughs]

What else did you do on your dates?