

family moment

photograph by Erika Larsen



Angela Chastain (age 10): "It was my great-aunt Pat's sixtieth birthday, and about ten of us had been waiting to surprise her. I was dying to eat a piece of cake, but Mom wouldn't let me. Right after Aunt Pat blew out the candles, I stuck my finger in the icing. I couldn't help it! Aunt Erika caught me and took my picture. Then she tattled on me. She said, 'She's eating the cake!' Everyone laughed."

Patricia Davis (left): "My family surprised me. I was in the bedroom combing my hair when they called me out, and there was the cake—vanilla, with a candle in it that played 'Happy Birthday'—and a container of rainbow sherbet. I jumped up and down and cried and kissed my brother Milton. People tend not to celebrate your sixtieth birthday. They don't want to remind you of your age. I told them I didn't want to make a big deal over it, but they did, the rascals!"—*as told to Jacqueline L. Ross*