

## Time to Grow Up

Although I thought I was grown up after I finished high school, when my grandparents moved away I really had to grow up. I had to find a place to live, pay my own bills, and cook my own food.

One of the hardest tasks of growing up was finding a place to live. I had about six months to find a place, but I spent five months not worrying about it. Then came the month before my grandparents were leaving and I was panicking to find someplace. My grandparents kept saying they were leaving and if I didn't have a place, I could live on the street. With that image in my mind, I spent two weeks looking and finally found a place – with less than a week to spare.

Another task was learning to pay my bills. I had to be better organized because the bills would come in at different times. Since they had different due dates, I had to make sure they were sent out on time. I made sure I had an area on my desk that was reserved for bills. Then, I would spend Saturday mornings making sure the bills got paid and making sure I had enough money in my checking account to cover them.

Finally came cooking my own food. I found it amazing how much time it took to prepare food. Before it was show up to the table to eat. Now I had to make sure I started cooking at a certain time because I didn't want to be hungry and wait for the food to be ready. I also realized how much work goes into cooking different meals on different nights. My grandmother cooked a different meal everyday of the week. I tried to, but it