

Tracy Hall

WINDSTORM 7 June, 1994

If it isn't one thing it's another.

On May 31st we experienced a windstorm that one expert said would only occur about once in every thousand years.

They called it a micro-burst and some of the gusts accompanying the storm were 120 to 125 miles per hour and that was hurricane velocity. The wind came up and was accompanied by heavy rain. But it was the wind that caught our attention. The trees were bending over almost to the ground and sometimes breaking off or being uprooted. Limbs, twigs, and branches were everywhere--smashing cars, blowing out windows and causing all kinds of damage.

Power was off all over the city..

Ida-Rose was standing at our south-east bedroom window as our 40 foot tall blue spruce crashed over the top of our house.. The tree was so tall that the middle of the twenty foot tall length of the tree went right through the roof. Fortunately, we had insurance that covered the over \$10,000. in damages.

Now we had the problem of finding matching wood to go underneath the eaves of the house. The insurance people were not willing to find matching wood to go under the eaves. We had to do our own search. We must have hunted for more than two months before we found a cutter and the right wood to fit in the damaged gaps.

There was one other phenomena in the case of our neighbor, Jens Jonsson, who did not have electric power and we did. So we strung a cord across the street from our house to theirs so the food in their freezer would not thaw.

We still miss our Blue Spruce, but we brought a Scotch pine in from our tree nursery in Payson to take its place.