

*Preserve family memories*



## TIPSheet

Volume 2, Number 4 • April 15, 2009

### Hidden messages in jewelry

This week, a friend reminded me how much my mother loved fine jewelry. I had inherited some pieces, but when my first child was born about 14 years ago, I put them all in the closet. I didn't want curious little fingers breaking them.

Three days ago I looked at them, all patiently collecting dust. For the first time, I felt a curious attraction to a seal ring I'd always seen my grandmother and mother wearing in photos. I'd never worn it, even though I've owned it for 25 years. With fascination and awe, I gazed at the exquisite, intricate carving in the dark green stone. I slid it on, and like Cinderella's slipper, it fit. Perfectly.

Jewelry can hold many stories: an intergenerational covenant, a trip to an exotic land, or a gift of deepest love. I'd love to know what this ring meant to my grandmother and mother.

Happy recording,

*Heidi*

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with a beautifully written tribute about their lives

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