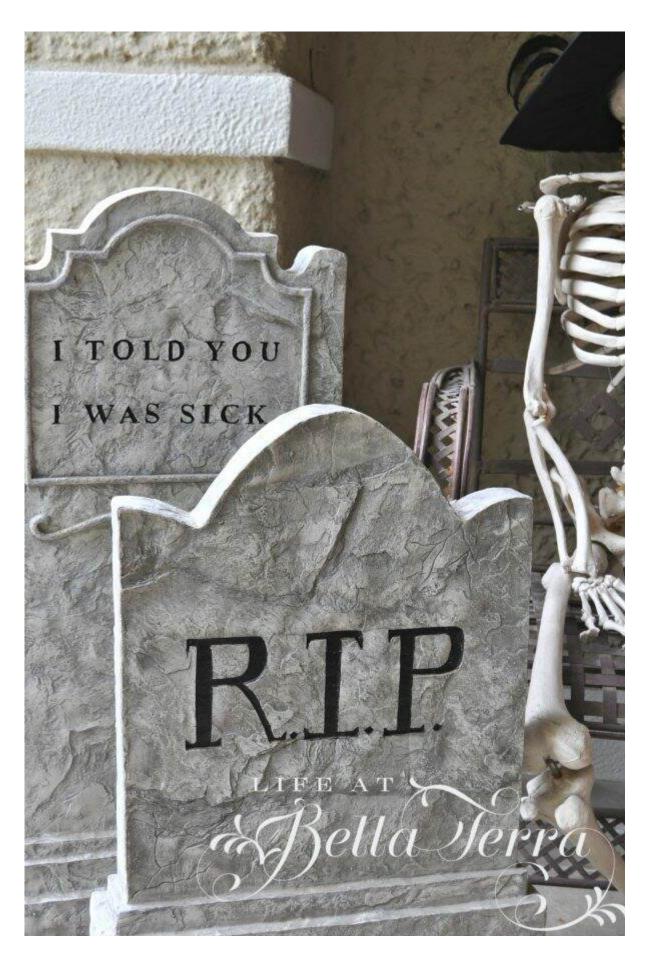
## Halloween Memories

I know some people are not fond of Halloween, but I have such great childhood memories going trick or treating with my siblings in our small Connecticut town. There was a cemetery across the street from our Dutch Colonial house. We would run by it really fast imagining all sorts of ghoulish things, squealing the whole way clutching our pillow cases full of candy.



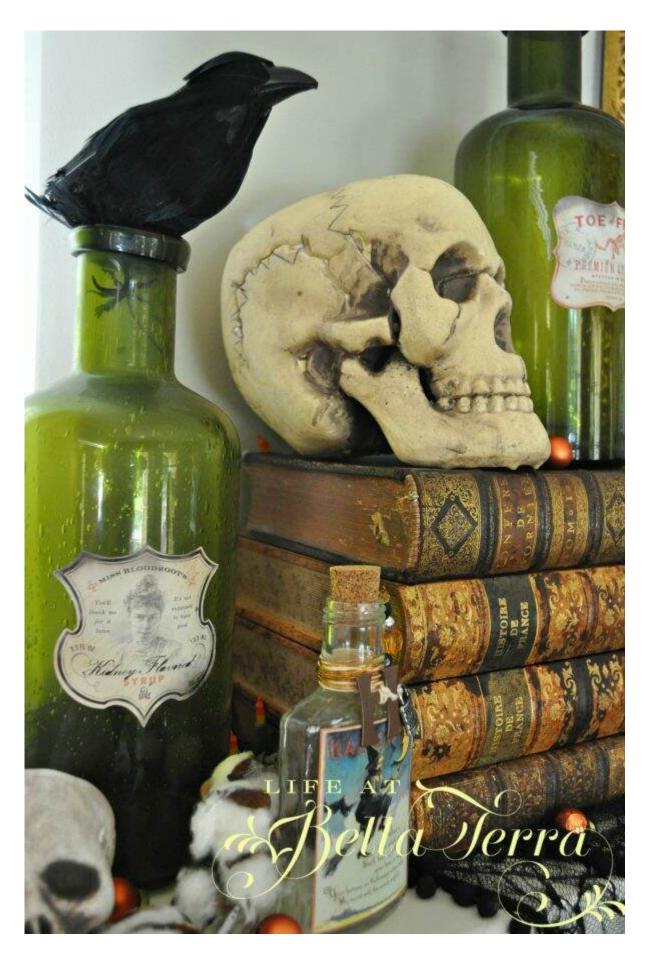
Mom would paint faces on pumpkins and adorn them with straw hats. There was always a cornstalk wrapped around the lantern

post. She would make our costumes and I am sure many of them would be considered politically incorrect today~~like me as a hobo and my sister as Aunt Jemima!



My parents made all holidays extra special~~even with very little, Mom managed to make each one magical.

Naturally, I wanted to do the same for my children. Each year, we bring out the black crows, owls, skulls and chemistry bottles and decorate the dining room mantle.



In the living room, the deep mantle serves as the perfect place to put our family-made ceramic pumpkins.



The battery operated frosted glass witches are tucked into the centerpiece on the table.



The kitchen pastry rack is filled with holiday candy and pumpkins.



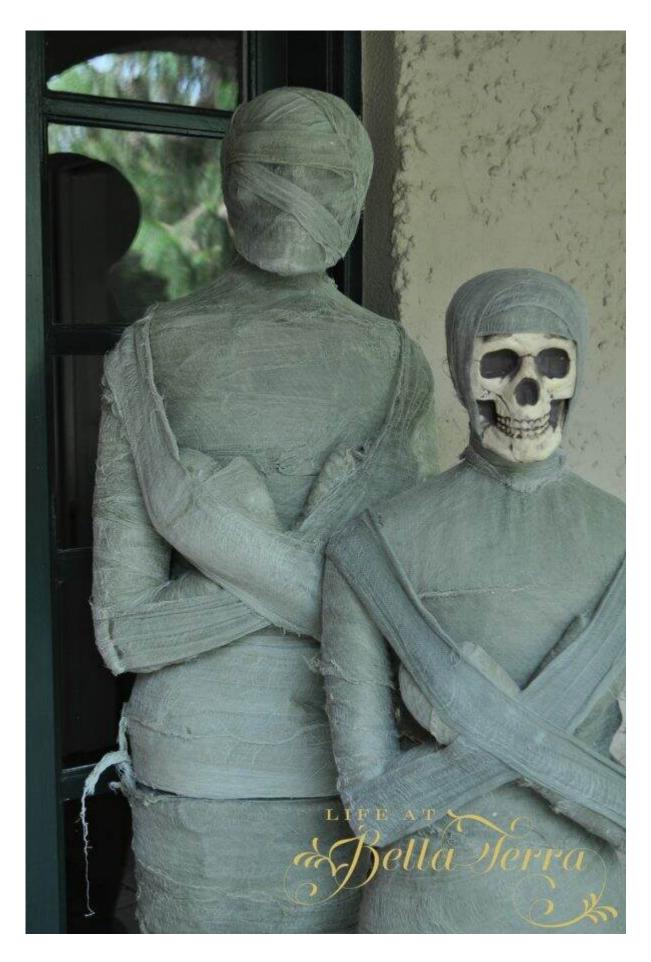
Several years ago, I purchased these fabric pumpkins at a charity event.



Halloween would not be complete with Mr. Bones.



Or the mummies....



The same holiday pillows come out every year.



The querky pumpkin ladies are scattered throughout the house.



A Halloween ribboned wreath completes the front door.





Do you have a favorite memory or costume?

Wishing you a safe and Happy Halloween and a boo-tiful day!!

Mary