Life Story of



Charles Tyler
1893 - 1982



Hilda Elverda Andersen
1903 - 1936



NoraMoore
1898 - 1984

THE PURPOSE OF THIS BOOKLET

We are putting these booklets together on our ancestors, not for the purpose of aiding in any genealogical research, although there might be that possibility for some readers. We are not making an effort to include all the names, dates, and places we might discover if we searched. We do not want to take that much time because of the magnitude of our task.

Our intention is to preserve the life stories of our ancestors as completely as we can. The family traditions, anecdotes, and accomplishments that might be lost to our posterity if we don't record them. There are also mementoes, certificates, photographs, especially photographs, that might be forever lost if we don't find a way to share them. This is our effort to do so.

We feel it is not an accident that so many family records have ended up in our hands from both sides of our families. We feel we have them because we **will** take care of them and share them. We are getting old and we realize that if we die without doing something about these family treasures, they will probably not be preserved for future generations. We're not sure how to share them but preparing these books and booklets is at least the first step. Our children or grandchildren may have to take it from there and we trust that they will. *William L. + Donna Tyler Bliss*

The Life Story of Charles Tyler

1893-1982



Written by
Norma, Merrill, & Donna,
his children

With many helps from his writings and the writings of his wife and brothers.

An Introduction

Merrill's announcement a year ago concerning plans for a Family Reunion for the Descendants of Charles Tyler, gave us just the incentive we needed to get to work on this project. We began right away, and even at that , it was none too soon. We barely finished in time.

We were able to gather together more information than even we dreamed, and we feel confident that this is as complete a life story for Charles as we could ever have hoped it would be. From start to finish it has been a labor of love and brought us much joy.

It is our great pleasure, at this Tyler Reunion, 1995, to present a copy of the "Life Story of Charles Tyler" to each of his children and grandchildren. We hope you will find the contents pleasant reading, enlightening, and sometimes inspirational.

We give it with our love,



Wilbur and Donna Bliss
Editors and Compilers

1995

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Family Register

Parents Married

19Aug1872 Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah

Daniel Moroni Tyler

Born 27Jan1850 Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
Died 10Sep1895 Huntington, Emery, Utah

Sarah Elzina Pulsipher

Born 6Nov1854 Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
Died 18Sep1912 Ucon, Bonneville, Idaho

Grandparents

Daniel Tyler

Born 23Nov1816
Died 7Sep1906

Ruth Welton

Born 25Feb1820
Died 14Apr1897

John Pulsipher

Born 17Jul1827
Died 21Aug1891

Rozilla Huffaker

Born 24Jan1837
Died 9Feb1871

Charles' Brothers & Sisters

Rozilla — b. 18May1873 Beaver, Utah — d. 18May1873
Named for her grandmother, Rozilla Huffaker Pulsipher

Daniel — b. 30Oct1874 Beaver, Utah — d. 28Jul1954
His grandpa Tyler said "His name should be Daniel,and my desire is that the firstborn of each generation be named Daniel." And so it has been. Charles and all the younger children looked up to Dan as a surrogate father. He said their mother kept the family together after the death of the father but without Dan she could not have succeeded.

John — b. 31Aug1878 Hebron, Utah — d. 31Oct1962
Named for his grandfather, John Pulsipher, (their mother's father) and also for his mother's brother John.

Ruth — b. 25Feb1880 Hebron, Utah — d. 2Feb1966
Named for her grandmother, Ruth Welton Tyler.

William Nathaniel — b. 31May1882 Hebron,Utah — d. 7Jan1897
Died age 15 of juvenile diabetes in Huntington, Utah.

Esther Murray — b. 8Aug1884 Hebron, Utah — d. 9May1963

Andrews — b. 7Nov1886 Hebron, Utah — d. 27Feb1976
Named for his great grandfather, Andrews Tyler. He was often known as And.

Emily — b. 19Apr1889 Hebron, Utah — d. 4Jan1979
Named for her Aunt Emily Pulsipher Robins, her mother's sister.

Mary & — b. 3Jun1891 Huntington, Utah — d. 31Aug1972
Marion — b. 3Jun1891 Huntington, Utah — d. 5Jul1979
Named for their mother's sister, Mary.

Charles — b. 24Dec1893 Huntington, Utah — d. 14Nov1982
Named for his mother's brother, Charles Pulsipher. The family often called him Charl.

Birth

Charles Tyler

Born 24Dec1893
in Huntington, Emery, Utah

Quote from Charles

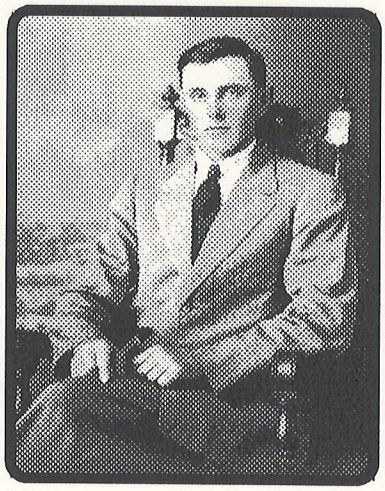
"I am Charles Tyler, the youngest of eleven children born to Daniel Moroni and Sarah Elzina Pulsipher Tyler. I say as did Nephi, I was born of goodly parents."

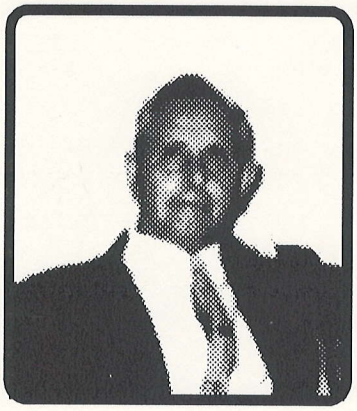
These parents had thought their family complete when they learned they were to have another baby. They were pleased and thankful. So in due time, the 24th. of Dec., 1893, in the evening a beautiful (??) baby was born with long black hair and brown eyes... I am very grateful to God for giving father and mother that last baby boy.

" I have shed many a tear of thanksgiving to He who made it possible for me to be born to those two wonderful parents and to have the brothers & sisters I have... I weep when I think of where I might have been sent, dark Africa, China, Rushia, or to a Hoten-Tot couple who knew nothing of Jesus Christ or the Gospel which he sent to earth."



Charles' Physical and Personality Traits





Charles stood 5 feet, 11 inches tall, with dark hair and brown eyes. Yes, "tall, dark and handsome" described him very nicely indeed. He had a dimple in his chin that became more pronounced as the years went by. His hairline receded eventually but bald he was not.

Charles signature was beautiful in its clarity, with tall capital letters that indicated his sense of his own worth. Except for the perfecting of his capital T, his signature did not change over the years. It seemed a clear reflection of his beautiful character.

Charles Tyler

The twinkle in his eye gave frequent indication of his sense of humor. He didn't miss an opportunity for a laugh if he could help it, and often, though gently, at someone else's expense. He loved to play little pranks on those around him and then enjoyed those little episodes again and again as he recounted them. Mischievous is the word that come to mind to describe this facet of his personality. The same would apply to his son Merrill too. These pranks were of the endearing rather than the annoying kind.



This picture seems to reflect a little bit of the humorous side of Charles' nature.

As often as we heard the story of the poker up the pant leg we should be able to quote it verbatim, but what we remember best is Charles' laughter as he recounted it. It seems that he and his brothers (children still) were chasing a mouse. One brother was stretched out on the floor looking under a piece of furniture and another brother (Charles?) ran a poker from the fireplace up his pant-leg. Grabbing his pant-leg he shouted, "I've got him, I've got him", to the uproarious laughter of the others. Our cousins are familiar with this story too. Apparently those Tyler Brothers were cut from the same mold.

It should be noted, however that Charles never made light of serious or sacred things. He had a strong sense of the appropriate and was always unfailingly kind.

In spite of this great love of laughter, Charles had a very serious side. The laughter was a respite from the sorrows he'd seen. He grew up without his father, watching his mother and brothers struggle to break new ground and make a living off the land. Too soon he lost his mother too, and it was he who cared for her as death drew near.

Feeling orphaned and alone he kind of knocked around the world for 12 years including service in WWI. Finally settling down and marrying, he began the struggle of supporting a family only to face the Great Depression head on. Then his first baby died, and then his wife. A kind of permanent sadness set in that lingered all his days.

Charles was clearly and visibly a man of integrity and loyalty. People sensed this and he was well liked and well trusted. He was <u>not</u> a complainer. If a problem could be fixed, he fixed it. If it could not, he endured it with patience and dignity.

He worked hard and he was strong. He had good hand-eye coordination and could juggle balls or apples, or anything handy. He balanced broomsticks and garden implements on his chin. Everything he did he did to the best of his ability, and ability he had plenty of.

Charles helped without being asked. We grew up seeing him helping widows and neighbors and friends, and us. He didn't grumble at the inconvenience but willingly and gladly did whatever was needed.

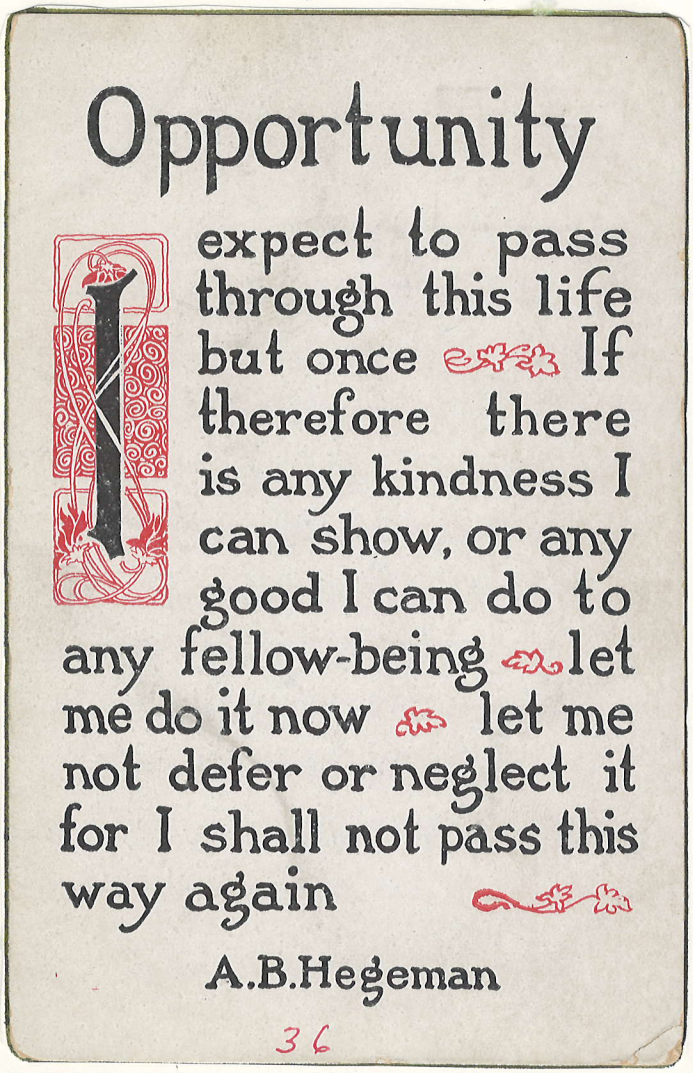
Nicknames were not popular with Charles and he bristled if someone called him Charlie or Chuck. Except for terms of endearment, he did not give nicknames to others either. His brothers and sisters call him Charl, and that was okay, but it was the closest thing to a nickname he tolerated.

Charles was a gentleman, always. It came natural to him to behave in a gentlemanly way, opening doors, holding chairs, lifting the heavy loads and requesting politely the services he required. Please and thank you were an everyday part of his vocabulary even with (especially with) his children and wife. To take the Lord's name in vain was completely foreign to him.

He was unashamedly a man of faith and prayer, a willing instrument in God's hands whenever and wherever he was needed and never questioning God's will.

Charles was, above all, a loving man. None of us near him could ever doubt his love for us. It was profound, and we loved him profoundly in return.

Favorite Things



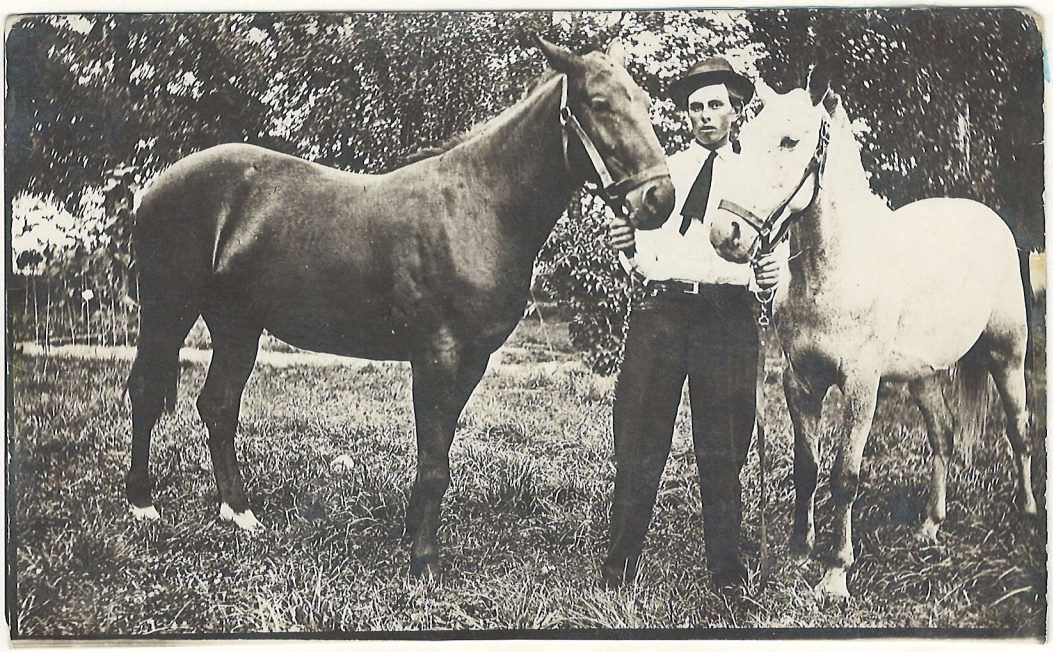
This was found among Charles' things. It seems it was his life-long motto. He also collected other inspirational thoughts and perhaps this was 36 in a group. However, this is the one he saved, so it must have been his favorite.

Favorite Games:

Charles and his brothers usually played horseshoes when they got together. And yes, he was good at it.

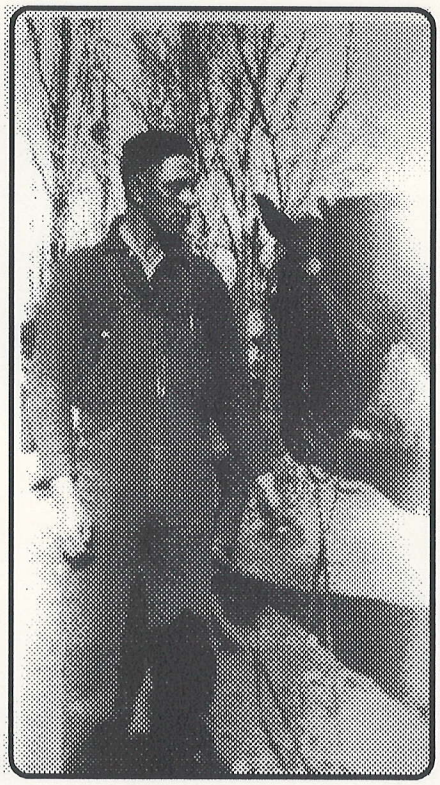
Checkers was his favorite game though, when he could get anyone to play with him. Norma remembers that Ralph was an excellent checker player but he said, "I can never beat your dad!" Grand-children later played him and until his mental health began to fail, they could not beat him.

Horses were high on Charles' list of favorite things. He loved horses all his life. In his youth he had good riding ponies and later, good work horses. Maud and Nel were his all time favorite working team of horses. Norma remembers that in his later years he would go to the track whenever he could to enjoy watching the trotters.









"Charles Tyler and wild horse caught in the mountains in Southern Utah, 1921."



Charles and his beloved Maud and Nel
on the Huffaker Farm in Garfield, Idaho.

Songs:

Norma is certain that Charles' favorite song was "Strawberry Roan", about a horse, of course. "It's a Long Way to Tiperary" must not be left out, however. He and Nora sang it together, to the delight of their children. Sometimes he played the Jews Harp (more correctly called a Jaw Harp) which seemed quite a feat. We never could get anything close to music out of the thing.

Hymn:

Charles stated that his favorite hymn was "I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go, Dear Lord" and he always tried to do just that.

Powerhorse:

Not quite a horse, though you steered it with reins, like a horse. It was a small tractor Charles bought to use on the little farm in Shelton, Idaho. He would rather have had Maud and Nel but nevertheless enjoyed the powerful little substitute.

Food:

Isn't that awful? We can't remember his favorite foods. He seemed to like most everything and always complimented the cook. One thing he didn't like was chicken skin, which he unapologetically left on his plate. He always put sugar on his tomatoes, fresh or canned.

Books:

Charles' all time favorite reading was unquestionably the Book of Mormon. He read it diligently up until the time he could no longer read. He began his own life story the same as did Nephi of old, saying he was born of goodly parents.

He also dearly loved the story of "The Man Without a Country". Believing it to be a true story, he wept at the thought of being exiled from his beloved country.

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead, who never to himself has said,
"This is my own, my native land....."

"Robinson Crusoe" was another favorite book. He passed his copy on to Norma and it is now one of her favorite possesions.

Other Favorite Reading:

Gardening Books:

Charles loved to read and study them. Larry, his grandson, is happy now to have one of them.

L.D.S. Church Magazines:

Charles read these cover to cover and would write "read to here" on the page he'd stopped at.

L.D.S. Reference Books:

He had a large collection which has been passed on to children and grandchildren.

Reader's Digest and Newspapers:

These he always read to keep current.

Plants:

Charles loved the land, the soil, the plants. He found nothing more beautiful than a field of grain and spoke about the beauty of a freshly plowed field. When driving through the countryside he was very interested in every field and every crop. He loved plants and flowers of all kinds and even did some successful experimenting with grafting on citrus trees. His grandson, Dean, shared this enthusiasism. Gardening was his vocation and his hobby.

Woodworking:

Charles enjoyed working with wood, once making Donna a sturdy lock box and Sarah a child sized desk.

Keepsakes:

Tyler Family Bible: Charles was honored to have his parent's Bible, treasuring the entries of births and deaths. The Valentine his father made for his mother was kept safe within it's pages through all the years. Merrill now safeguards it as did Charles.

Platters:

Charles had his mother's turkey platters - one plain white for every day use and one decorated one for special occasions. Norma has one, Donna the other.

Marriage

Married

24Jun1924 Salt Lake City, S.L., Utah

Charles Tyler

Born 24Dec1893 Huntington, Emory, Utah

Died 14Nov1982 Riverside, Riverside, CA

Hilda Elverda Andersen

Born 5May1903 Mount Pleasant, Sanpete, Utah

Died 25Nov1936 Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho

Other Marriages

Married

16 Jul 1937 — Logan, Cache, Utah

Nora Moore

Born 5 Sep 1898 — Shelton, Bonneville , Idaho

Died 26 Aug 1984 — Riverside, Riverside, CA

Children

Charles DeLoy Tyler

Born 18May1925 Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho
Died 18Jan1926 Ucon, Bonneville, Idaho

Norma D'On Tyler

Born 12Oct1927 Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho
Married 21Feb1947 to Ralph W. Higley

Merrill John Tyler

Born 5Jun1930 Garfield, Jefferson, Idaho
10Mar1951 (div) Ilene Janette Hughes
16Aug1979 Marilyn Peel

Donna Elverda Tyler

Born 7Dec1932 Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho
Married 16Jul1948 to Wilbur Lee Bliss

Family Heritage



His Mother

Sarah Elzina Pulsipher Tyler



Age 16



Age 25



Age 18



Age 43

Mother

Sarah Elzina Pulsipher Tyler was known as Elzina and often just Zina. She was much revered by her husband and children who all their lives heaped words of praise upon her. Her children called her Ma.

Because of Daniels' physical handicap Zina had to take over most of the outside work until her sons could take over some of the responsibilities. "She milked the cows, made large rolls of butter and extra good cheese, and always had a large garden to care for." (quote from one of her children) And always she supplemented the family income by doing such things as making lace to sell and selling eggs for five cents a dozen.

Although her husband was physically incapacitated, Elzina honored him as the head of the family and followed his guidance even when she didn't agree. This is evidenced by John's account of the family's move to Huntington, Utah from Hebron. He said, "Pa went and stayed one winter. He thought it would be a good place, so he got Ma to consent to move. She didn't much want to, however."

The journey was most difficult for her as little Emily was less than 2 years old and she was pregnant with her twins. They made the journey in winter and John said the wagons were often stuck.

Charles was not yet born at that time. While in Huntington her twins were born and then Charles.

John said: "After we'd been in Huntington six years, or maybe a little longer, Pa died. We children were all in the next room with the measles at the time and Ma was all alone with him."

"Mother was a wonderful person. She was a wonderful manager. No matter how little there was in the house to eat she could fix something out of it. She kept our family together."

Within a year of being widowed, her 3rd. oldest son, Nathaniel died of juvenile diabetes. Huntington, Utah held few happy memories for Elzina. While there the family had barely been able to eke out a living and they were in debt. Learning from her Uncle Lou Huffaker that there was plenty of affordable land and plenty of work for her older boys, she decided to move to Idaho.

It proved to be a good decision for them all. Within a few years the older boys had bought land and built a nice 5 room brick house for her and the younger children. She told them it was the best home she'd ever had.

Charles wrote of her death: "Mother's health became bad, and she was sent to Salt Lake City where the doctors were who were supposed to know more than the ones in Idaho Falls. Dr. "Gill" Richards was her doctor, and after treating her for some time without any success, he said she may as well go home, for they couldn't do her any good."

"I went to Salt Lake City and came home by train with her and remember how pleased she was to be back home. But she never did get good health, although she lived several years longer. As mother's health became poorer, Marion and I took turns doing farm work and chores, and taking care of mother and doing the house work. Our sisters came when they could to visit mother and do anything possible for her comfort."

"The morning of the day our darling mother left us, it was Marion's turn to do the outside work, so we both got up and started doing our chores. Mother called to me and when I got into her bedroom she was sitting on the bed with her feet on the floor; The first time she had done that without help for weeks. I helped her into the living room and into her rocking chair."

"She complained of a headache, but told me to get breakfast, she was hungry. I started breakfast, but her headache became more severe, so I called Marion in and one of us went on horseback to let the rest of the family know. There weren't any telephones at any of the families' homes, so it took longer. Andrew and Helen were on the dry farm so I rode there to tell them to hurry home."

"That evening, still sitting in her rocking chair, she passed away. September 18, 1912. We laid her to rest in the Ucon Cemetery. She was 58 years old."

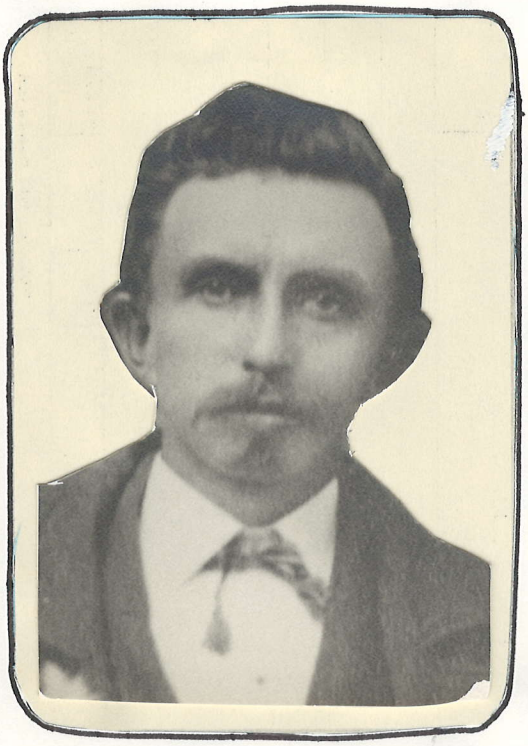
Elzina was a true Latter-Day Saint. She was always active in church and raised her children up to hold to the iron rod of the gospel. Without exception they have done so.

His Father

Daniel Moroni Tyler



Age 22



Age 29

I thought his eyes looked a lot like Daddy's so I covered the rest of the face to reveal only the eyes. I see the resemblance but mostly I see the pain. The physical pain he endured through-out most of his life is evident here in his eyes. (Donna)

His Father

Daniel Moroni Tyler was a man of integrity, faith, and long suffering. He studied telegraphy and was very good at it, and was even called upon to teach others. Unfortunately, though the work was suited to his crippling disability, he could not earn enough money at it to support a family. Thus he decided to haul freight by team and wagon. There were no railroads in southern Utah at that time.

Because of his crippled leg this work was very difficult for him and when his children were old enough one or another would go along to help him out. Dan, the oldest, began this work when only 4 years of age. Daniel still worked as a telegrapher periodically and sometimes taught school. Two of his boys remembered having him for a teacher in Hebron and how in the winter they shoveled the snow away so their father could get to the school. He and Danny also peddled sorghum molasses to obtain their year's supply of flour.

Daniel suffered great pain all his life and because of it had a drinking problem. It offered some relief from the pain. His mother blamed herself, saying she made him a drinker by giving him brandy to ease his sufferings.

He lived only 45 years, with the last 6 months lived mostly in bed, racked with the pain of inflammatory rheumatism but surrounded by his loving family. Their "Pa" had taught them honesty and industry. His example was the best teacher as he labored hard, in spite of his afflictions, to support his family and pay his debts.

His family did him proud, each and every one.

Charles, in his life story, gave a very revealing and interesting account of his father's afflictions - the cause and results. It must be remembered that he received his injury in the early 1860's, as Charles said, far from good medical attention.

Charles included this intriguing information in his writings:

"I could not make my history complete without thinking back to a year or two before I was born and told to me by my eldest brother, Dan, who was nineteen years of age when our father died.

When father was twelve years old and standing, watching a baseball game, a large boy tripped him over, breaking or dislocating the hip joint. In those early years of settlement of far away places from Salt Lake City where the main body of Mormons were, the doctors knew little of setting bones or what to do for fractured hips, so father lived out the rest of his life on a crutch and cane. That leg never grew more. You will have a short copy of father's life so I won't go into more detail than necessary.

Rheumatism settled in the hip and through the years caused much pain and suffering. He was given pain relieving medicines such as Laudanum, a preparation of opium which if not administered with care and wisdom is a killing drug. One drop to a dosage was first given and as his system became used to the drug the dosage was increased until finally he was getting a teaspoon full, enough to kill a horse.

That had to be stopped and he tried whisky with fairly good results, but that too was habit forming. So after my mother's pleading, her faith and prayers, father decided to take a "cure" to take away the appetite for whisky. That was known as the "Keely Cure".

I know you children are wondering what all this has to do with my personal life story. Please don't condemn my father for what you may think was weakness, for severe pain will cause people to take desperate steps.

It was said and believed that after a man took the Keely Cure he could not father another child, so father and mother firmly believed there would be no more children born to them.

When mother learned she was to get another baby they were pleased and thankful. So in due time, the 24th of December 1893 in the evening, a beautiful (??) baby was born, with long black hair and brown eyes.

Mother said: "It's a boy I think", so father went out and took a drink. Believe it or not, that baby became your father, so don't wonder why father and mother called me the "Keely Baby".

I am very grateful to God for giving father and mother that last baby boy.

My father died after great suffering when I was two years old. I was told I would climb on his bed and say: "Pa's boy".

His Parents As a Couple



Sarah Elzina Pulsipher

and

Daniel Moroni Tyler

Parents as a Couple

(From Uncle Dan's life story booklet)

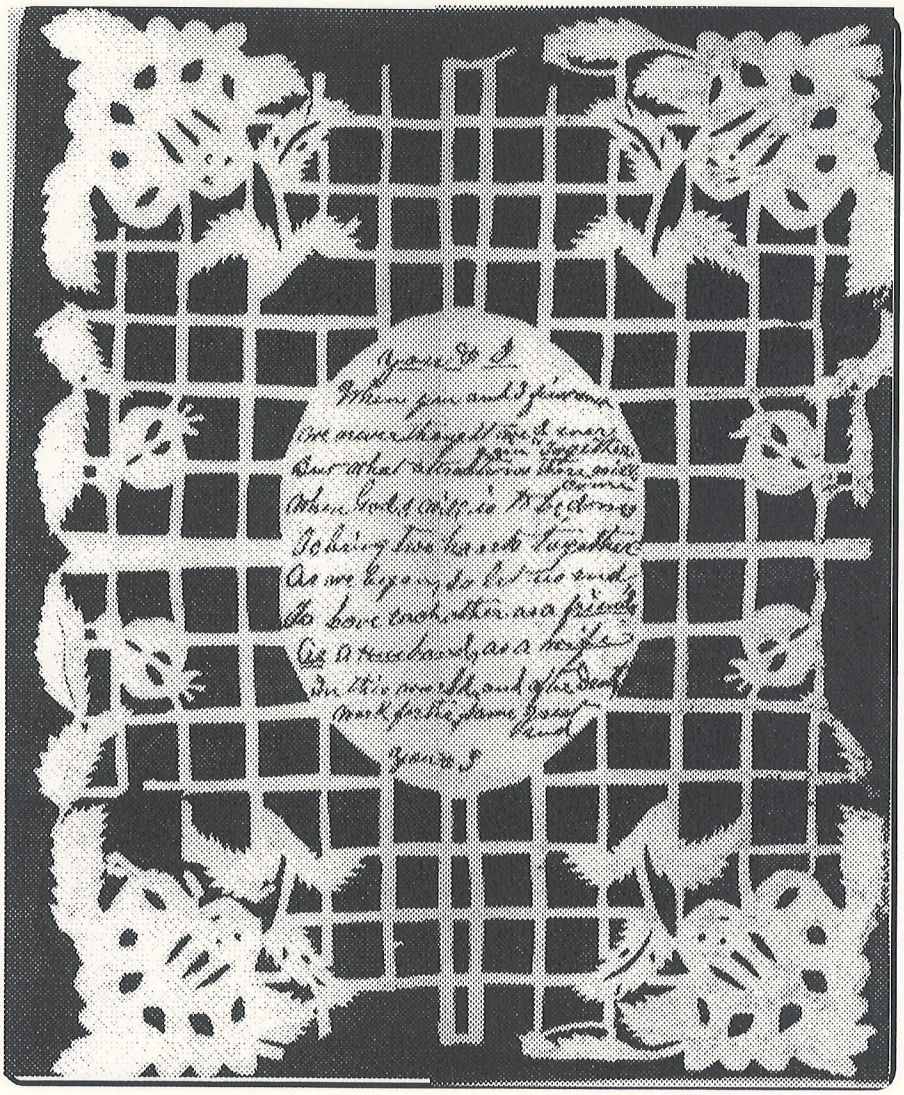
About 1872, Daniel Tyler was called to Beaver City, Utah to work as a telegraph operator. Here he met Sarah Elzina Pulsipher. Mutually attracted, they soon agreed to marry. They traveled 200 miles in a covered wagon to SLC where they were married in the Endowment House 19Aug1872.

The 1st year after their marriage, Daniel and Elzina lived at Beaver City, Utah. Daniel was a good telegraph operator and was called to teach others. Elzina learned how to send and receive messages and years later when they wanted to talk and didn't want the children to hear them, they used the telegraph code with their knives and forks (What a treasure this little note of insight.).

Throughout all their trials they remained faithful and loving companions. At one point Daniel cut a lovely paper Valentine for his beloved and wrote upon it this sentiment:

You and I
When you and I first met
We never thought we'd ever get together.
But what attractions there will come
When God's will is to be done
To bring two hearts together.
As we began, so let us end
To have each other as a friend
As a Husband, as a Wife
In this world and after death
Work for the same great end.
You and I

Elzina saved this Valentine in the family Bible all her days and it is today a treasured memento of Merrill, her grandson.



In 1891 Daniel was hurt in an accident while away from home. Expecting to die before help could arrive, he penned these loving words. (full copy in their life story)

"My dear Zina,

...Forgive my failings and may God bless you and prosper you all through life and all people be charitable to you.... Oh Zina, my dear, may God always be as merciful and charitable unto you as you have been unto me, always willing to forgive and forget. May he ever bless you with power to resist everything that is evil... (children) Be kind to Ma. She is the best friend you will ever know on earth....

Your loving Husband and father

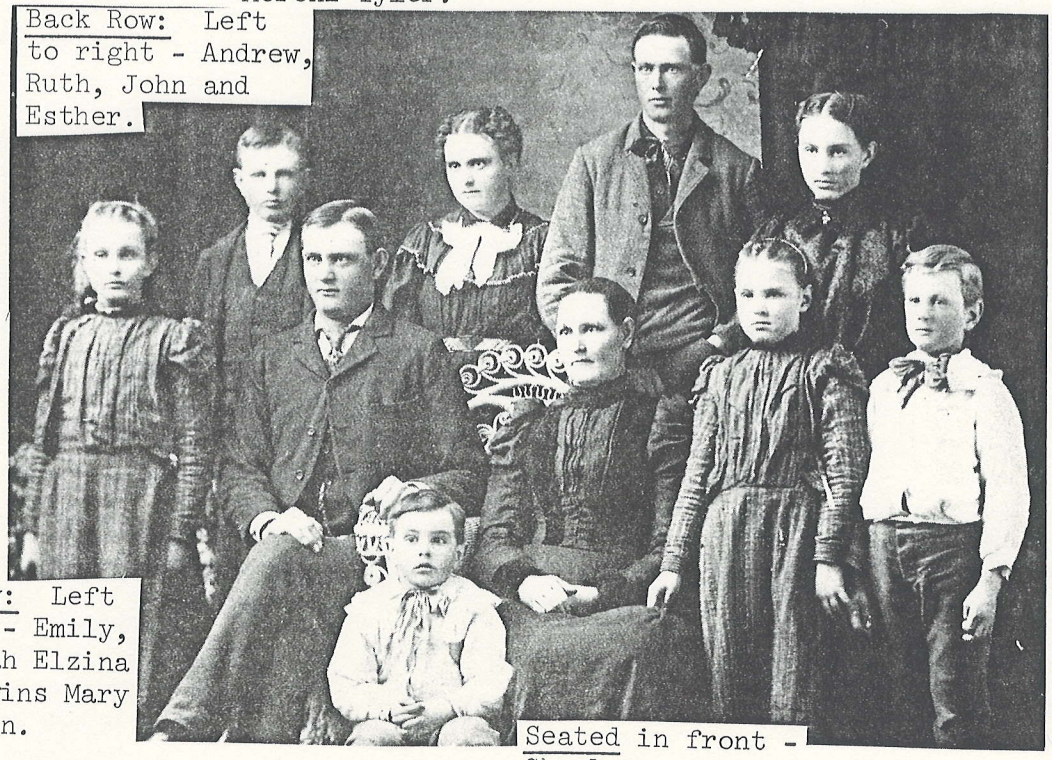
D. M. Tyler

That time he survived but three years later he died. His loving thoughts in this letter are treasured by his descendants.

Charles' Brothers & Sisters



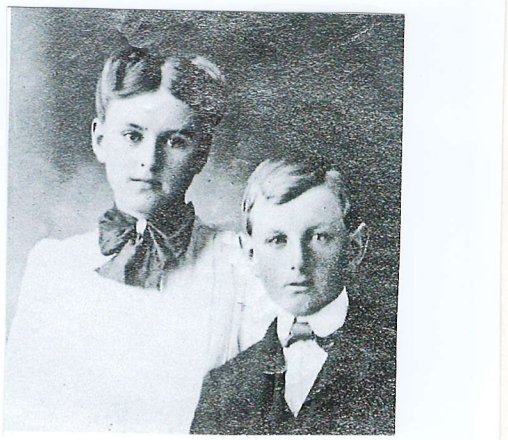
Left to Right: Sarah Elzina Pulsipher Tyler, Ruth, Dan, John, and Daniel Moroni Tyler.



Back Row: Left to right - Andrew, Ruth, John and Esther.

Front Row: Left to right - Emily, Dan, Sarah Elzina Tyler, twins Mary and Marion.

Seated in front - Charles.



Mary and Marion



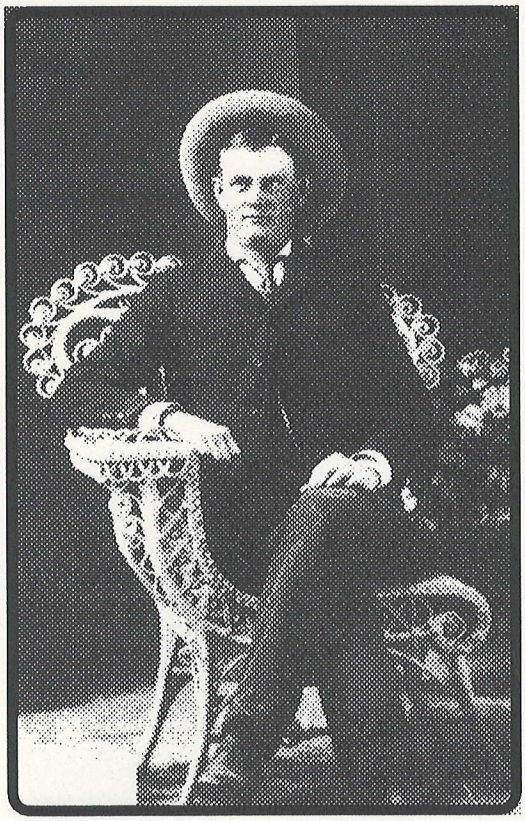
Emily



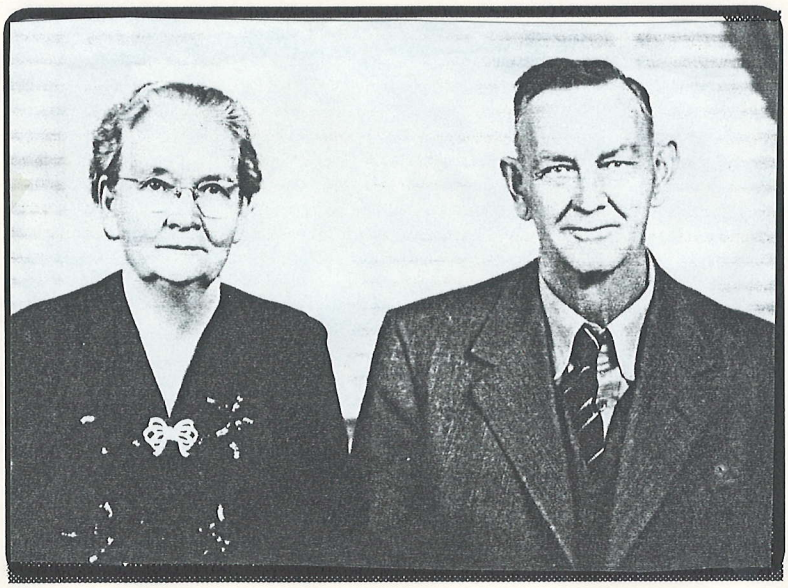
Sisters, Emily and Mary



Mary Tyler Morris
taken 1962 age 71 1/2
Note that her hair style pretty much
Stayed the same.



Dan in his youth.



Dan in his later years with Aunt Tillie.



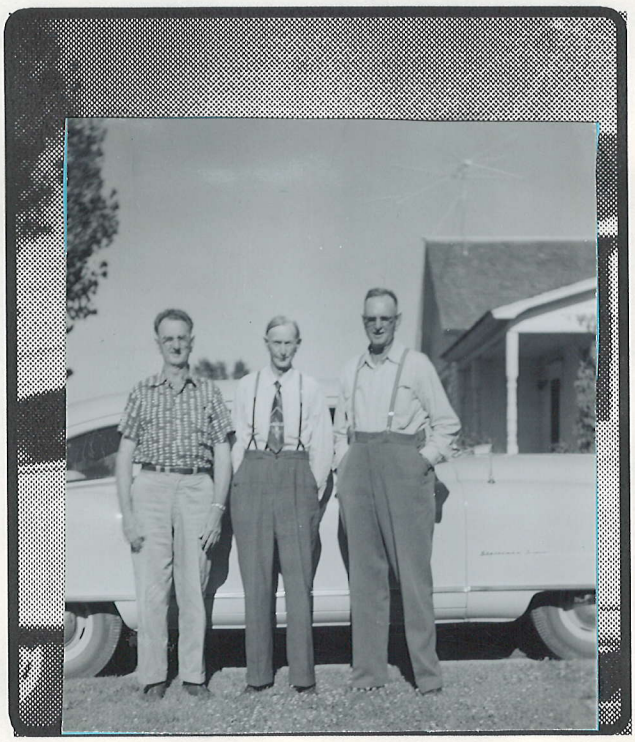
Brother Nathaniel who died young.



Charles and Andrew about 1965



Brother Marion, missionary picture. Written on the back was "Compliments of Marion Tyler, Charlston, W. Va."



Marion, John, and Andrew about 1962



Andrew with Aunt Helen



Nora, Emily and Rozilla



Marion, Cleo, Nora and Charles on the mule

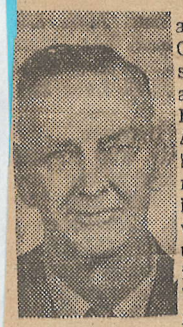


Another of Helen and Andrew

Death Claims Ucon Pioneer

(Special to The Post-Register)

RIRIE, July 28. — Daniel Tyler, 79, pioneer of Ucon, died at the family home in Ririe early Wednesday morning following an illness of two months.



Dan Tyler

He was born at Hebron, Utah, Oct. 30, 1874, a son of Daniel M. and Sarah Elvina Pulsipher Tyler. At the age of 16, he and his family moved to Huntington, Utah, where they lived until 1896. Following the death of his father, he moved his mother and eight brothers and sisters by team and wagon to Willow Creek, now known as Ucon, where he helped to pioneer the community.

At Ucon he met and was married to Matilda Peterson, June 12, 1900. The marriage was later solemnized in the Salt Lake City LDS Temple March 5, 1913. They resided in Ucon until 1947, when failing health forced them to move to Ririe, where some of their family were located. For the past seven years they spent summers at their ranch near Mack's Inn and the winters in Ririe. He suffered a stroke two months ago and has been ill since that time.

Nine Survive

He was an elder of the LDS Church. Besides his widow he is is survived by three sons and five daughters:

Ben M. and LeMond Tyler and Alice Byington, all of Ririe; Stuart Tyler and Mrs. Pearl Radford, both of Arco; Mrs. Hazel Bowles of Milo; Mrs. Mabel Martineau of Ammon; Mrs. Nina Briggs of Basalt. One son, Glen, preceded him in death.

Also surviving are 52 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren, four brothers and four sistes, John and Andrew Tyler and Mrs. Emily Cramer, all of Ucon; Mrs. Ruth Cook of Garfield; Mrs. Esther Davis of Idaho Falls; Mrs. Mary Morris of Hibbard; Charles and Marion Tyler, both of Long Beach, Calif.

Funeral services will be Saturday at 2 p. m. at the Ucon LDS Ward Chapel with Bishop George L. Lovell of Ririe officiating. Friends may call at the church from noon until service time Saturday and prior to that time at the Wood Funeral Home. Interment will be in Ucon Cemetery.

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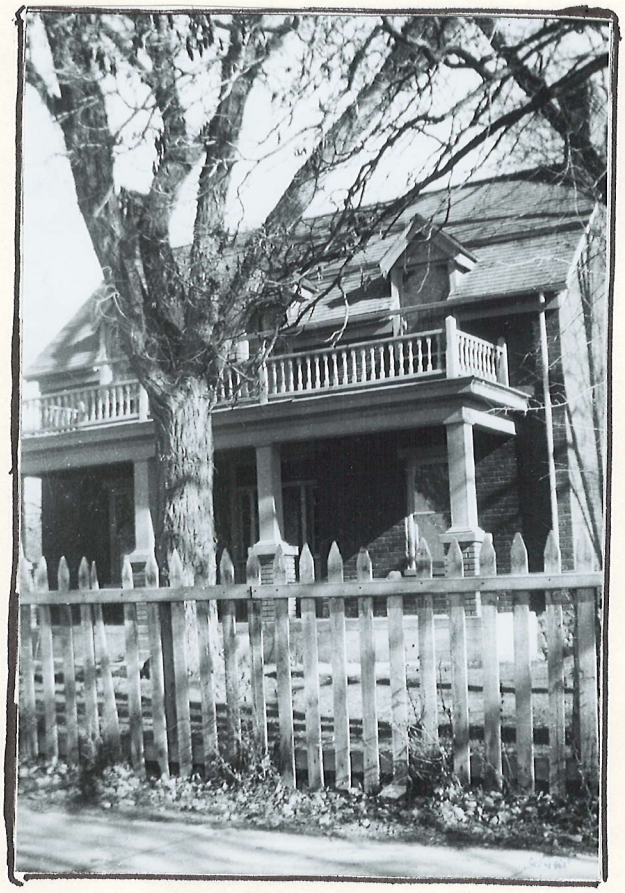
Grandparents & Relatives



Aunt Emily S. Pulsipher Robins,
sister of Charles' mother

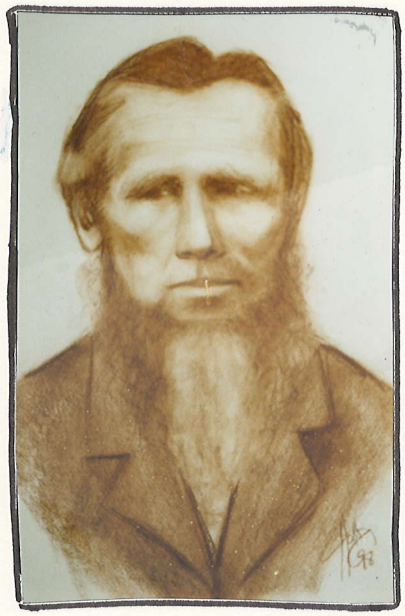


His Grandfather Tyler's Home
in Beaver, Utah

Grandparents & Relatives

Since Charles was the youngest in a large family, his grandparents were hardly known to him personally. His mother's parents died before he was born and his father's parents died while he was quite young.





His Grandma Tyler (Ruth Welton) died in 1897 when Charles was only 3 years old. His Grandpa Tyler (Daniel) died in 1906, when Charles was nearly 13 years old. However, Daniel lived in Beaver, Utah and Charles was way north in Idaho. We are fairly certain that he saw his grandfather a time or two.

Charles had visited his grandparents' home in Beaver often enough as a young man, that he was able to locate it and recognize it easily when in his late 60's. The home had been built to endure.

Daniel was a Patriarch and he gave Charles a Patriarchal and a Father's Blessing while Charles was still a young boy. Because the distance between them was so great, this blessing was written and mailed to Charles rather than delivered personally with hands on head.

Charles' maternal grandparents, John and Rozilla Huffaker were called to the Dixie Mission in Southern Utah, where they helped establish the settlement of Hebron. She died there in 1871 and he in 1891. As a young man Charles visited Hebron and was familiar with the other relatives and the homes where his parents and grandparents had lived.

On the first page of this section you will find a picture of Charles' Aunt Emily. Written on the back: "Aunt Emily S. Pulsipher Robins, sister of my mother."

Charles maintained close contact with his Aunt Emily and her family throughout her life. She is mentioned in his life story. Donna remembers Charles speaking of his Aunt Emily, in particular her Patriarchal Blessing. Her blessing said that she would be on the earth at the time of Christs' 2nd Coming. This, of course led to the speculation that He would come during her lifetime.

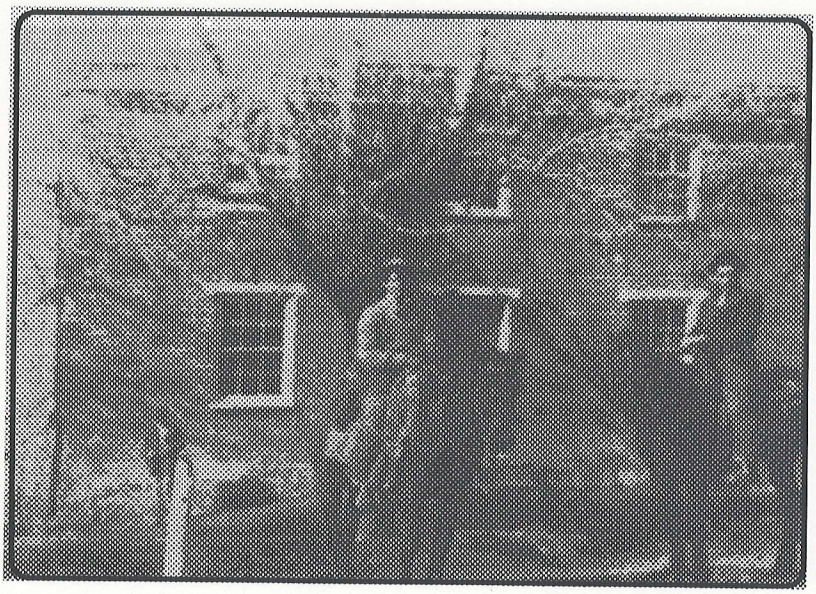


Beaver Stake Tabernacle

Beaver Stake Tabernacle, built in 1868. Here Charles' grandparents, Daniel and Ruth Tyler, served in many important capacities.

After serving as a counselor, in 1876 Ruth was called to be the stake Relief Society president. She served until 1879 and then served in ward capacities, including Beaver 1st Ward Relief Society President until 1897 when she was again called to be the stake Relief Society president. After serving only 6 weeks this time, Ruth "passed to the Great Beyond."

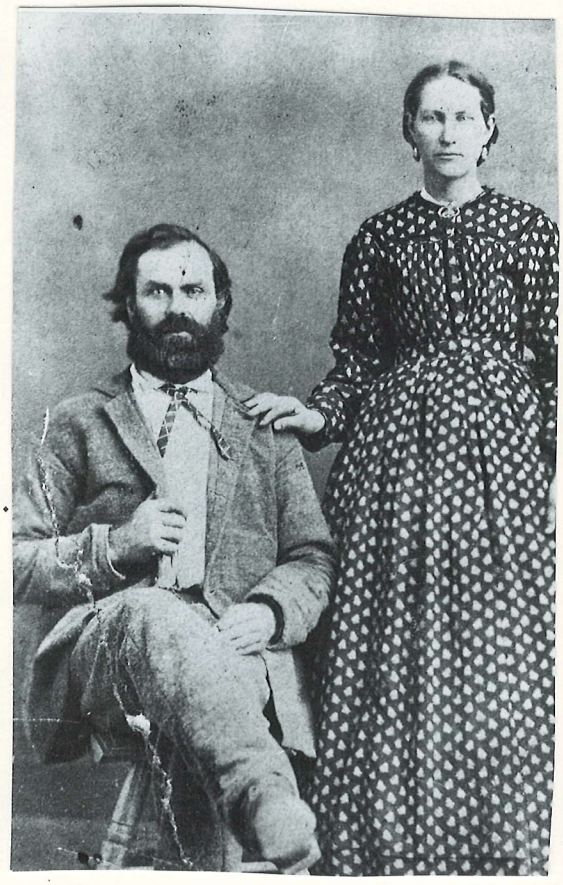
Daniel was 2nd counselor in the stake presidency from 1866 to 1877 and then served on the High Council until called to be the Stake Patriarch.



The Old Tithing Office which housed the Deseret Telegraph office where Charles' father was one of the first telegraphers. Also in this building Charles' grandfather, Daniel Tyler served as Justice of the Peace.

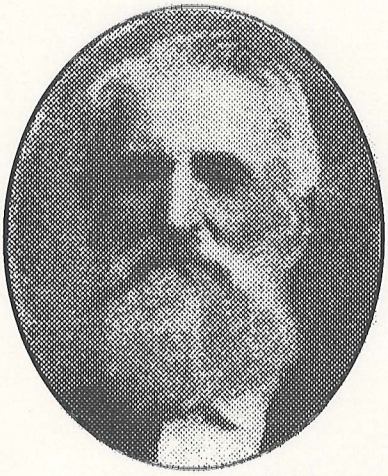


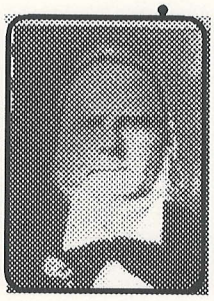
Charles' Grandfather
John Pulsipher



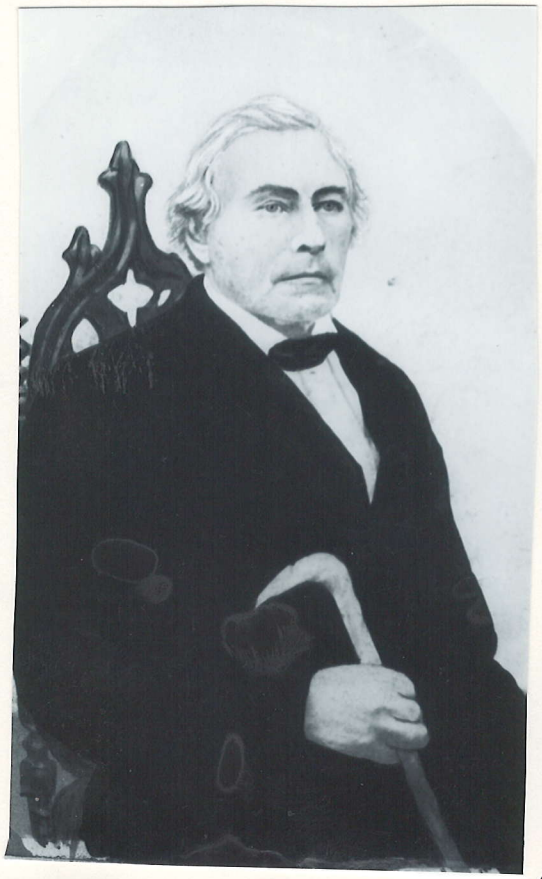
Grandparents, John and Rozilla Huffaker Pulsipher.
She died young, as did her mother,
Susan Green Robinson

His
great-grandfather
Simpson David
Huffaker









His Great Grandparents, Zerah Pulsipher and Mary Brown. He is mentioned in the Doctrine & Covenants

His 2nd. Great Grandfather, Joel Robinson.
He was staunchly anti-Mormon.

Historical Notes



Charles was undoubtebly named for his mother's brother, Charles Pulsipher, shown here in Gunlock, Utah. Is he husking corn? He was known as Uncle Chot by his nephews and they related many interesting and exciting times in his company.

There is a Tyler Family Crest as shown in Tyler histories but this had no importance in Charles life and seems to have no place in his story.

Obedient to the counsel of the prophets, Charles' forefathers wrote journals, or if not journals, life stories. Failing that, their family members wrote life schetches of them.

Consequently there is a wealth of valuable information on our ancestry. Charles himself left a short life story, as did his siblings. His parents' stories have been written. Much was written by Daniel Tyler, John Pulsipher, Zerah Pulsipher, Simpson David Huffaker, and others. We might wish for more photographs, but we're happy for every one we have and are forever grateful for the accounts we have of their lives.

HERITAGE NOTES

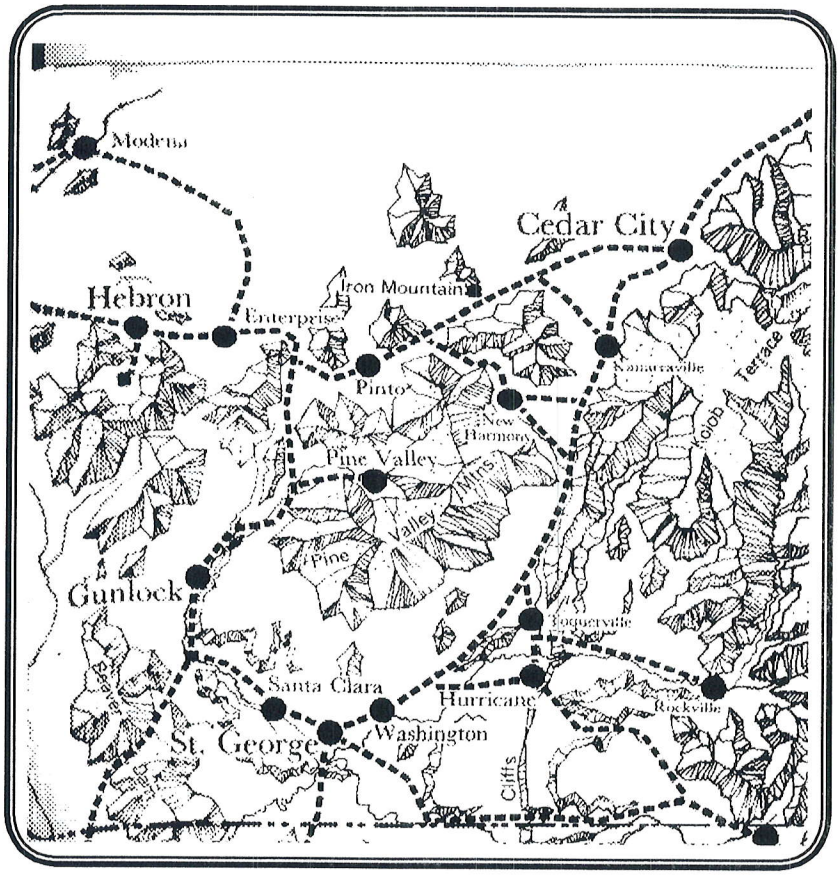
Tyler ancestors came to America during its very early days. Pulsiphers settled in Ipswich, Massachusetts on or before 1659. It has been claimed by some that Benedict Pulsipher, our ancestor, had some involvement with the uprising that resulted in the beheading of King Charles I on January 30, 1649 in England.

The pedigree chart shows Job Tyler born in 1619 in Massachusetts, Thomas Fairfield born 1646 in Connecticut, Thomas Dutton born 1648 in Massachusetts, Richard Welton born 1680 in Connecticut, Thomas Upson born 1646 in Connecticut. All these families originate, as do the Pulsiphers, in England.

The Huffakers arrived in the mid 1700's from Germany, so with that exception Charles had English ancestry. Their coming to a new country so early on indicates a spirit of adventure and certainly a courage of conviction. They helped settle and establish a new country, expanding her borders and fighting her wars. All would have made the ocean journey in sailing ships.

Tyler ancestors were among the very first to join the Church. They were not blind followers but were well informed and well educated. It had taken a sturdy people to uproot themselves from the Old Country and come to America and it took a sturdy people to endure the persecutions heaped on the early saints. Charles' ancestors had the spiritual strength and the physical strength to endure all trials and lay a sturdy foundation upon which the Church and their descendants could build and grow. Their names are not found among the dissenters but always among the faithful.

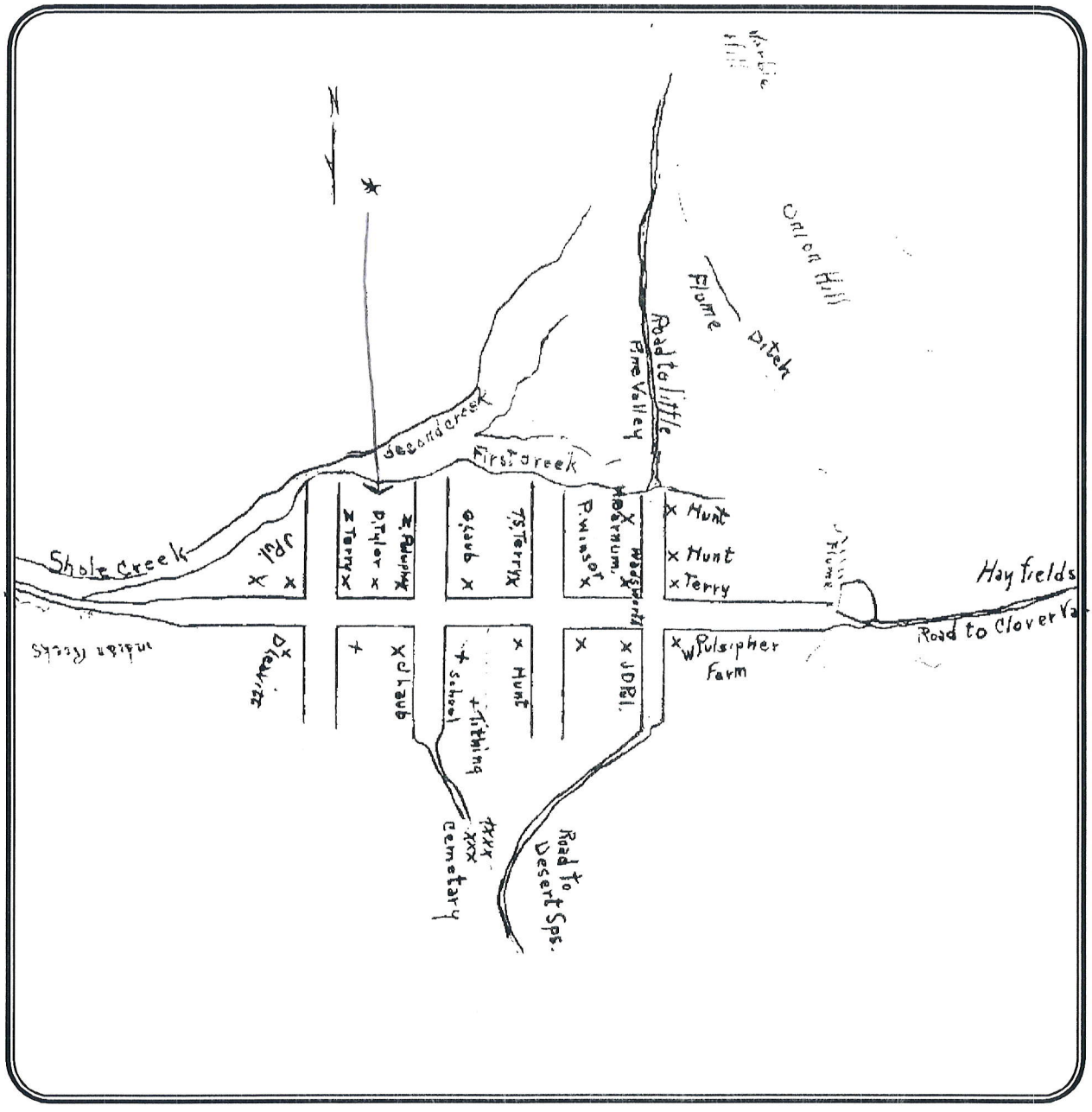
Their testimonies were strong. They served missions and filled positions of leadership in the Church. They were capable of leadership but also humble enough and committed enough to serve in any capacity where they were needed. They set shining examples that their descendants continue to emulate. Charles did. His children do. His grandchildren do. And now his great grandchildren are following the worthy traditions of their forefathers.



Southern Utah.

Note Hebron, Gunlock, Enterprise, St. George, and Cedar City and how they relate to each other.

Plan of Hebron drawn by John Lewis Pulsipher.
Pulsiphers, Tylers, Terrys & Hunts were all related.
Note their homesteads.
Daniel Moroni Tyler, Charles father,
taught at the school some of the time.



Precious Memories of The Tyler Family In Hebron

by John Lewis Pulsipher

John Lewis Pulsipher was Charles' first cousin. His father was John David Pulsipher, Charles' mother's brother. These writings are from his autobiography.

"In the spring of 1890, when I was five years old, father moved us to the old ranch, three miles east of Hebron, near where Uncle Dan Tyler was living. Both families were dairying there. It was there I learned some of the humorous side of life from my older cousins, Dan and John Tyler.

"It seems that it was a chore sometimes assigned to Cousin Nate Tyler and myself to ride old Jack, the donkey, up on the mountainside to bring the cows down in the evening. Occasionally as we were following carefully behind, half expecting but never knowing where it would be along the trail, up out of the high brush near us would stand Dan or John. Our donkey would quickly step aside and, of course, both of us boys landed in a heap on the ground. Then, as we would come up crying and pretending to be hurt, their laughter would change to seriousness as they tried to catch old Jack and get us back in order before we arrived at the corral. Sometimes there would be Aunt Zina and Uncle Dan to deal with if there was still any evidence of our trouble.

"To show how funny those boys could make even common-place jokes on each other appear, I will relate just one that I shall never forget: It was supper time, as we called it, in the evening. Uncle Dan and Aunt Zina were away from home, so the oldest girl, Ruth, was trying to prepare one of the favorite old pioneer suppers, "lumpy-dick." This consisted of a large kettle of hot milk thickened by stirring into it at just the right time the exact amount of finely-cut unleavened dough, which was made by mixing only flour, salt and milk to a certain condition so it would cut fine, yet not dissolve and make the milk go thick. Instead, it would stay in small kernal-like bits of solid well-cooked cereal. This was seasoned with salt and pepper (some people preferred sugar, but, of course, sugar was not so popular or plentiful with the pioneers). Well, this evening Ruth had bad luck with her dough mix and it wouldn't cut as fine as it should, so the lumps were rather large. Dan could see a good joke in it so he turned around seriously (he looked rather pious as only he could do) and said, "Ruth started in to make lumpy-dick but changed her mind and made dumplings." Poor Ruth! She never could quite seem to hold her own with those boys."

Cousin Nate Tyler was, of course, Charles' brother Nathaniel who died at age 15 after a short sickness with diabetes.

John Lewis Pulsipher noted later that during the last several years the two families lived in Hebron winters and at the ranch a few miles outside of town farming and dairying in the summer. Hebron was over a mile above sea level and the summer ranch was much higher than that. They would return to Hebron for church and necessities. In the 1890's Hebron began to die out because the old wooden flume, built from one hill to another across the valley when the town was settled, had fallen down, leaving the whole town dry. There could be no gardening and the shade trees and orchards were dead or dying. With the building of the new Enterprise Reservoir and the coming of the train, the town of Enterprise, 6 miles east, flourished in its place.

Hebron lingered on only in fond memory. John Lewis Pulsipher described it as a beautiful town, with rows of fine large brick or stone homes, some two stories high. Shade trees lined each side of the main street and there were fine orchards and gardens. A nice brick church with a raised stage was used for school, dances, and dramatics. All is gone now, except the cemetery. A sign outside of Enterprise, to the west, points the way to the cemetery. But as of 1991, the road could not take you right up to the cemetery, as a gully separated the two and you had to go the last ways on foot. But it's well worth the trek to see the last resting places of some of our most honored ancestors. It's a lasting reminder of their obedience to the Prophet who sent them there and their determination to forge a community and a living from very hostile surroundings. Looking at the dry sagebrush land, you just have to marvel.



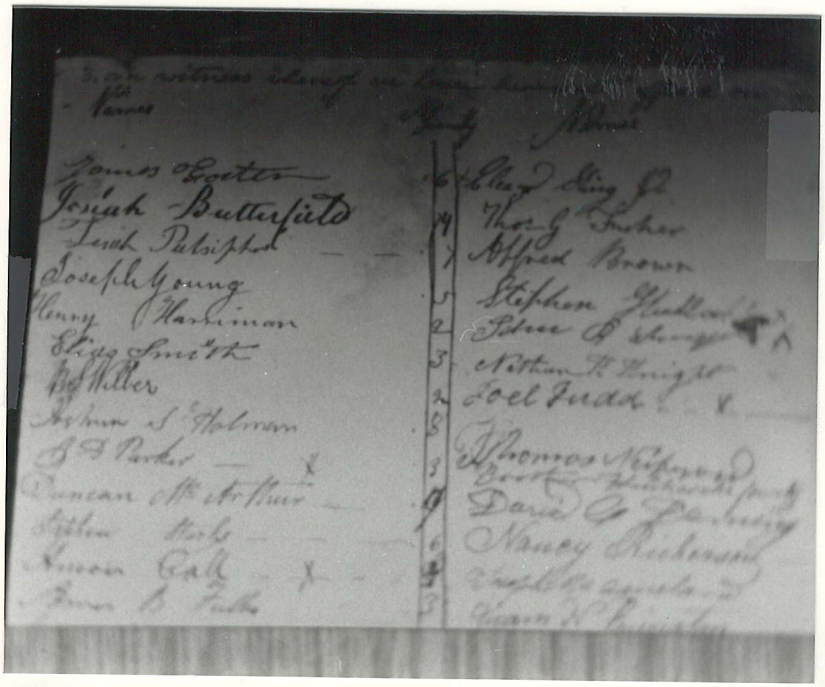
Donna, Charles and Nora by rustic Pulsipher Stone
at Hebron Cemetery about 1969.



Cemetery at Hebron, Utah. Charles Tyler in Background

Stone with many Pulsipher Names





Zeroh's Signature (From Kirtland, Ohio book - Maybe signing up for Zion's Camp.)

Family Patterns

We are still trying to determine these things. We all seem to agree that the "Tyler Men" have endearing and similar senses of humor. They love practical jokes (but never cruel ones). They can cut-up and be funny even when their lives are full of troubles. Gentle and humorous teasing comes naturally to them. Often this humor is so subtle that you might miss it completely. At those times they just smile to themselves and never let you know what you missed. Sometimes the realization comes to you later and your heart is filled with a delicious smile.

"Tyler men" are sentimental and easily moved to tears, and embarrassed by this trait. Receding hairlines are common, but not baldness. They tend to be tall, intelligent, ambitious, hardworking, spiritual men and women of integrity, They are caring, gentle, and self-sacrificing. Charles certainly had all those traits, as did his brothers and sisters. His son and several of his grandsons also fit the description.

On the minus side we see degenerative arthritis in many descendants of Daniel and Elzina Tyler -- always painful and sometimes crippling. We don't recognize a common pattern in other health problems. Generally we're a healthy clan.

Family Traditions

What can be considered a family tradition? Attending Sunday worship services, daily prayers, family meals and blessings on the food? To honor and revere the Prophet? To serve in the Church; to go on missions? To us these all seem so ordinary - until we look around. They form the bonds that unite us. When we watch a televised General Conference, we know that somewhere the rest are watching too. So perhaps the best family tradition of all is membership and activity in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

Family visits are certainly a tradition carried on by every generation to the fullest extent possible. Charles regularly took his family to the homes of his brothers and sisters' families where the cousins got acquainted and the adults laughed and reminisced together. Often these visits were to the homes of Charles' cousins and nieces and nephews and families, so knowledge of the extended family was natural. A tradition unfortunately, that is dying out, even in the Tyler Clan.

Annual Tyler Family Reunions were common for many years in Idaho. These were attended by Charles and his brothers and sisters and their families. The next generation is currently trying to get reunions going again, at the instigation of Merrill.

Where Ancestors Are Buried



Sagebrush & Tears

Charles mother is buried in the Ucon Idaho Cemetery, as are his first wife and first child and several siblings and families. Many, many times Charles had visited his mothers grave but his father and grand-parents were buried in Utah. In 1958, some 10 years after moving to California, Charles, Nora, Wilbur and Donna set out on a pilgrimage to visit the graves of those dear to Charles heart.

The first stop was Old Hebron in Southwestern Utah. Charles visited relatives there many times in his youth and he was dismayed to find no buildings still standing. Hardly any rubble even remained, but he picked up a brick at the spot he thought might have been his parents home. What became of that brick we know not. The only thing remaining of the old town was the cemetery, and with all the landmarks gone, Charles and Wilbur had to hike around a bit to find it. When he found it, he wept, for it was completely overgrown with sagebrush and weeds. His great grandfather, Zerah Pulsiphers marker was rustic, (made crudely of stones and cement), but prominent. The graves of his Pulsipher grandparents were there as well as many other relatives. Charles left reluctantly. Many miles remained to travel on this pilgrimage.

The next stop was Beaver, Utah, where Charles easily located the 2 story house of his grandfather, Daniel Tyler, built there. At the cemetery he found his grandparents graves and was proud to find a flagpole and a special Mormon Battalion marker beside his grandfathers tombstone. Beaver was along the much traveled route towards Idaho, but Huntington, where his father died, was off to the east. If memory serves correctly, Charles had not been there since childhood. He was eager to see his fathers and brothers graves. The cemetery was easy to locate and, happily, well cared for, as had been the one in Beaver. Tenderly he fingered the markers and recounted stories hed heard of the familys time in Huntington. It had been a difficult time - all of it. Charles had been only 2 years old when the family moved on.

Home again in California, Charles thoughts returned to Hebron, and the neglected cemetery. Ageing, and with his own health problems, he still felt compelled to return and restore the cemetery. He grieved, he wept, he stewed, but what he wanted to do just was not possible. It was a sorrow he couldnt seem to recover from. Now, more than 30 years later, Hebron Cemetery has been repaired and restored, at the instigation of Charles nephew, Phillip. Now there are even signs to direct one to the cemetery. However, the last way must still be hiked, as the road doesnt quite reach it. As we, Charles children, visit the spot, we rejoice that his wishes have at last been fulfilled. Somehow we think he knows and his sorrow, at last, is lifted.

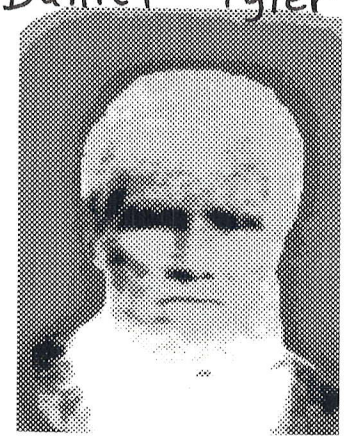


Fame & Infamy

People tend to ask if we are related to John Tyler, the 10th. president of the United States. Our relationship, if any, is too distant to note whether for fame or infamy. Since they say he was nearly impeached, perhaps we're not too disappointed.

Charles was probably most proud of his grandfather, Daniel Tyler, who was a member of, and historian for, The Mormon Battalion. He knew the Prophet Joseph Smith, and in later life in Utah, wrote and published articles called "Recollections of the Prophet" that were interesting and enlightening. He was a mission president in Germany and instrumental in the conversion of Karl Meiser, the renowned educator, to the Gospel.

Daniel Tyler





(Wilbur found a frown - and turned it upside down)

Zerah Pulsipher



Zerah Pulsipher, Charles' great grandfather on his mother's side, was a General Authority in the early days of the church. You can find his name mentioned in the Doctrine and Covenants. He too knew the Prophet personally and participated in Zion's Camp and other important events of early church history.

Of course agriculture figured prominently in the lives of Charles' ancestors thus they had little opportunity for fame. It is clear that they were people of education & intelligence. They had the courage to cross oceans and later rivers, plains, deserts and mountains in search of a better life. They were theologians and men and women of faith who had the even greater courage required to embrace a new prophet and the Gospel of Jesus Christ he restored. The resulting trials were astonishing in scope but they never faltered. Their lives and shining examples give courage and determination to their progeny to endure in faith everlasting, the trials of mortality. Most have remained committed to the church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, looking forward to happy reunions with all those who went before and lighted the way. Though not famous, they certainly are not infamous and we have many reasons to feel proud and thankful for our ancestors.

Childhood



and Youth

Early Memories

(From Charles' own writings)

"I cannot remember the first three years, five months and twenty days of my life, but my first recollection was when my mother, then a widow, and us children moved from Utah to Idaho.

"Of course we traveled by team and wagon. Some of my brothers rode horses and drove the cattle herd which made our journey longer.

"I remember that there were two spring seats on the wagon mother and I were in. Dan was in the front seat driving the horses. He, to tease me would lean back, placing his head in my lap. I said: "If you don't stop, I'll jerk your head off and throw it on the car tracks." Mother and Dan nearly busted laughing.

"Another incident I remember on that trip was seeing two Indian boys running behind the wagon as we were crossing their reservation, and coaxing for a little lamb belonging to my sister, Ruth.

(Charles brother Andrew remembered that their mother would fasten a container of cream on the side of the wagon and they'd have butter by night. Zina made biscuits every morning and started them out with a tasty breakfast.)

In June of 1897 we arrived at the three room log house with a dirt roof, which was our home for several years.

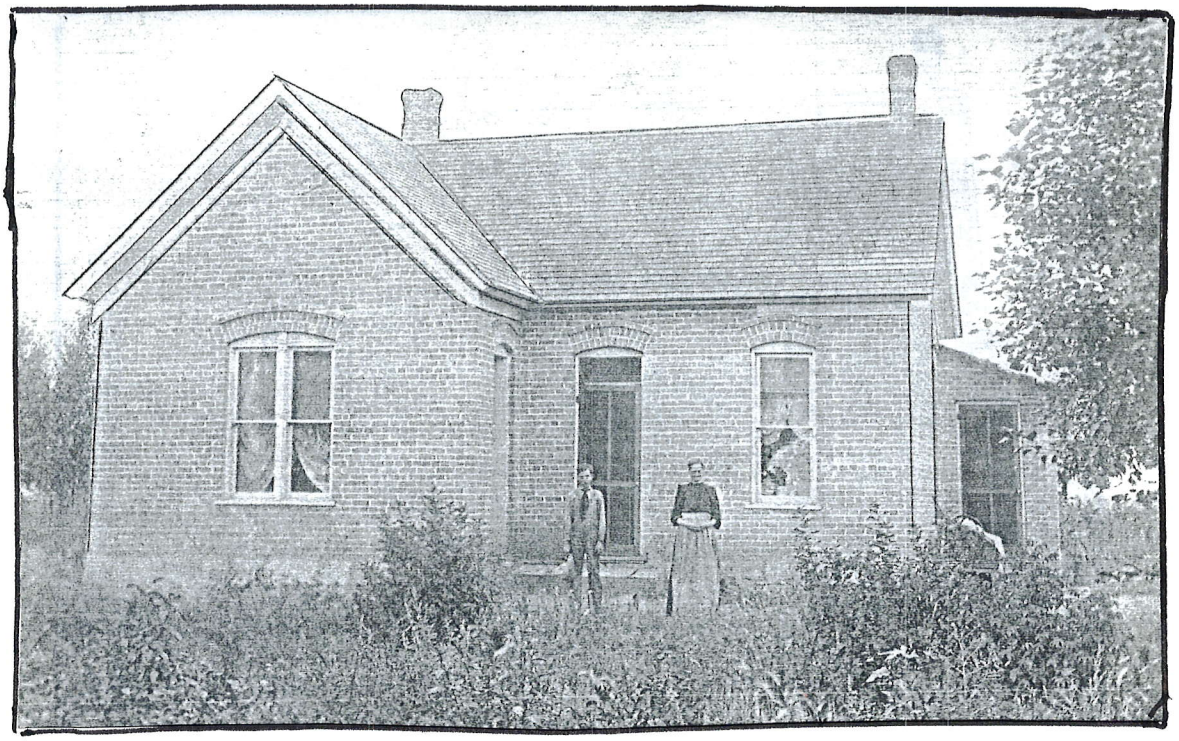
"My first years following were spent like any other boy on a farm, herding pigs and cows with my brother and sister, Marion and Mary (twins). Of all the tasks I ever did, pig herding was the most detested.

"I remember one time we were herding pigs and let them get into the neighboring farmer's crops. He penned them up and my brother John had to pay $17.00 to get them back, a dollar a head. My older brother doubled a rope and spanked Marion and Mary, but being smaller, I escaped punishment.

"At that time, the upper valley of the Snake River was not fully settled, as there were thousands of acres still in sagebrush. We herded our cows there and played among the sage.

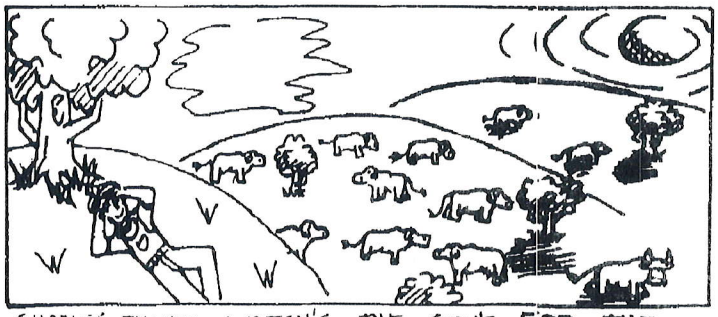
"Once I alone was with the cows, and left them while I went farther north to see my sister Ruth, who was married. I stayed so long that the cows beat me home and I thought them lost. When reaching home, mother asked me why I came home. I said: "To get a new cow herd."

"Our three room log house was surrounded by large trees. I first went to Milo, or Leorin School. My brother purchased forty acres of land at Willow Creek, now Ucon, Idaho, and built a brick house on it for our wonderful mother.



We believe this is Charles amd his mother standing beside the new home. He was probably about 12.

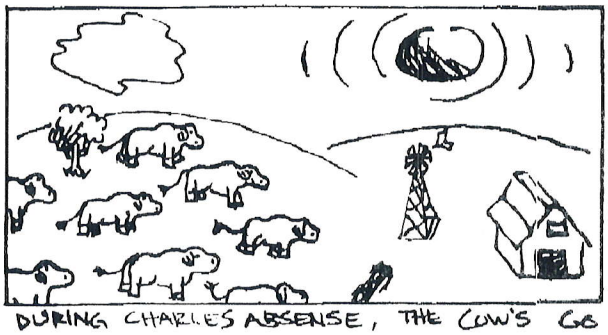
THE TYLER DISASTER



CHARLES TYLER WATCH'S THE COW'S FOR THE DAY



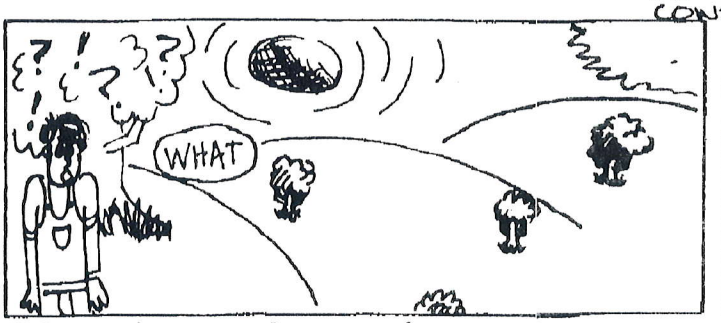
GETS BORED AND VISITS HIS SISTER



DURING CHARLES ABSENSE, THE COW'S GO HOME



AFTER A FEW HOURS, CHARLES DECIDES TO RETURN TO THE COWS.



UPON HIS RETURN, CHARLES IS SHOCKED TO FIND THE COWS GONE.



CHARLES SLUGGISHLY RETURNS HOME



CHARLES RETURN'S TO FIND THE COW'S OUT IN THE PASTURE.

"Ruth was married before we left Utah. Dan was next and they rented a farm from my uncle Mont Huffaker, which was between where we lived and the school we attended first.

"I remember how happy I was at being old enough to go to school, but soon became afraid of the man teacher, as he liked to whip the boys. We walked a mile and a half to that school (Leorin) in Milo. Then when I was in second grade, we started going to Willow Creek School, later named Elva, then Ucon, which name still remains.

"John ran the farm and as younger children became old enough to work we first herded pigs (ug, that hated task) and cows, and as I remember, we always had pigs and cows. I can remember helping plant the garden. Mother told us to plant five seeds of corn in each spot. She had a little verse that went like this: "One for the blackbird, one for the crow. One for the cutworm, and two to grow."

"In winter, snow was so deep the horses and sleighs could go over the fences.

"As I got older, riding or leading Derrick Horse was one of my jobs. Other work followed such as raking and bunching hay, shocking grain, and many chores like feeding lambs, chickens, and carrying in wood and water. I learned to ride a horse and thought I was getting real big. John bought Marion and me a little bay mare and were we happy, oh boy!! When we outgrew her, we gave her to our nephew, Leo Cook (my sister Ruth's boy).

John and Esther were married before the brick house was finished, so as soon as it was completed, mother, Andrew, Emily, Marion and Mary, and myself moved to the new home.

"As I grew and learned new tasks, by my mother's teaching, I tried to do them well. When I was old enough, I drove a team and harrowed the plowed ground. Then came the time when I could do plowing, mowing hay, and running a hay wagon, and using a "Jackson Fork".

"I used to like to go with one of my older brothers to the mountains for wood being gone three days. Andrew and I made several trips together.

"The next few years came and went, in which I finished school and by then my sisters and brothers except Marion were married.

"It was during this time that I caught the mumps and was real sick for a month. This was during my last year in school. Mother and Marion took care of me when Doctor Mote and his wife, a nurse, were not there".

According to the terminology of the day, the mumps had "gone down" on him. There was concern as to whether or not he would be able to father children. We, his posterity, rejoice that it wasn't the case.

Descriptions of Childhood Homes

Charles was born in Huntington, Utah, but since the family left there when he was only 2, we are dependent on Uncle John's account of Huntington homes.

Huntington, Utah

Quote from John: "Dan Robbins (our uncle) told Pa how wonderful Castle Valley was and how good he could do up there. So Pa went and stayed one winter with Dan Robbins. He thought it would be a good place so he got Ma to consent to move. She didn't want to move much however.

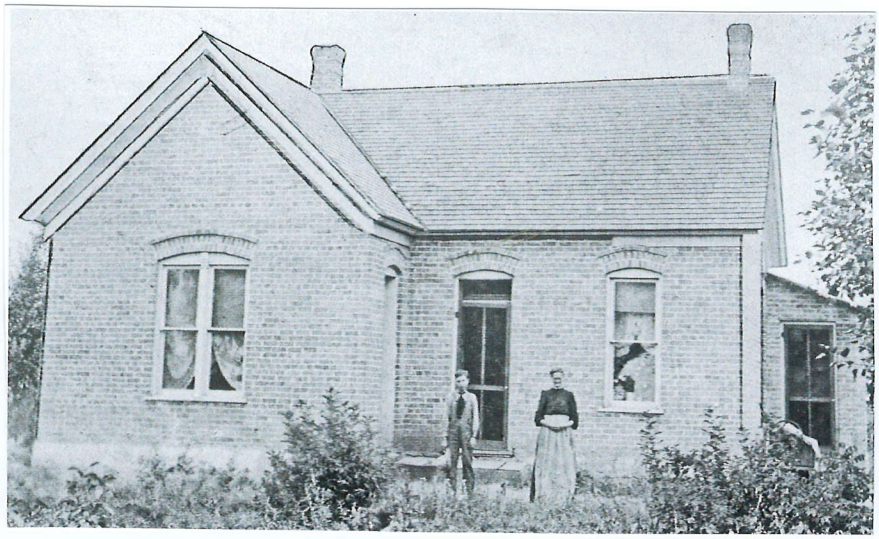
"... Pa sold everything we had in Hebron. We were all very sad to leave our old birthplace but we started out for Huntington. The roads were so muddy we were often stuck. Mother had a young baby in her arms. ... it was a long, hard journey for her.

"When we arrived in Huntington we moved into an old adobe house at the end of town. It was a rented place. In order to have enough room for all of us, we pitched a tent... The farm Pa bought was a mile out of town. It proved to be a poor, run down place. It consisted of 40 acres, but the soil was very poor. It had quite a lot of alkali in it.

The whole town of Huntington was swamped with alkali." Unfortunately, he did not describe the house.

At Willow Creek (Ucon) Earl Huffaker had a vacant house they moved into. Charles said it was a 3 room log house with a dirt roof in which they lived several years.

Dan soon bought 40 acres in Ucon for 3 cows, a wagon, a horse and a $350 mortgage. Dan, John and Andrew built a 5 room brick home and then gave it to their mother. She said it was the best home she'd had in her life.



All these years later, we are mystified that Charles never took us to see that house and we wonder if it still stands.

Charles' mother died there when Charles was 18 and for the next 13 years he was more or less homeless. He was always welcome at the homes of his brothers and sisters where he was loved and adored by his young nieces and nephews. Many of our cousins have confided that "Uncle Charles was my favorite uncle!" But until he married he did not really have a home.

Youthful Religious Activities

Religious activities were always a way of life in the Tyler Family. Grandparents on both sides were Mormon pioneers. Their religious faith was such that when Brigham Young called them to go to Southern Utah to settle a new area, they uprooted their families and went, without question.

Attendance at church, blessings on the food, scripture reading and family prayer were constants. Charles' parents walked by faith, as did their parents, and their children were brought up to do the same.

Charles' memories of religious observances began after the family arrived in Idaho. His writings include these insights:

"My church activities began when I started to Primary and Sunday School. We usually walked the one and three fourths miles to Primary, which was held in Willow Creek's first church house, a one room log house with dirt roof, which I well remember.

"I was happy when I was old enough to be baptized, but had to wait until the next summer when the canal water wasn't too cold. Bishop Alfonso Bert Simmons baptized me in the "Farmer's Friend" canal.

"As I advanced in the priesthood I held positions in all of the priesthood quorums, Deacons, Teachers, Priests and Elders. I was President of the Elder's Quorum, and also Secretary of the Elder's Quorum."

His ordination certificate reveals that Charles was ordained an Elder on June 14, 1915 in the Ucon Ward (which Willow Creek had become). He was then 21 years old. We are not certain if he was Elder's Quorum President previous to WWI or later after his marriage. That he was called to positions of leadership at a young age does not surprise us.

Patriarchal Blessing

Beaver City, Beaver County, Utah, Sept. 2nd/897

A Blessing by Daniel Tyler Patriarch upon the head of Charles, son of Daniel Jerome and Sarah Elzina Pulsipher Tyler, born in Huntington, Emory County, Utah, December 24th 1893

Charles my beloved grandson by virtue of the authority vested in me in the patriarchal priesthood though absent in body I seal for thee a fathers blessing. Thou art a son of Ephraim in the line of the prophets of old, a legal heir to the holy priesthood and to all the blessings of the new and everlasting covenant. Thou wilt minister in the house of the Lord for the redemption of many of thy father's house. Thou wilt proclaim the gospel to nations that are afar off and win many souls unto Christ. Thou wilt also be a missionary among the saints. Thou wilt become a presiding officer among thy brethren and thy counsels will be sought from far and near. Thy trials will be sanctified to thy good. Thou wilt enjoy the comforts of life and impart to the needy. Thy name is written in the Lambs book of life. A Celestial crown awaits thee in the resurrection of the just. Thou shalt not lack anything that would be for thy good. Thou shalt have power to accomplish all that the Lord requires at thy hands. I seal thee up unto eternal life, to come forth in the morning of the first resurrection, receive thy crown and rule over thy righteous posterity forever in the name of Jesus our Redeemer. Amen.

Blessing

Charles' Life as a



Young Adult 1912-1924

Friends

It's pretty safe to say that Charles was a friend to nearly everyone he met. He was instantly likeable and that good first impression endured throughout the relationship because the friendship he offered was sincere.

The problem comes in trying to select out special friends for this chapter of his story. Surely, throughout life, his best friends were his brothers. In a big family there is often little need to look beyond it for close friendships. Also, since Charles was the youngest in a large family, he had nieces and nephews near to his own age who were part of his inner circle. Leo Cook, his sister Ruth's boy, was one of those.

These pictures illustrate some of his early friendships.

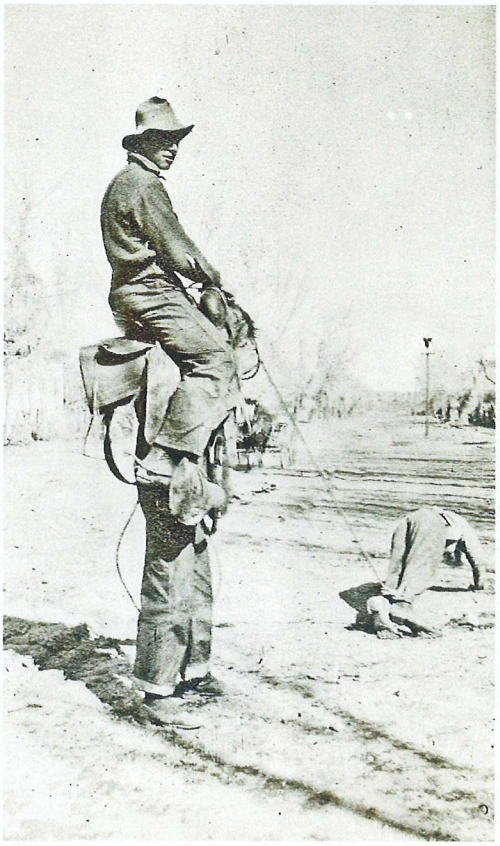


"Charles and girlfriend"
in Butte, Montana.



And another girlfriend
from Gunlock, Utah.

Ride im cowboy



Charles - "Horsing around" with some friends



Charles - Leo Cook - John

Charles



A Charleston, West Virginia girl friend came to Idaho Falls many years Later and looked up Charles' address. Nora was impressed but probably not too sorry he was away.

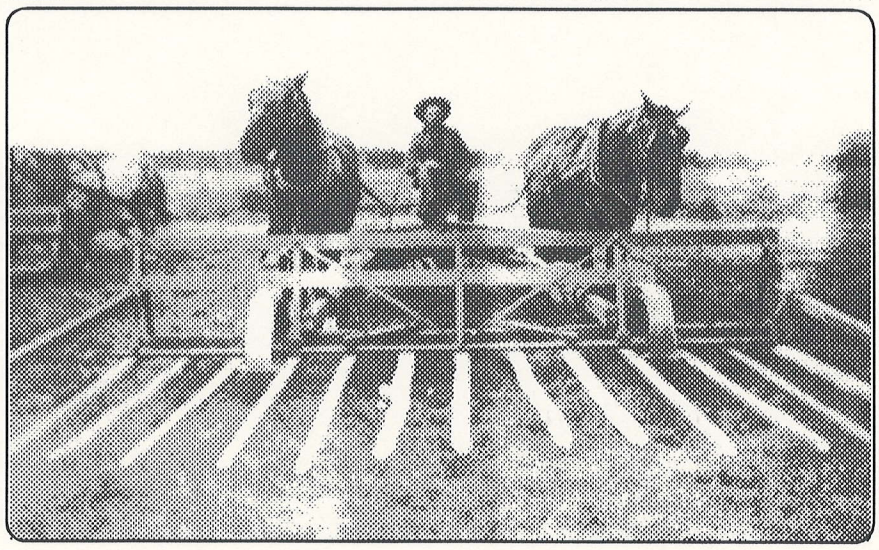
Jobs

1912-1914 abt. age 18	Charles **farmed** a little home place while living with his brother Dan and family.
1914-1917	He worked for all three older brothers and other farmers in the Ucon area. He worked at a **smelter** in Tooele, Utah and lived with his aunt Emily and family (A smelter reduces ores by fusion in a furnace to obtain a metal from the ore).
1917-1919	He served in the **United States Navy** during World War 1.
Fall 1919	He **farmed** for his sister Esther's husband (Will Davis).
1919-1920	He worked for an **ostrich ranch** in Bakersfield, California for a short time. He and his nephew, Leo Cook, worked inside the ostrich pasture on the 297,000 acre ranch. Charles said they were chased at times by a male ostrich, and then they chased it. Then they went to Redlands, California where they worked in the **orange groves** for a while. Then back to San Bernardino where they helped **build a road** by "busting and moving rocks". Then back in Ucon, worked at **Arthur Miskins Scraper Factory** for a few months.
Summer 1921	He worked in Tooele, Utah for his aunt Emily's son-in-law, Grover McBride, **hauling pipes** for a water line. "While doing so I was going under a trestle and got squeezed. A lot of the hide on my back was scraped off. Grover took me back to the smelter doctor for treatment."

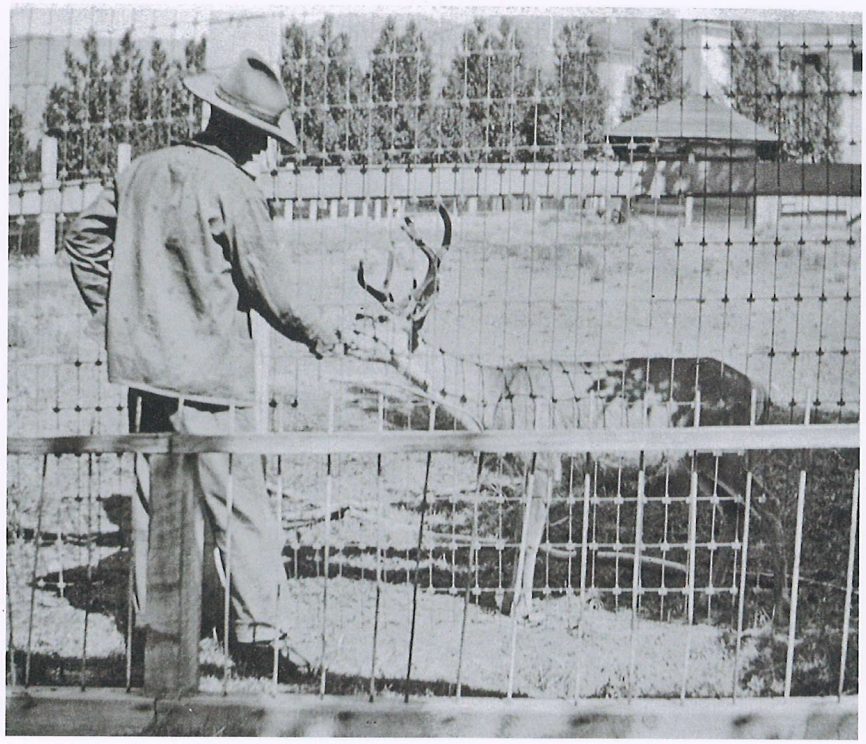
Fall 1921 — He went back to Idaho and went to the range with a herd of sheep and worked as a camp mover. "One day our herd of about 1400 sheep mixed with another, and if you have never tried to separate two herds of sheep on an open range, you should try it sometime. Oh well, life is one continual round of experiences, some good, some bad. We pulled into the valley just in time to miss being snowed in."

Winter 1921-22 — "Here I go back to Dan again, and I wonder why he put up with my comings and goings, but we spent one winter breaking colts to work and hauling straw to bed his sheep. We hitched a colt once with a broke horse, then hitched two colts together. I also broke some to ride."

Summer 1922 — "The next summer I went to the "Big Hole Basin" in Montana to work on a cattle ranch."

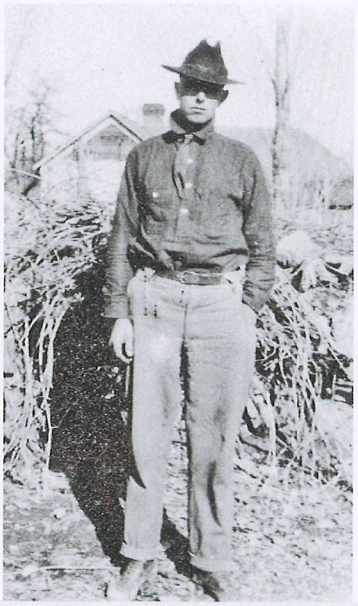


The caption on the back reads: "Charles Tyler on ranch in Montana."

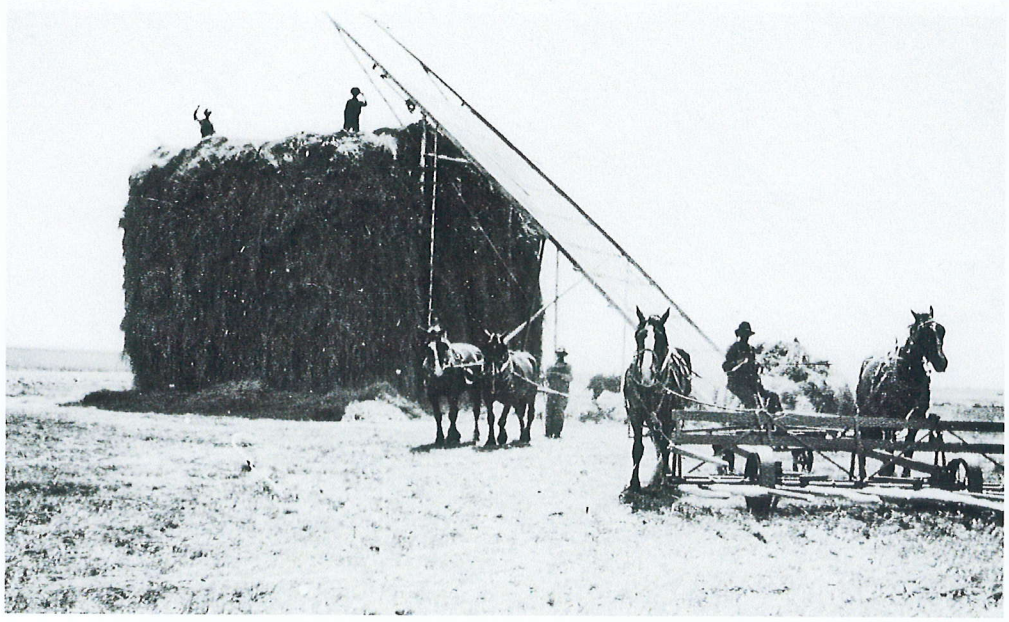


"Myself talking to a deer in Butte, Montana during the days I worked on a cattle ranch."





"Myself on cattle ranch in Montana."



"Myself and friends stacking hay in Montana."

1922-1923 Still footloose and restless, Charles went from the Montana ranch to Utah, where he topped sugar beets and then worked in a sugar factory.



Perhaps it was at this time that he spent time with his uncle Charles. On the back: "Uncle Charles on the horse, myself on the steer."



(Nephew)

Leo Cook

"Hauling sorghum cane in Gunlock, Utah."



Charles wrote no caption on this photograph of him on a vintage tractor. Our best guess is that it was taken before his Marriage while he was farming for someone else. It is our belief that the first tractor Charles bought was the little Powerhouse he had on the Shelton farm in the late 1930's

1923 Cont.

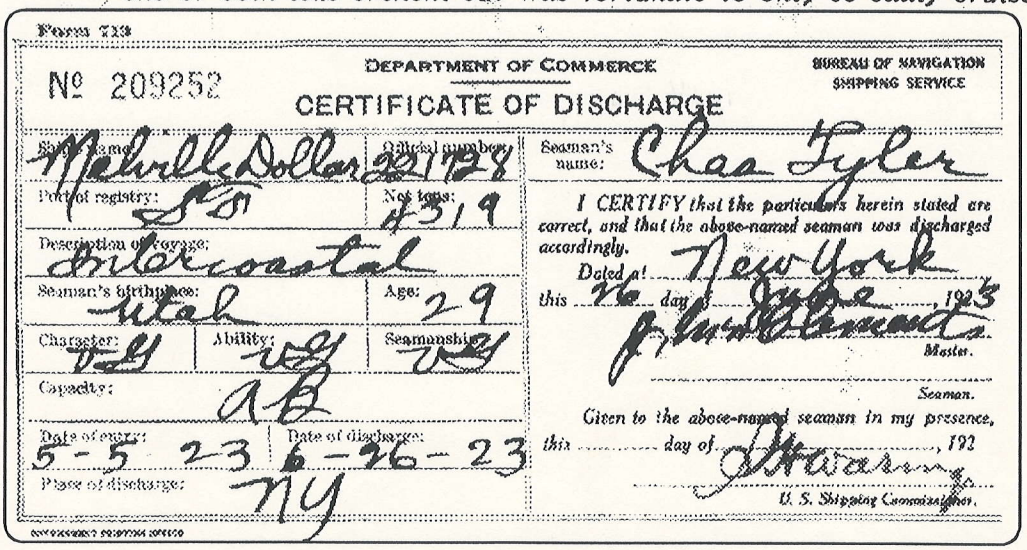
"Here it was that California was calling. So went to San Francisco, worked in a government bonded warehouse loading and unloading great chunks of tobacco, large mats of rice, bags of walnuts and cases of confiscated liquors. While in San Francisco I hired out to a mining company to cut a twenty by twenty foot tunnel through a solid rock mountain.

I learned enough about mining to work in a gold mine in Nevada. It was high in the mountains. One night while working alone way back in the mine, with only a little carbide light which was attached to my cap, I put a charge of dynamite and a cap in a hole, and cut too short a fuse to give me time to get out of the 300 yard tunnel. The blast went off, the wind blew out my carbide light and knocked me down, but I wasn't hurt. I believe the darkness in there was the darkest darkness I have ever seen and I don't know how many times my head struck the top of the tunnel before I saw a dim light at the entrance. It wasn't long until I had enough of mining and so went back to San Francisco.

I had been a sailor, so it wasn't hard to get a job aboard ship, which I did, on one going to the East Coast. My brother Marion then lived in Charleston, West Virginia and I wanted to see him.

After boarding the Melville Dollar, it went to Vancouver Island and up the mainland to British Columbia, Canada where it took on a cargo of lumber. While loading the ship, I nearly got one or both leas broken. but was fortunate to only be badly bruised."

V.G. must mean very good



Form 713

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE — BUREAU OF NAVIGATION — SHIPPING SERVICE

No 209252

CERTIFICATE OF DISCHARGE

Ship's name: Melville Dollar — Official number: 22174

Seaman's name: Chas Tyler

Port of registry: SF — Net tons: 3179

Description of voyage: Intercoastal

Seaman's birthplace: Utah — Age: 29

Character: VG — Ability: VG — Seamanship: VG

Capacity: AB

Date of entry: 5-5-23 — Date of discharge: 6-26-23

Place of discharge: NY

I CERTIFY that the particulars herein stated are correct, and that the above-named seaman was discharged accordingly.

Dated at New York this 26 day of June, 1923

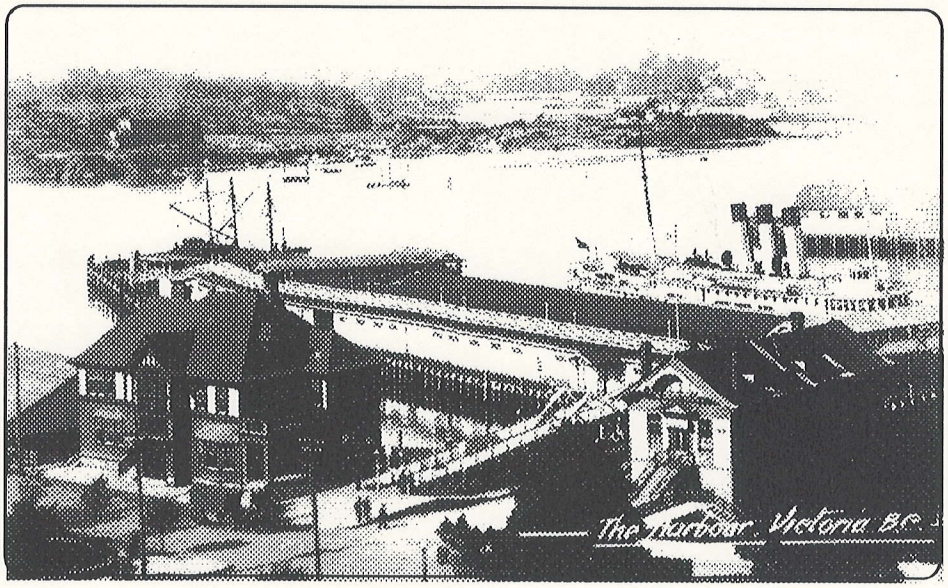
Master.

Seaman.

Given to the above-named seaman in my presence, this ..... day of ....., 192

U. S. Shipping Commissioner.

"We went down around Mexico, through the Panama Canal, and thus to New York. Fifty-five days aboard, and most of that time I couldn't do more than sit around and splice lines and slings for unloading lumber because of my lame legs."



Merchant seaman days. Charles wrote on the back: "I was here for a shipload of lumber which we took to N.Y.C. via Panama Canal." Victoria, B.C.

"I was paid off at New York, then took a train for Charleston where I spent a few months with Marion, and working at different places. First at a new bank being built, second, assisting cement finishers, third, grooming and feeding riding horses at a riding academy.

While working there I borrowed a horse to ride out in the hills to see Marion's son Lawrence, living with his grandmother. It was dark before reaching the riding academy to leave the horse. A car struck the horse, knocking it off the road, and, of course, it fell on my leg, hurting the ankle of the same leg most bruised aboard ship.

Well, I couldn't work, so decided to head for Idaho, which I did, but I was lame for some time after reaching there."

This must have about finished 1923. In Idaho, in the Spring of 1924, Charles returned to farming for others.

Charles







Since Charles was on the move for so many of his young adult years, he kept in touch with his family through picture post cards. All three of these pictures were printed on post cards. The top two pictures seem to be of the same suit but the tie is different and possibly the shirt. They look is fashionable even by today's standards.



Travels

Most of the traveling Charles did in his lifetime, he did during his young bachelor days. After his mother died when he was only 18 years old, he felt orphaned, homeless, unattached and free to wander, and wander he did.

Utah

First he ventured south into Utah, earning his way by working for relatives. There were aunts, uncles and cousins the full length of Utah, so he didn't lack for stopping off places. We assume he traveled by horseback in the beginning, though it is a detail we're uncertain of.

Navy - U. S.

Then there were the travels in the U.S. Navy during World War 1, that took him to Northern California, Southern California and across the country to the Southern States and the East Coast, including Norfolk, Virginia and New York City.

Navy - France

While in the U. S. Navy Charles made 3 round trips to France where he had some opportunity to tour the port cities of La Havre, Bordeaux, St. Nezare &others. (We remember that he could count in French and taught us to count up to ten. We also remember that he was repulsed by the public toilet habits of the French at that time.)

Navy - Azores

The Azore Islands provided some interesting sights for Charles as he also visited there while in the navy. The Azores are a group of Portuguese islands off the coast of Portugal. Harta was one of the towns he mentioned visiting.

Navy - Bermuda

Bermuda was also mentioned as a stop on the Hopewell tour of duty.

Idaho

After World War1 was over, Charles returned to Idaho, but not for long. In his words: "I felt like a lone Indian. I was used to going places so it was hard for me to settle down."

Utah - Nevada - California

In the fall of 1919, after the harvest was in, Charles bought a Nash Roadster automobile and with his nephew, Leo Cook, started for California. He said that they had to travel on dirt roads most of the distance so it was a rough and dirty ride. But of course they had a great time. On the way they visited his two uncles in Gunlock, Utah and Mesquite, Nevada. (We believe those would have been Pulsipher uncles.) The two young men worked at a variety of jobs in Bakersfield, Redlands and San Bernardino in order to support themselves during their big adventure.



BACK IN NOVEMBER, 1919, the Willard Adams family of Rigby, took a trip by automobile from Rigby to Santa Monica, Calif., which took nine days. Along the way they had to cross the Virgin River at Mesquite, Nev. There was no bridge, but a sign informed them, "the State of Nevada maintains teams and qualified drivers to pull your car across the river. No charges for this service." So a driver and team pulled them 150 yards across the stream.

Stage Coach

Charles related that: "In the spring of 1920 we started back toward Idaho and had so much mud to plow through that the car developed some knocks. So I left it at a garage in Cedar City, Utah and rode a stage coach to the railroad at Modina, which is about 60 miles from Cedar City.

"The mud was terrible and one front wheel bearing wore out, so we changed coaches when one came along. We went home by train and it was a few months before I went back for the car."

Utah Again

Charles worked in Ucon at Miskins' Scraper Factory to earn money to repair the car. He then went by train and stage coach back to Cedar City and got his car. Since he was so close, he then visited relatives in St. George, Gunlock and Mesquite.

First he'd had to leave the car in Utah because it was disabled and then had to leave it again because he was disabled. He had stopped in Tooele in Northern Utah to work and was injured on the job. That was the summer of 1921. We guess that eventually he did get the Nash Roadster back to Idaho but we have no record of what happened to it after that.

Montana

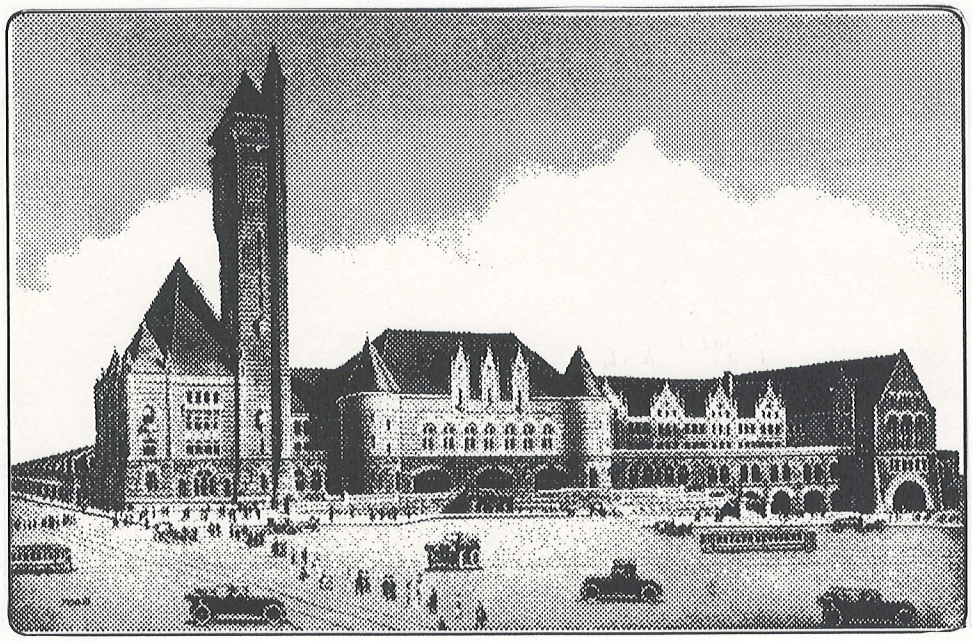
Charles, however, was soon on the go again, living and working a season on a Montana cattle ranch before returning again to Utah and on to Northern California where he worked at various jobs before deciding to try another sea voyage aboard a merchant ship. He was now fast approaching 30 years of age and realizing it was getting time to settle down. This was to be his last great adventure.

British Columbia, Mexico, Panama Canal, New York

He was injured once again while on this trip and must have begun to wonder if the Lord was trying to tell him something. We think it must have been on this cruise that Charles worked with bead and macrame, creating little purses and belts and such. We're sure he said he worked on them aboard ship and somehow it seems unlikely it would have been during his navy days. Norma has used some of his work in an attractive wall arrangement.

West Virginia

Marion, Charles' brother just older than him, was living in Charleston, West Virginia at that time. He had served a mission there and returned to marry one of the girls he had met. Charles was eager to visit him and it had been one of the main purposed for making the voyage. He took a train from New York, where he completed his duties on the Melville Dollar. In Charleston as had become his custom, he worked at several jobs so as to prolong his stay.

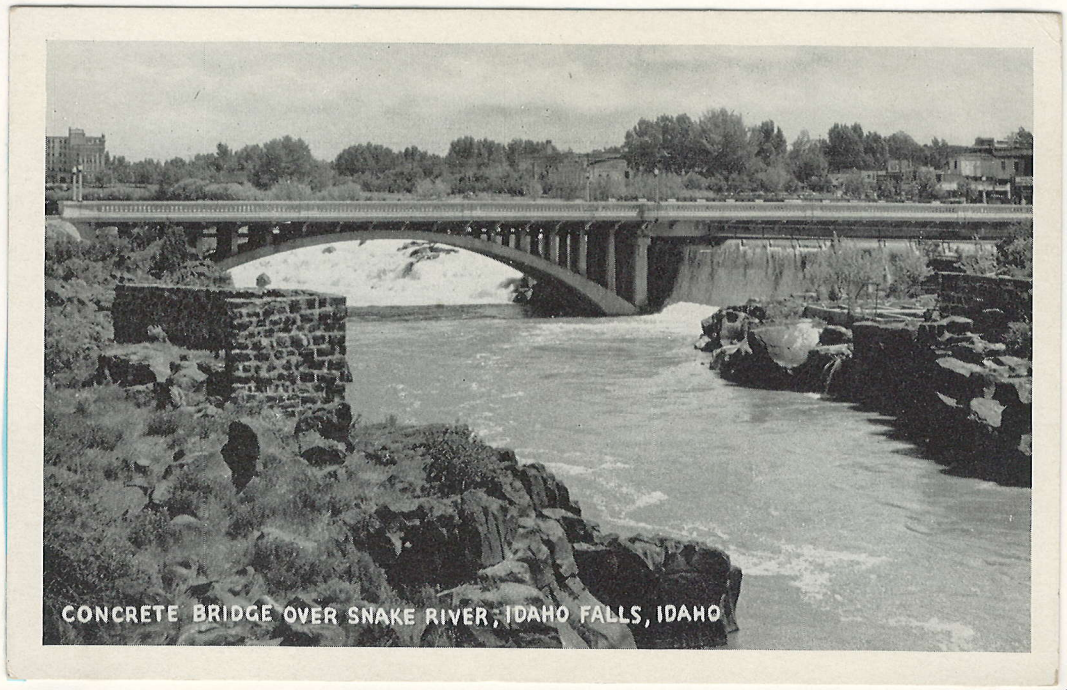


"Union Station, St. Louis, MO Oct. 12, 1923. I arrived on Big 4 from W. Va. at 7:30 a.m. Left over Burlington Route 2:15 p.m. Chas."

Home to Idaho to Stay

At least one young woman became enamored of him while there, but he was soon on the move again. He had received yet another injury to an already injured leg and he knew it was time to go home to Idaho and stop his wandering ways. He seemed to have completely gotten the wander lust out of his system. If he continued to have an "itchy foot", none of us were aware of it. When he settled down, he settled down for good.





Military Service



Service Record




Charles Tyler — United States Navy

World War I

Entered Service 25Oct1917 — Salt Lake City, Utah
Honorably Discharged 6Aug1919 — Rank of Seaman

Duty on Ships and Stations

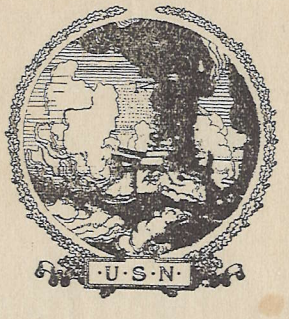
Naval Training Station	Goat Island, San Francisco, CA
Naval Training Camp	San Diego, CA
Naval Operating Base	Norfolk, VA
USS Nebraska	Learned to man large guns
Receiving Ship	Norfolk, VA
Navy Yard	New York, NY
USS Howick Hall	3 round trips to France
USS Hopewell	Azore Islands, etc. 1 round trip

Decorations Received

Victory Medal

For participation in engagements and campaigns deemed worthy of such commemoration.

Armed Guard Clasp



No. 259250

CLASP RECEIVED

War Service Certificate

United States Navy

This certifies that CHARLES TYLER, SEAMAN U.S.N. AVY, performed honorable active service in the United States Navy from OCTOBER 25, 1917, to AUGUST 6 1919 on board the following ships and stations: Naval Training Station, San Francisco, Calif.; Naval Training Camp, San Diego, Calif.; Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Va.; U.S.S. NEBRASKA; Receiving Ship at Norfolk, Va.; Armed Draft Detail, Navy Yard, New York; U.S.S. HOWICK HALL; U.S.S. HOPEWELL.

Lieut.-Commander, U.S.N. (Ret.)
Commanding Officer

U. S. Navy Recruiting Station,
Salt Lake City, Utah.
AUG 6 1919 1919.

Five cents per mile transportation
paid to Boise Idaho (779 Miles),
Cost $21.45 5 Mar. 1919. PAID.
$60.00 gratuity authorized by Act.
24 February 1919. PAID.

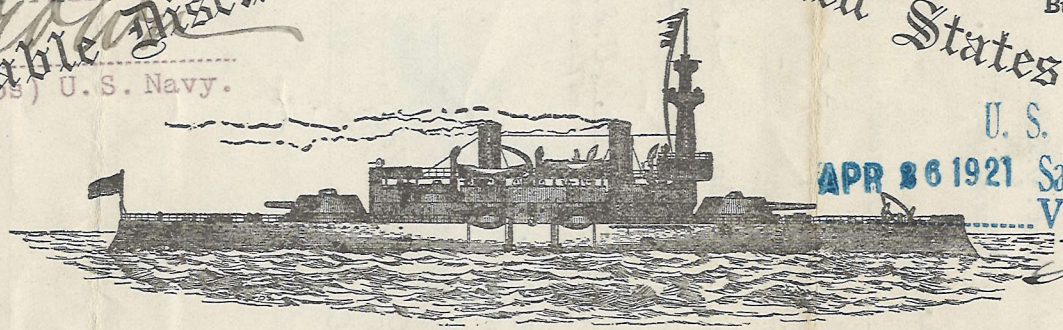
Ensign (Supply Corps) U. S. Navy.

Form No. 6.
BUREAU OF NAVIGATION.

Series A.—1 to 120,000.
No 86798

Button delivered yes
(Yes or no.)

Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy.



U. S. Navy Recruiting Station
APR 26 1921 Salt Lake City, Utah.
Victory Medal Issued
Commander, U.S.N.

This is to Certify that No. CHARLES TYLER, a SEAMAN as a "TESTIMONIAL OF FIDELITY AND OBEDIENCE," is HONORABLY DISCHARGED from the U. S. S. NAVY RECRUITING STATION SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH and from the Naval Service of the United States, this 6th day of AUGUST, 1919, at NAVY RECRUITING STATION SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Now, according to the provisions of Section 1573 (as amended by Act of Congress approved August 22, 1912) of the Revised Statutes, if within four months from this date the said CHARLES TYLER shall present this, his Honorable Discharge, at any United States Naval Rendezvous, and is found physically qualified, and shall reenlist for four years, then he shall be entitled to pay during the said four months equal to that to which he would have been entitled had he been employed in actual service.

Upon reenlistment, and the surrender of this Discharge, should he so desire, he will receive a CONTINUOUS SERVICE CERTIFICATE, showing his service and honorable discharge, and shall receive an addition of one dollar and thirty-six cents per month to the pay of the rating in which he enlists or to which he may be promoted.

Rating best qualified to fill, SEAMAN

Lieut-Commander, U. S. N. (Ret.)
Commanding U. S. S. NAVY RECRUITING STATION SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

4—320

ENLISTMENT RECORD.

SCALE OF MARKS:—0, Bad; 1, Indifferent; 2, Fair; 3, Good; 4, Very Good; 5, Excellent.

Name, Tyler, Charles; Rate, A.S. (At enlistment.);

Enlisted, October 25, 1917 at _____ for 4 years;

Total Naval Service 2 1/4 years; Served Apprenticeship, No;

Gun Captain Certificate, No; Certificate of Graduation P. O. School, No;

Seamen Gunner, No; Trade, None; Citizenship, U.S.;

Ratings held during enlistment, A.S. Sea.2c Sea.

Proficiency in Rating, 3.1; Seamanship, 3.1; Ordnance, 3.1;

Signaling, 3.0; Marksmanship, Small Arms. - -;

Mechanical ability, - -; Knowledge of marine machinery, - -;

Knowledge of electrical machinery and appliances, - -; Sobriety, 4.0;

Obedience, 4.0; Average standing for term of enlistment, 3.2

_____ Lt-Comdr., U. S. N., (Ret)
Commanding. and Executive Officer.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST.

(To be made after careful examination *at date of discharge.*)

Where Born, Huntington, Utah; Date, Dec. 24, 1893;

Age, 25 years 5 months; Height, 5 feet 10 inches; Weight, 171 lbs.;

Eyes, Blue; Hair, D. Bro.; Complexion, Ruddy

Personal characteristics, marks, etc., S 2 1/2" r Knee; S r elbow

Percentage of time on sick list during enlistment, 0 0/0

Is _____ physically qualified for reenlistment.

_____, U. S. N.
(Signature medical officer.)

I hereby certify that the above-named _____

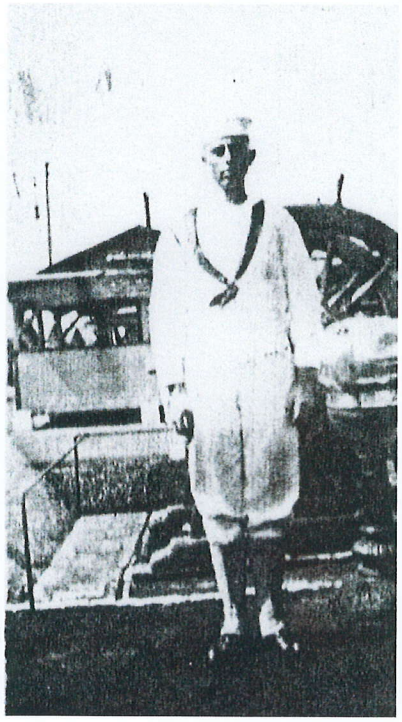
has been paid Eighty eight _____ dollars _____ cents

($ 88.00), in full to date. Pay per month at date of discharge, $ 38.40

AUG 6 1918, 19 _____, U. S. N.
(Signature paymaster.)
ENSIGN, (PAY CORPS), U. S. NAVY

4—320

Seaman Charles Tyler









Charles wrote on the back:
"Name it and you can have it."

Charles' Life in the Navy During WWI

The United States declared war on Germany on April 6, 1917 and joined the European conflict that had already been raging for nearly 3 years. All men between the ages of 21 and 30 were required to register for the draft. Charles would have been 23 at that time and was healthy and single. He decided not to wait to be drafted into the army and instead went to Salt Lake City and enlisted in the navy, October 25th, 1917.

The following is his own account:

"In 1917 I enlisted in the U.S. Navy in Salt Lake City. I was sent to Goat Island in San Francisco Bay. Had my hair clipped short and began training on how to kill people. Would like very much to start with my first company commander, but the wood guns we were training with did not hold shells.

"From there I was sent to San Diego, California and took training at Balboa Park. I enjoyed the warm climate there. We had real guns there, but the officers were more human and we liked it better except for morning reveille. I learned to do most of the things a sailor does, and trained at signaling and Morse Code. From San Diego I went on across country to Virginia."



San Diego Naval Base where Charles went for training.

"Charles gave details of the trip east in a letter written to his brother Andrew in Ucon, Idaho. Feb. 14, 1918 - Hampton Roads, VA.

"I with the bunch reached here night before last, or 12th. Had a good trip, glad when it ended tho.

"Came over three roads, Southern Pacific as far as El Paso, Texas, Texas Pacific to New Orleans, then Sea Board or some such. The climate here is a little colder than Cal. but not a great deal.

"There are somewhere about six or seven thousand here and I guess more than that at Norfolk Camp. When we landed here, were told we would be sent out in a few days but I don't know whether we leave very soon or where to.

"Traveled over Cal., Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South & North Carolina and Virginia. A lot of California and to 3/4 way over Texas is desert and from there to here is mountains and timber. Trees in Louisiana were covered with moss.

"Crossed Mississippi River 3:15 a.m. on ferry, 12 coaches and baggage car. Also crossed neck of Pontchartrain Lake - 6 miles. I wouldn't give Snake River Valley for all this east and southern country.

"I sure was sore because I couldn't go home but I'm in the Navy now. I guess it's like the song the boys sing to a certain tune. It goes - "You're in the Navy now, you're not behind the plow. You son of a ----- You'll never get rich, you're in the Navy now."

"One boy got killed on the trip, nearly here. He was riding the steps and struck his head on a pole.

"We had dinners on the train until we reached New Orleans and then we ate at hotels or restaurants. Left San Diego 2 p.m. on the 5th and reached here the night of the 12th. We raided a few orange, banana and soda water boxes on the trip and came nearly walking 5 miles to raid the town of Atlanta, Georgia because they refused to let us in town.

"An aviator and machine dropped in the bay yesterday. He got hurt bad but not killed.

"Yes, I carry an $8000 policy with the government. It costs about $75.00 a year.

"....I can say the sailors <u>are not</u> treated badly while in training if they act half way right. I believe the officers are more strict with soldiers than they are with us.

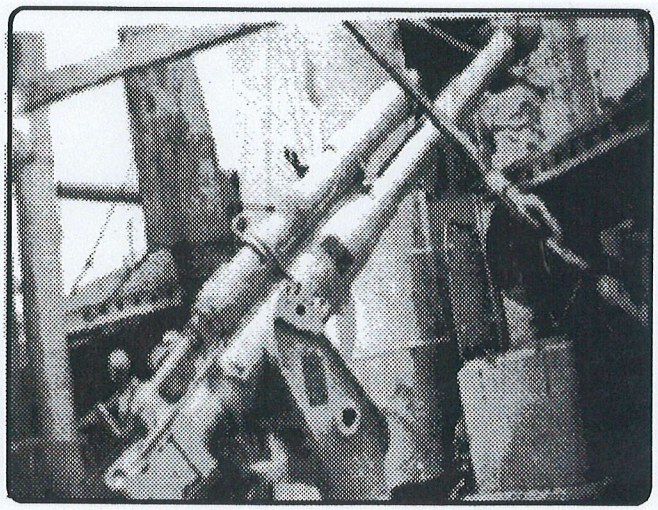
Love to all from

Chas"

(He often used this abbreviation)

Navy Life

"I was placed aboard the battleship Nebraska, and learned to man the large guns.



"A 3 inch anti-aircraft gun midships. There are two on this tub." Charles

"All ships require a great amount of work, painting, scrubbing, splicing, and mending lines and canvas. The Nebraska had a wood deck which, after loading the bunkers with coal, was black and to clean it we used bricks for Holy Stones, and would stone that deck until it shined better than a new born baby's spanked bottom.

"After a short time on land at Norfolk, Virginia, I and enough other boys to man two guns made three complete trips to France on the good ship "Howick Hall", an army cargo ship.

"On the Howick Hall, the only navy men aboard were two gun crews, two electricians, and three Quarter Masters. I was a member of the forward gun crew. The rest of the ship's crew were civilians.



"Myself and buddies of W.W.I during our days aboard the Howick Hall, an army cargo ship on which I Made three trips to France." Charles



"On our first trip to France we left New York City Christmas Day, and seventeen days later arrived at La Havre, France.



The message on the back (to Andrew) reads: 7-24-18 Chas Tyler A.T.S.

"Dear Bro. & Sister;

Hoping you are all well. I will drop a line to say I am feeling fine and enjoying the sights I see, or some of them.

Love to All,

Chas.

"There were thirty ships in the convoy and we heard that two were sunk by U. Boats. We slept with our clothes on except shoes, and a life jacket under our heads.

"All the ships were painted in such a way as to camouflage them and we took a zig-zag course through the war zone. As a member of the forward gun crew, my first duty was to load the gun while it was being fired.

"We did the look-out duty also, and to reach the crows nest (a barrel), high on the masts, we climbed rope ladders.

"During the three times I was in France I saw La Havre, St. Nezare, Nantes, Brest, Berdun, and Bordeaux. By the time I had made the three round trips to France during nine months aboard, I thought I was an "Old Salt".

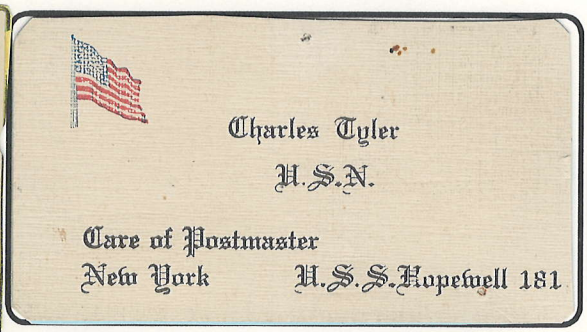


"Once while our ship was at anchor in New York Harbor near the Statue of Liberty, a Chief Petty Officer, myself. and another fellow took a group of sailors by motorboat to the dock for a day of sightseeing. We started back to the ship, the three of us. The motor stopped working, so we had two oars and attempted to row back to the ship. The tide was going out real strong and we couldn't get the boat to go where we wanted and had the harbor patrol not seen us and come to our rescue, we could have gone out to sea unnoticed.

"The last ship I served on was a U.S. Destroyer named "Hopewell 181". We were out on the Atlantic on a scouting trip during terribly rough seas at which time ALL members of the crewbecame seasick. When the bow dropped into a trough the waves would completely cover the forward part of the ship. The glass at the front of the bridge was broken by the force of the water, and cut the Quarter Master's face.



"4 inch gun on the Hopewell"



"On that trip we visited St. Johns, New Foundland, The Azore Islands, and Bermuda. When we returned to port our ship was put in dry-dock for repairs to damage caused by the rough seas.



"Harta, an Azore Island town I visited."



"A typical old Portuguese Ponta Del Gada - Azore Islands"

"I must tell of an incident of alarm while on the last trip out. We had lines (ropes) strung from stem to stern to hold onto when it was necessary to be on deck.

"The "head" (that is what a ship's lavatory is called) was at the stern, and to reach it we came on deck, took hold of the line and gingerly made our way aft, keeping watch for the high waves.

"When one passed across the ship we would hurry to the door, unfasten the lock, open the door quickly, and step inside and quickly close and dog it shut.

"One such time I was almost too, too slow, for before I had the door entirely locked a huge wave crossed over, and one second difference in time saved my life.

"By that time the war was over, so thousands of us were discharged. I was sent from New York to Salt Lake City to get released, as that was where I enlisted. Of course I went back to Ucon because my family of brothers and sisters were there.

Charles' enlistment record reveals that his pay was $38.40 per month at the times of his discharge on August 6, 1919. He was rated high in obedience and sobriety and was never on the sick list. At discharge he was allowed five cents a mile to get from Salt Lake City to home in Ucon, Idaho. 229 miles it said, for a cost of $21.45.

Charles didn't mention it in his account but one lingering reminder of his navy days was worn on his arms. He had several colorful tattoos depicting navy nurses and a ship's anchor. These were a fascination to his children since although modest, and even pretty, they seemed out of character. Studying them left a curiosity about his young and carefree days.

Once there was a little navy songbook among Charles things and particularly remembered are "Pack Up Your Troubles" (in your old kit bag and smile, smile smile) and "K-K-K-Katy, Beautiful Katy." Also sadly missing is a small spiral notebook full of good thoughts Charles had collected. The only one now even faintly remembered was the one about each hour containing 60 golden minutes.....

Veteran's benefits came into play for Charles when he was old and sick. He received a monthly payment of a few hundred dollars to help with his medical expenses and care. At his death the Veterans provided an American flag and a grave marker.

Charles was a patriotic American who was proud to have served his country during World War 1.





Charles & Friends During
and
After WWI



(N. Nav. 516)

U. S. U. S. Navy Recruiting Station
Salt Lake City, Utah.

From: U. S. Navy Recruiting Station
Salt Lake City, Utah.

To:

SUBJECT: Award of Victory Medal.

Enclosure:

1. There is forwarded herewith a Victory Medal and Armed Guard Clasp conferred upon you in accordance with the provisions of an Act of Congress approved May 13, 1908, directing the preparation and distribution of badges to the officers and men of the Navy and Marine Corps of the United States who participated in engagements and campaigns deemed worthy of such commemoration.

2. The badge is issued to you by the Bureau of Navigation in recognition of your services in the World War.

3. The Bureau authorizes you to have engraved upon the rim of this medal your name, rank, and the name of a vessel or station on which you served during the World War.

4. Please sign and return the receipt attached below.

4—5143

E. L. VANDERKLOOT

Lieut-Commander, U. S. N.



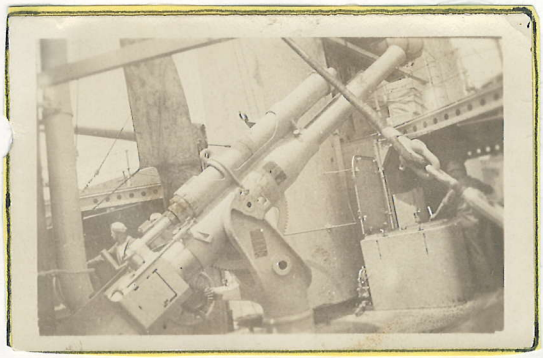
Charles Tyler
U.S.N.

Care of Postmaster
New York U.S.S. Hopewell 181



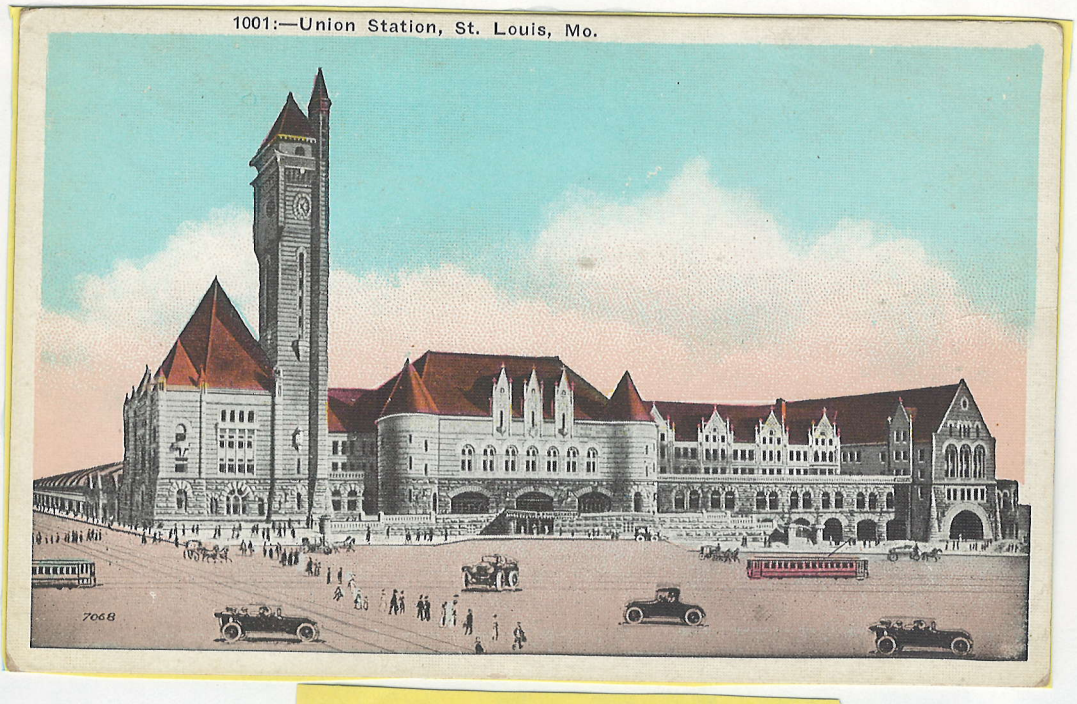
Merchant Seamen Days. Charles wrote on back: "I was here for a shipload of lumber which we took to N.Y.C. via Panama Canal."

Victoria, B.C.



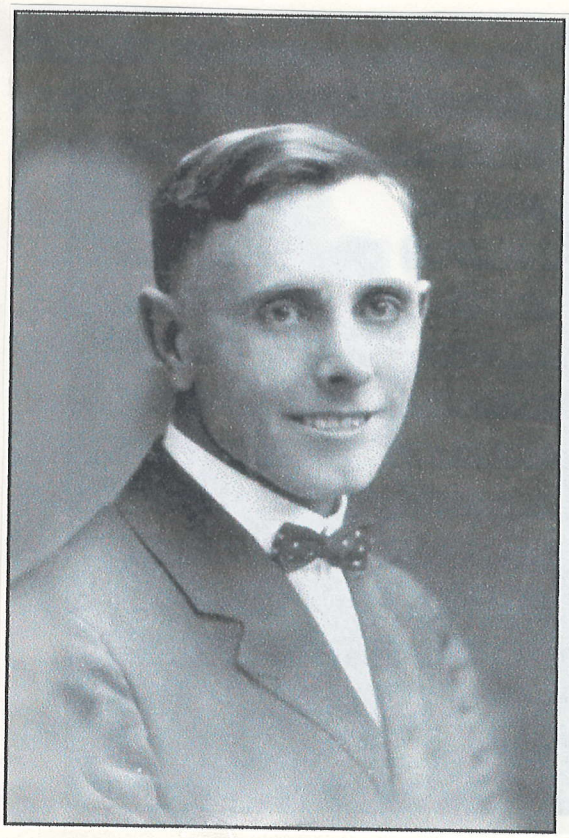
Charles Tyler
U.S.N.

Care of Postmaster
New York U.S.S. Hopewell 181



"St. Louis, Mo. Oct. 12, 1923. I arrived on Big 4 from W. Va. at 7:30 a.m. Left over Burlington Route 2:15 P.M. Chas."

Courtship and Marriage to Elverda





Charles wrote briefly of this courtship. You will remember he had been traveling the world alone for 12 years, but finally he came home to court a home town girl.

"During those years of comings and goings I had met several lovely girls... but managed to be going so much they couldn't catch up with me to propose....ah! That is except one and she got a good hold on my heartstrings, so I had to stop going.

"I still had my car (That must have been the Nash Roadster we read about before), so began getting better acquainted with the girl who became my wife.

"I met Elverda in Ucon, but as she worked in Idaho Falls, I went there to see her and spent many pleasant hours with her.





"We were married on June 4, 1924 in the Salt Lake Temple. That day more couples were married in that Temple than ever before.

"We were in the Temple all day with no breakfast or dinner. We were so hungry and tired we didn't know where to sleep. However, we got a room in the Hotel Utah (Wow! That was classy). But to this day I don't remember sleeping (Daddy! I can't believe you said that!)

"We took a honeymoon trip by driving to Mt. Pleasant, Utah, where she was born and where her grandparents still lived."



Johana W. Ramstrum Kolstrom & Carl F. Kolstrom

Charles and Elverda returned to the Ucon area to settle down, work and raise a family, which was, Charles said, "the main reason we were on earth for."

They lived on a farm as tenant farmers and from the beginning it was not an easy life. Charles wrote: "We lived on farms those years when farm crops did not bring much money. We had little of the luxuries of life, but were happy in each other's company.

"We worked and prayed together thirteen years, and God called to her, and then you, dear children, and I, learned what it was like to live without her kind and loving care. For an unknown reason God saw fit to take her from us. I know it had to be a very special reason to take the mother of three young children...."

More details of their lives together will be found in the chapter about Elverda and the one about their children.

Elverda's Family Register

Parents Married
16Dec1896 in the Manti, Utah Temple

John Demont Andersen
Born 5May1873 in Mount Pleasant, Sanpete, Utah
Died 13Oct1948 in Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho

Hilda Wilhelmina Kolstrum
Born 25Jul1878 in Fortuna, Westmainland, Sweden
Died 14Feb1967 in Blackfoot, Bingham, Idaho

Grandparents

Mads C. Andersen
Born 28Jul1830 (Denmark)
Died 13Jan1911 (Utah)

Caroline Peterson or Olsson
Born 31Aug1842 (Sweden)
Died 1Oct1909 (Utah)

Karl Fredrick Kolstrum
Born 29Feb1852
Died before 1945

Johana Wilhelmina Ramstrom
Born 8Feb1854 (Sweden)
Died 1945 (Utah

Elverda's Parents

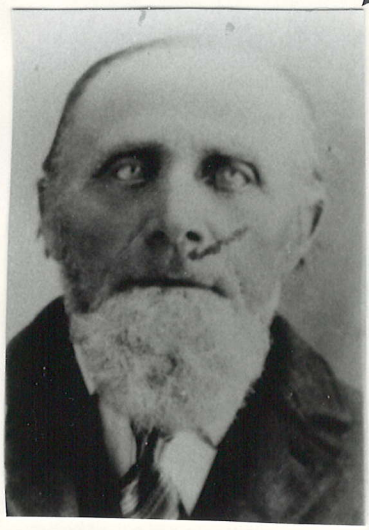


Wedding Picture
John Demont Andersen & Hilda Wilhelmina Kolstrom Andersen



Golden Wedding Anniversary Picture

Elverda's Grandparents





Mads C. Andersen & Carolena Petersen Andersen





Carl F. Kolstroum & Johana W. Ramstrom Kolstrum

Birth

Hilda Elverda Andersen

Born 5May1903 in Mount Pleasant, Sanpete, Utah
Died 24Nov1936 in Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho

Brothers

John Glen (Known as Glen) Andersen

Born 3Sep1899 in Mount Pleasant, Sanpete, Utah
Died

Clifford Lorenzo Andersen

Born 25May1899 in Mount Pleasant, Sanpete, Utah
Died Sep1973

Grant Duane Andersen

Born 26Jan1907 in Mount Pleasant, Sanpete, Utah

Hilda Elverda Andersen

1903-1936

On May 5th, 1903, on her father's birthday, Hilda Elverda Andersen (known as Elverda) was born to her parents, Hilda Wilhelmina Kolstrum and John Demont Andersen. Of Scandinavian descent, both families had helped settle Sanpete County, Utah and John and Hilda were living in Mt. Pleasant, Sanpete County, when Elverda was born. She had two older brothers, Glen and Clifford, and a foster brother, Oscar Staff. Later another brother, Grant, was born, completing the family.



Life Threatening Injury

Elverda nearly lost her life at an early age when she got hold of a butchering knife being used to slaughter a pig. The instrument was very sharp and the toddler fell and cut the vein in her neck seriously. Oscar rode the saddle horse, Prince, to town at full speed while the mother put flour on the surging wound to try to stop the flow of blood. Fortune smiled and Elverda survived but there was no question that it was a close call. Prince, the faithful saddle horse and friend gave his all in her behalf. That hard ride destroyed his health.

Elverda's First Day At School

"Elverda was a cute little thing with golden hair and ringlets. When she started school she was taken in a horse drawn buggy the two miles in to Mt. Pleasant. She was wearing a little pink dress and had her hair in four braids that day. Her school let out early that day and we didn't know it. She waited on the playground and finally walked all the way home by herself. She was only 6 years old and was so tired and upset." (Told by her mother) Her mother also told us that Elverda liked school and got good grades, especially in history.

Talents

Many beautiful pieces of embroidery work Elverda did have been passed down to her daughters. Her mother said she also enjoyed drawing, though as far as we know, nothing she drew has been saved. She was a wonderful cook.

We think her greatest talent must have been her ability to influence others (for good, of course). We love the story of how she helped bring about the union of Uncle Grant and Aunt Genevieve (more on that later).

Personality

It seems that Elverda was loved by all who knew her. Her sisters-in-law expressed great appreciation for her good qualities. Evelyn said: "She was a very generous person, always wanting to do something for you." Cleo said: "She was one of the sweetest women I ever met. She was also beautiful".

Genevieve gave a little more detail in her description, saying that Elverda was fun to be around and always had a little joke or funny remark to make people laugh. She said: "We talked and laughed a lot. She had light brown hair and expressive blue eyes. She had a good personality and was always doing things for others to make them happy".

Keeping the Brothers in Line

In spite of financial hardships, the Andersens were a happy family. Elverda had a good relationship with her brothers, having enough spunk to hold her own with them. Once when she was cleaning house and Clifford wouldn't put away his beautiful wooden dumbbells, as she had repeatedly asked him to do, she threw them in the roaring stove. He managed to grab them out damaged but intact and from then on he kept them put away.

The Hotel

When the family moved to Teton, Idaho and back to Utah and then to Ucon, Idaho, Elverda pitched in and worked hard to help her mother. Her mother always spoke of what a good help she always was, especially during the time the family operated a hotel/boarding house. Hilda called her a very sweet and considerate girl.

She said: "I remember when several of us were down with the flu (the influenza epidemic of 1918 that killed so many). Elverda was so afraid I'd over-do and would get up very early and work so it would be easier for me."

In Uncle Grants' writings we find this interesting detail ofElverda helping out in the hotel:

"The hotel was a place with strange people to associate with and to live with, including our school teachers. Life at the hotel in Ucon wasn't dull, as people were coming and going and making for changes. I remember one lady taught Elverda how to tie her hair in a figure 8 and that made for happiness.

"There were no conveniences except a cold water tap in the kitchen.... Elverda was a wonderful help for mother. Mother purchased an electric vacuum cleaner that made a lot of noise and had little suction. I hear it going yet, with Elverda pushing it at a lively pace from room to room. Speaking of dishes... of course Elverda took the lead but we all learned about doing dishes.

"Elverda was healthy then, and worked fast. One morning she dashed into a room and tossed the bedding aside. By Joe, there was still a man in it! He had become ill and not gone to work that morning."

Favorite Activities

Elverda was a good student in school and well liked by her classmates. We have a picture of her 8th grade graduation and she looked very mature for her age -- and very pretty.



When she had friends over to the hotel she would put toothpicks in the record player instead of a needle so as to soften the sound and not disturb the family and tenants. One of her favorite songs was said to have been "Every Little Movement Has a Meaning All It's Own."



"Elverda with her younger brother, Grant"

Here is Uncle Grants' story of those days:

"Clifford bought a phonograph and it became popular with the young folks. Many would gather at the hotel in the evenings and later some of them would try dancing by putting in a wooden needle to soften the tone, and removing their shoes. The boarders tried to sleep.

"There were three girls who became very close friends, Elverda, Leah Jones, and Emily Treasure. They each made a dress with the same cloth and pattern. As I remember it now, they were nice girls and no wonder the boys would gather."



Elverda



Picture of Leah Jones, Emily Treasure or maybe Mary Riley

Cooking was Elverda's hobby and she was particularly accomplished at candy and cake baking and decorating. She sometimes sold her candies for a little extra spending money. There were no electric mixers then and Elverda was willing to do extensive creaming and whipping to bring her creations to perfection.

Elverda loved her family very much and took great pleasure in doing things for them. She played cupid for her brother Grant, helping him overcome his shyness. She chose the perfect wife for him and helped bring about their union.

Leaving Home for the First Time

The hotel business was dying out in Ucon because of the ease of going the 9 miles into Idaho Falls by car or train. The family managed to get enough money ahead to build a 2 bedroom frame house nearby. It was springtime of 1921 and they were able to move in in June.

As Grant told it: "There were 2 bedrooms and Elverda occupied one for a few days. As we were leaving the hotel and its work, Elverda began planning how she could obtain work. A friend of Cliffords, Mary Riley, worked as a housekeeper in Idaho Falls. No doubt Elverda talked with her about finding work. Mary soon found a party wanting a girl with full knowledge of housekeeping, including cooking and child care. Elverda got the job.

"Just a few days after our move, mother and Elverda became busy preparing clothing and packing them. We all became blue and the evening meal was eaten in silence. When the evening train came and went, it left tears and mother really cried. It was only 9 miles between us but we had no car, we had no phone; there was the occasional letter, and occasionally a short visit. It seems it was the people Elverda worked for who did the going and Elverda minded the children."

Grandma Andersen tells this: "Elverda worked in Idaho Falls for 3 or 4 years before marrying. She had a friend there, Mary Riley, who also worked in the homes of well-to-do people. Once she and Mary had a date with some boys in a Ford automobile. The girls found alcoholic drinks in the car and threw them away. Their dates were very angry when they found out their drinks were gone and they threatened to make the girls walk home. After that bad experience they were much more cautious about who they dated."



"The Andersen Family: Glen, Elverda, Grant, John, Clifford and Hilda"

Romance

Charles told a little bit about the romance between him and Elverda. We are indebted to Uncle Grant for a little insight from Elverda's point of view.

He wrote: "..Elverda was home from Idaho Falls for a short visit. She was at the drug store visiting a friend, Leah Jones, when I came by. Elverda asked me if she could take a ride on my bike. She went on up the road somewhere and I just waited at the drug store. When she came back she was excited and told Leah she had met a very nice fellow. I think I remember her saying that he had dark hair... It wasn't long after that that she began going with a fellow named Charles Tyler." Not long after, he remembered Elverda and Hilda working on making a blue going away dress. It was the one she wore in the wedding pictures. She also wore white pearls and obviously had her hair professionally styled.

Grandma Andersen gave a little more background to how our parents, Charles and Elverda got together. She said: "Elverda met Charles through Dan and Tillie Tyler (our uncle and aunt). Charles was boarding there. It happened that she was dating one of their boys and when he took her home to visit his family, she met Charles. She fell for him right away. I remember she had a picture of him in his Navy uniform and she would exclaim over his beautiful eyes."



"..A day came in June, 1924, they made a trip to Salt Lake City, Utah and the Temple. (They spent their wedding night in the beautiful Hotel Utah, which is now known as the Joseph Smith Memorial Building.) They returned to begin housekeeping about 2 miles west of Ucon, where Charles worked for a Mr. Jensen, my former schoolteacher." (quote from Grant)

Grandma Andersen said: "Elverda made her own gown for the small reception held in the amusement hall of the Ucon Mormon Church. Hilda remembered that Elverda had gone to help her sister-in-law, Lavere when her baby was born, and while she was there she worked on her gown which was pale blue and beaded.



Elverda as a baby with 2 bros.



Kolstrums home in Mt. Pleasant



Hotel (boarding House) in Ucon, ID

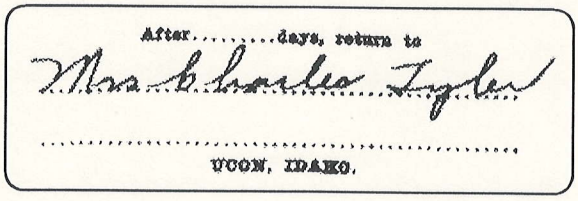


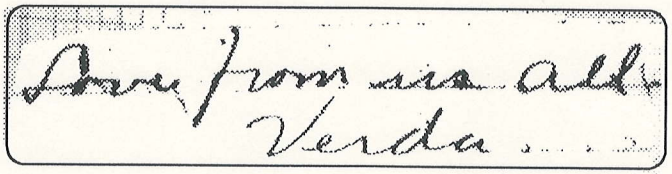
House they built in Ucon

Elverda's Writing

Handwriting and signatures have long held a fascination for Donna. Thus it was frustrating when nothing in Elverda's handwriting could be found - not even a recipe. Then Aunt Genevieve gave us a letter Elverda had written to her back in 1934 when she was still doing her best to pair Genevieve up with her brother Grant.

On the envelope and inside, we find her signature.





Inside the letter is precious information about Elverda's health (or lack of it), her activities, her children, and her wishes for Grant and Genevieve.

Grant and Genevieve

Since it gives an interesting peek at Elverda's personality and concern for her brother, it seems fitting to give here the account of her matchmaking efforts as told by Grant, by Genevieve, and by Elverda herself.

Grant: "Sometime before I left Yellowstone I received a letter from Elverda... It seems there was a sister of Mrs. Smith who had come to Ucon for a visit and her name was Genevieve Paul. Elverda mentioned that here was a real nice girl that I should meet and asked me to come home if possible...

"Elverda arranged with the folks to spend an evening there making candy and Genevieve was to come with her. When she arrived and introduced Genevieve, I had to admit to myself that here was someone special.... In a day or two I took this girl out in my old Ford Model T... All I can say is that she was just a real nice girl and my sister brought her into my Life."

Genevieve: "When Grant and I started going together, she (Elverda) said to me one day: When you are with him, put your arms around him and love him, as he is shy and lonesome and needs someone. After we were married she was like a sister to me, teaching me many things...."

Elverda: (In a letter she wrote to Genevieve) "I've been expecting to hear from you from Mammoth (where Grant was), that is I wouldn't of been surprised....

"Are you starting to make that Hope Chest yet? Remember what I said. The poor Ford is lonesome for Grant and Genevieve. It won't really run.



Grant and Genevieve then.



Now.

Work

Grandma Andersen told how the land Charles and Elverda lived on in Garfield was a gravel bed. This caused great problems for both of them - Charles in planting farm crops and Elverda in raising a garden. She removed washtub after washtub full of rocks from her garden area and succeeded in growing a wonderful garden. Of course she bottled the produce from her garden.

Aunt Evelyn told how Elverda put her vegetables and fruits up in large 2 quart jars. They held too much for the family to eat at a meal but she said she fed the leftovers to the chickens so nothing was wasted. In Elverda's letter to Genevieve written in August, 1934, she said: "I've done lots of canning and still have lots to do."

Aunt Evelyn described Elverda as complicated, meaning probably that she was kind of a perfectionist. She illustrated her point by telling how Clifford was once watching her put coconut on a frosted cake in a very careful and precise manner. Growing impatient, he took the coconut and just threw it at the cake and it worked just fine.

Grandma Andersen described Elverda as a good hearted person who would fill her apron with apples and go out into the fields to give them to the workers.

Elverda was gentle and kind and self sacrificing. She was extremely modest and easily embarrassed. She has been described as a worrier - perhaps overly concerned about her family members and their safety and welfare. The death of her first baby probably brought that about. It was said that she changed after that and was never quite the same again.



Health

We've always heard that Elverda was in poor health but have had few facts to explain what her problems were.

Grandma Andersen said Elverda had an "acid condition" brought on maybe from eating too many sweets. Evelyn (Clifford's wife) said Elverda had a "sour stomach" and blamed it on the fact that she cooked too rich. She said Elverda used a lot of chicken fat in baking and her cakes were wonderfully fine grained, light and good because she creamed and creamed and creamed them.

We know she had thyroid problems because she told about that in her letter to Genevieve written in 1934. To quote: "I've been taking pills for my goiter but I've still got it even though I've felt better in lots of ways and still got hopes my goiter will disappear as the medicine man says it will". We wonder if this was before the need for iodine in the diet was fully understood.

We also know she went to the hospital in May, 1926 but we don't know why. The inscription on the back of the photograph at the begining of "In Search of Our Mother" section, read "May 4, 1926 - taken the day I went to the hospital". Deloy was born in May, 1925 and Norma in October 1927, so this was half way between.

There seems to be no doubt that Elverda had chronic digestive problems of some sort and the assumption now is that she had Crohn's Disease (Ileitis) or irritable bowel syndrome. Either would have made her quite miserable and would have been difficult to treat successfully. One sufferer explained: "It's hell living with constant diarrhea or constipation, abdominal cramps and joint pain caused by Crohn's disease or Colitis." It is a chronic, debilitating inflammation of the bowel with no known cure.

Nora understood from Charles that Elverda consumed a large amount of aspirin in an effort to ease her suffering. If that were indeed the case, they might well have worsened rather than helped her condition. Did she perhaps have an ulcer too?

We don't know if Elverda's pregnancies were difficult but the deliveries were. We believe that she tried to have all four of her babies at home but only succeeded with Merrill. Apparently her labors were long and unproductive because her uterus didn't dilate sufficiently to permit the birth. Her mother said that after the first time she worried about it each time she was pregnant.

The doctor told Elverda after Donna's birth that she should not have any more children. Unfortunately in those days that was easier said than done. The 5th pregnancy did occur and the dreaded crisis came that took her life. She had a blockage of the small intestine and died in great agony. Had she not been 5 months pregnant, could they have operated and saved her? We don't know. She was in the hospital and a specialist had been summoned but he arrived too late.

Faith

Elverda's grandparents on both sides joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints while in the "Old Country" (Denmark for the Andersens and Sweden for the Kolstrums). They made great sacrifices in order to join the saints in Utah, joining many other Scandinavian members in Sanpete County.

Mads and Caroline Andersen crossed the plains in a handcart company about 1860. Caroline had a young child by an earlier union and whether or not the couple met before the journey began or on the way, we know not. But we know they were married in Lincoln, Nebraska. The story was that their company lost many precious belongings in a flash flood and the leader suggested that any in the company who had plans to marry should do so promptly so as to be able to share the scarce blankets. Mads was a great missionary for the church and served 12 missions, some to the Scandinavian communities in Minnesota. Often he left his family somewhat in need while he was away.

The Kolstrums came to America in 1891 and were thus able to cross the continent on a train - a much easier journey. Hilda's life story gives interesting details about their lives in Sweden, their sea voyage on the "Majestic" and their new lives in America.



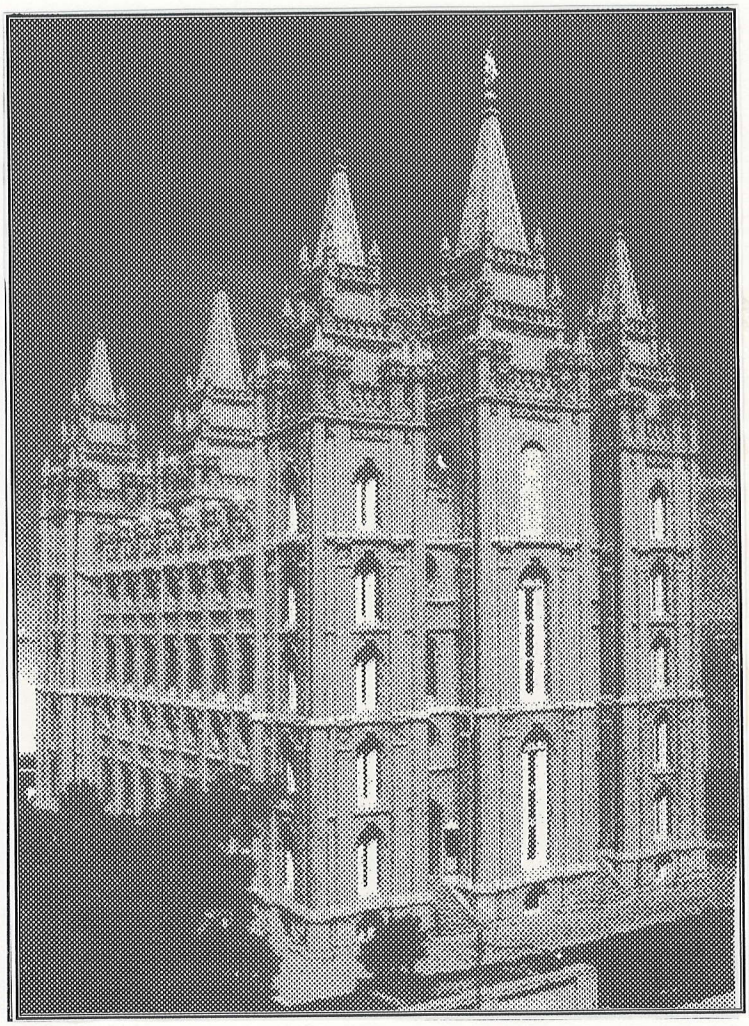
The early Andersen home
at 2nd East 6th South
Mt. Pleasant, Utah



The 2nd Andersen home, built about 1890,
at 8th South 1st West
Mt. Pleasant, Utah

Elverda followed the traditions of her parents and grandparents in living the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Her grandfather, Mads Andersen, was a Patriarch, so she, like Charles, was privileged to be given her Patriarchal Blessing by her own grandfather. She was very young - not yet 4 years old when she received her blessing (he would have been 77). The Patriarchal Blessing is on the following page.

Church activity was pretty much taken for granted in the Andersen family - therefore we have not been told much about Elverda's religious attitudes. Grandma Andersen said she attended her meetings as a child and while married, worked in Primary and attended Relief Society. We also know that when she married she was worthy of a Temple Recommend. We wish she had written down her testimony for us and no doubt she would have had she known she wouldn't live. But we've always known in our hearts that Elverda walked by faith, and wanted her children to do likewise.



Mt. Pleasant, Utah Jan. 8, 1907

A Patriarchal Blessing given to Hilda Elverda Andersen, daughter of Hilda W. and John D. Andersen.

Sister Elverda Andersen, Dear grand-daughter, by virtue of the Holy Priesthood and in the name of the Lord Jesus, I lay my hands upon your head to give unto you a Father's and a Patriarchal Blessing which shall be a comfort and consolation unto you while you live. You were loved of your Heavenly Father and his Son, our Savior, while you lived in the Spirit world and had kept your first estate and you were willing to come here unto this earth and receive an mortal tabernacle in which to prepare yourself to receive exaltation nd eternal life and to go back to again after you shall receive in the resurrection. Yea! an immortal tabernacle in which to go back again into the presence of your Heavenly Father with great joy. Yea! with that joy you had before the foundation of the earth was laid, and still more times joy because you have then fought the battle and conquered the enemy through the help of the Spirit of God which has already from your childhood rested upon you and will henceforth enlighten your mind so that when you are eight years old you will have understanding enough in order to be baptized and have hands laid on you for the Gift of the Holy Ghost; which Spirit will then rest upon you and lead you into all truth and righteousness so you will grow in wisdom and in holiness.

Your understanding will increase so it will be easy for you to comprehend the will of God in regard to your life and duties her in this world necessary for your good for time and for all eternity.

You were born in the lineage of Ephriam and belong to the tribe of Joseph--his Father who was pure of heart even in his young days and so shall you be also pure of heart and in the Lord's due time the Lord will, according to your prayer, select a person for you who will also be pure of heart and with him, go to the holy house of God and be sealed husband and wife. The Lord will give unto you children who will follow you and be pure of heart also and with your children and husband be worthy to receive a Celestial Glory and reign with Christ, our Redeemer in the millennium and worlds without end in the Celestial Glory together with all the Saints of God.

While you live here in this world your guardian Angel will take care of you and protect you from harm and from evil and you shall be blessed with holy dreams and manifestations of the Spirit of God. You will have understanding thereof given unto you so that you shall know that God is your friend and is mindful of you and holy Angels shall visit your house and habitation and bless you and your children and your place of abode.

While you live here on this earth every good thing your heart can desire in righteousness, according to the will and wisdom of God, shall be given unto you. These blessings I seal upon you and seal you up unto everlasting life by virtue of the holy Priesthood upon condition of your own faithfulness and in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen

Mads Andersen, Sr. Patriarch

Mother and Children



With Deloy



Taken Sept. 8, 1936. Elverda with her three children. Less than 3 months later Elverda died.

Elverda was a good mother - gentle and kind. She yearned for the best for her children and early on planned that they would learn to play musical instruments and gain an appreciation for artistic and cultural things.

Charles DeLoy, her first child, was born on May 18, 1925, about 11 months after her marriage. His delivery set the pattern for the rest - difficult. Uncle Grant said that after a day, a night and most of another day they took Elverda to the hospital because the doctor was not happy to be at their house for so long a time. As far as we know the only complication was her failure to dilate, possibly caused by an over-abundance of water.

Elverda doted on her baby boy - so cheerful and sweet. Aunt Cleo shared the most wonderful little story about Elverda and DeLoy. "She told me when we were out there in 1930 that she had known he was not going to live. She had made him 7 little baby boy suits of the colors used for babies then - a blue, a pink, a white, a lavender, a yellow and on until she made one for each day of the week. She said one day she had washed them and hung them on the clothes line. As she stepped upon her back porch she looked back at his little clothes on the line in the sun and wind and thought how sweet they looked. As she did so a voice seemed to say, 'Your baby will not live, be prepared for him to go soon'. She said it was a terrible blow but she knew she would have to give him up".

Uncle Grant said of DeLoy: "He seemed to be exceptionally nice. We all loved him and I remember holding him, which was something I was not used to doing (Grant was about 17).

Grant remembered Charles and Elverda coming to the Andersen home to stay the night after DeLoy died. He said they were completely exhausted and he realized they had suffered such a loss that a complete life could not heal the wound. He gave Elverda and Charles his room that night and slept on the living room floor. He could hear their bursts of crying way into the night. Grant too was overwhelmed with sadness and then experienced something remarkable that he could never forget. "A wee light, like a pen light came in from the south. Above me then, there was no longer a light but some sort of presence. No words were spoken but I received a message. It was that with much sorrow this thing had to be, but there was another work to b e accomplished. Then this presence passed away from me into the bedroom. I was bashful and did not tell the parents. Instead I told dad and he wasted no time relaying the message and told me it did bring much comfort."

The mother was childless then and lovingly planted a lilac bush near her baby's grave that all too soon would shade her grave as well.

Less than 2 years after DeLoy's death, Norma was born and once more Charles and Elverda, with Norma in their arms, felt like a real family. Merrill and Donna followed along in due course. Each of us will tell our memories of our mother and many more details of the family will be revealed in later chapters.



Memories Of Our Mother

By Merrill, Donna and Norma



Merrill: "My memories seem not to begin until I was nearly seven. I have only two memories of our mother while she was living.

First, I remember mother and Grandma Andersen making candy and Norma and I taking it out to sell. It seems like the little neighborhood store up on the highway took most of it.

Second, I remember mother on the bed on her knees, all doubled over and crying in terrible pain. I think that was right before she went to the hospital and died.

After she died I remember seeing her in her casket and I remember grandpa crying and crying. It's for sure I'll never forget that."

(Editorial Note: It's heartbreaking to think of a sensitive little 6 year old boy with such traumatic memories. They were more than enough to remember, and it is not surprising that he blocked out other memories of his great loss.)



Donna: "I too only have two memories of our mother in life.

First, I remember being with her at the cedar chest and she took a dress out that had been Norma's and said it would fit me just about right when I was ready to start school. It was a red print that reminded me of canned tomatoes.

Second, I remember her looking down at me, scolding me for something, I think, but it is really the only memory of her face I have and it isn't very clear. When my children were young I used to think, "If I died now they wouldn't remember what I look like."

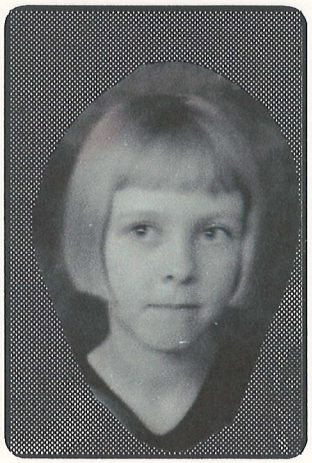
I too remember mother in her casket in grandma's living room. She looked beautiful and serene in her Temple Clothes. She was surrounded by flowers and ever since, the fragrance of flowers has made me sad.

When I grew older, the realization that mother died when she was 33 years old, as did Jesus Christ, seemed significant to me for reasons I couldn't explain. And when I was 33, I was afraid.

I was given my mother's beautiful manicure set as a keepsake. I'm sure it was an expensive set as the handles were made of ivory. But alas, I received it when I was too young to be responsible and didn't take care of it. A few pieces remain but I regret that it wasn't given to Norma. She would have taken care of it and she would have used it. Norma has always cared for her nails properly and I never have. I'm sure Norma is a lot more like mother than I am, both in looks and actions.



There's one more thing I'd like to mention. A few years ago, when we used to attend the Los Angeles Temple regularly, I would catch a glimpse of myself in the mirror as I came down that beautiful stairway at the end of a session. For a moment I would catch my breath, as it seemed I was seeing my mother there instead of me. That never happened any other time I saw myself in the mirror and it is only lately that I've begun to wonder if she might have been permitted to be there in the temple with me. I want to think it was so. Of course I was in my Temple Clothes, just as she had been when I saw her last (in her casket).



Norma:

I am older than Merrill and Donna so I have a few more memories. I was 9 yrs. 1 mo. old when Mother passed away, so my memories are those of a little girl. Some things are sketchy, but I will try to be accurate.

My first memory of Mother was when I was a very little girl. The house had to be on the good farm in Ucon that Dad lost in the start of the great depression in 1929. I remember a long living room and Mother or Dad carrying me in from outside. Adjoining the living room was a kitchen facing the west. I remember the cooking stove (it was white) and a table and my high chair. I remember sitting in it and watching Mother cook. My memories of this room are pleasant so I know I was loved. (I was probably 1 1/2 yrs. old)

I next remember Mother upset and in tears, and Dad upset also. They were packing our possessions. We moved for a short time to Grandpa and Grandma Andersen's home in Ucon. Dad had lost the farm that he started to buy after being in the service. I think he had saved during this time for the down payment. Some of this I learned when I got older. I remember Mother sitting on the davenport in Grandma's house, holding me tenderly, and crying. She had to be worried about the future, but she continued to make me feel loved.

It was at the log house outside of Rigby that I embarrassed Mother. We did not have an indoor bathroom -- we didn't until we moved into Idaho Falls when I was about 14 years old. In those days neighboring farmers helped one another when it was time to stack hay or thresh the grain. Dad had a crew of men helping him put up the hay. It was being stacked a short distance from the back of the house. Mother was a very modest lady and didn't want to be observed going out to the outhouse. I suddenly missed Mother and ran out back crying and calling for her. She reached out and caught my hand and pulled me in. I was given the first scolding that I remember. She told me to be quiet, that she didn't want anyone to know where she was. I was still scolded when we walked back to the house.

Mother enjoyed living at the Edwards' home in Ucon because we were close to her parents. We frequently walked across the field to their place, or they came to our place.

One day Mother, Merrill, and I were at Grandma's house. Mother and Grandma were cutting what I think was rhubarb with some sharp black knives. I watched, thought I could help, and when they went in I got a knife and tried to cut some myself. I cut myself and started to cry. Mother came to doctor me and give me a scolding also. She told me I was never to take one of those knives unless she told me it was okay. I think the scolding hurt more than the cut finger.

Mother was a good cook. I can remember beautiful, delicious cakes and pies. When I was a little older she made Swedish meat balls for a threshing crew that raved about them. I wish I had that recipe. She was an outstanding candy maker also. She first made fudge, divinity, and a butterscotch candy to be sold at the little Ucon store when we lived there. Grandma sometimes helped her.

I can picture Mother standing at the old black coal or wood burning stove in the kitchen, stirring the candy and testing a few drops in a cup of cold water to see if it was cooked enough.

The candy was cut in bars and wrapped in waxed paper. It was very popular at the store. This was depression time and this was one way Mother could help financially. When I was a little older and we lived in Garfield, Mother still made and sold candy. When I got home from school I often cut the waxed paper and wrapped candy.

Mother loved being with her brothers and their families. I can remember happy times when we would go to Blackfoot to see Uncle Glen and Aunt LaVere and family; or when Uncle Clifford and Aunt Evelyn and Merle would come from California. Uncle Grant was working in Yellowstone Park. I can remember the excitement in the air, and Mother going around singing when she knew he was coming home. She loved to prepare a delicious meal or help Grandma prepare one for family get-to-gethers.

Mother loved music. She often went around the house singing. Once I remember her listening to the radio and trying to write down the words to a new song. The song was "There's an Old Spinning Wheel in the Parlor" (spinning dreams of a long time ago...). She eventually got it. I would like a copy of that song.

She even started violin lessons for me in Rigby. I think I had lessons for about six months, and I loved it. But finances were tight and after Mother passed away, lessons were stopped. I still enjoy violin music.

Mother seldom sat down without picking up some of her embroidery or crochet work. Her work was beautiful and I am sure it would have won "First Prize" at a fair.

Mother taught me to carefully clean the glass tops to our lamps -- kerosene type. She was so happy when electricity was brought down our street and we had electricity in our house. It was an important day!

In Search of Our Mother



We three children were young when our mother died and we are very short on memories of her. Considering the ages we were, though, it seems we should remember more than we do. Our assumption is that we were so hurt by her leaving us that we just could not bear to think of her a great deal, and thus forgot much of what we might otherwise have remembered. Norma was 9 years old and of course remembers the most. Unlike Merrill and Donna, she is blessed with unusually early memories. However, even she does not know the details of our mother's personality and life that we long to be familiar with.

One thing was certain, we could never doubt the specialness of Elverda. Those who loved her the most, our father and our grandparents, never seemed able to overcome their grief at losing her. Our efforts to speak of our mother and learn more about her life brought their sorrows and tears to the forefront. Loving them and not wanting to make them cry, we stopped asking, though we never stopped wanting to know our mother better.

We contemplated how our lives might have been different had our mother lived. But we could only guess. How did her death affect us, really? Would we have been different - perhaps more outgoing, more confident, our talents more developed? Would we have been better - or worse? We can never know. We've always felt a great desire not to disappoint her and have suspected that she was keeping an eye on us from her window in heaven. (When at our nautiest we've hoped she wasn't.)



As we grew older it seemed our "need to know" grew greater and we began to petition our aunts and uncles for any information they could give us about our mother. They were happy to share and have given us valuable insights into her brief life. Uncle Grant, her younger brother, wrote an autobiography called "My Sister and Me" that gives us treasured information about her early years. We feel so grateful to him and to all the others who shared their precious memories of our mother.

Norma has always felt that our greatest loss, next to the loss of our mother, was the loss of the constant and ongoing association with our mother's family. Merrill and Donna were too young to remember and know the difference, but Norma knew and her little heart ached. We maintained a relationship with our grandparents but it could never be the same. No doubt our presence was a reminder of that which they had lost and they were less sad if they just proceeded without us. For the most part that was what they did. We visited our grandparents fairly regularly but the larger family gatherings were missing not only Elverda, but her children as well.

Elverda and her father had the same birthday - May 5th - and it was a tradition that they celebrated together. Norma remembers those birthday gatherings and other Andersen family gatherings as joyous. There was always an abundance of good food including Grandma's home made wheat bread, her bottled or fresh raspberries, home made root beer and home made candy. The Andersen men were great story tellers, making even the smallest incidents sound fascinating, so the sounds of talking and laughter were wondrous to the children. To be deprived of those associations was a great loss to us all, but felt most keenly by Norma.







The Picture of Desolation



This picture of my mother tugs at my heart, although I do not know the circumstances. She's all dressed up – black silk stockings and pretty shoes and hat. Yet she looks so sad and her surroundings are Depression Bleak. . No flowers – or porch chairs - or lacy white curtains at the window.

Is it *her* home or porch? Is she sad because her baby boy just died?

Or is she awaiting a ride to the Big City Hospital – to die herself?

I'll never know.

I want to comfort her. I can't.

Donna

Relationship With Andersens

Charles always got on well with Elverda's parents. No doubt they recognized his fine character and were happy she had chosen so wisely.

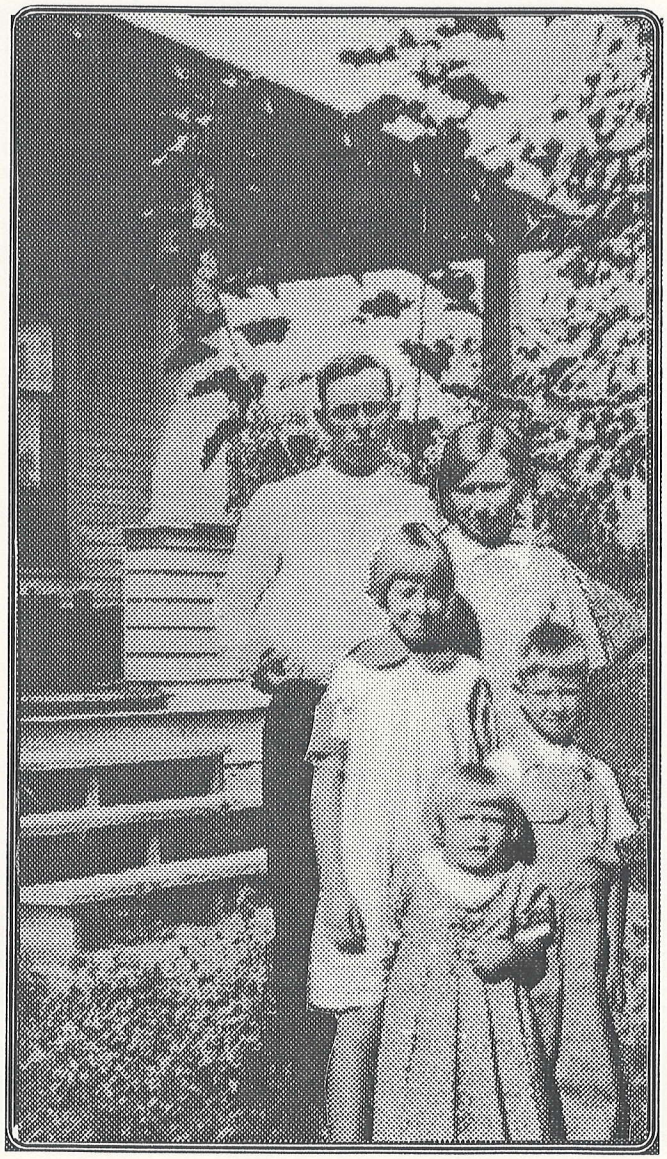


At every opportunity Charles was there to help John on his 10 aces of farm land and with his farm animals. Norma can remember him chopping wood and filling the woodbox at the Andersens, working on their Model T Ford truck and helping in the harvesting of their hay and grain. She also remembers seeing him slip money into their cupboard, thus helping them out without giving them any embarrassment. She even remembers him doing this after Elverda died. His concern for them continued throughout their lives.

The Andersens were completely grief stricken when Elverda, their only daughter, died and this grief dominated their thoughts for the rest of their lives. Therefore they were deeply hurt when Charles married again so soon after Elverda died (8 months). Logically they could understand but in their hearts they could not.

Their resentment was not hidden from Charles and his tender heart ached. But rather than stay away, he still took the children to visit regularly and continued to pitch in and help out around the place. Nora, to her credit, pitched in and helped too. Once, when Hilda's clothesline had broken, she took it upon herself to rewash and hang the entire laundry.

Charles, Elverda and Children 1925-1936



Early Married Years

It's a little hard to put together much information about the early years of Charles' and Elverda's marriage. We know their first home was at a farm two miles west of Ucon, where Charles farmed for a Mr. Jensen, who was also a school teacher. Grant mentioned that because Mr. Jensen had been his teacher.

Grant's writings also give us the information that Elverda's father and Charles rented a farm together the year after the marriage. We don't know just where this farm was but it seems a safe assumption that it was in the Ucon area. It must have been a good sized farm as revealed in this touching and poignant little episode Charles wrote about in his life sketch:

> "Before the time for our first baby to be born I put a flag pole up by our house, with a rope and a flag, so Elverda could signal me in from the field if she started having pains.
>
> While plowing in that one hundred and sixty acre field, I led my riding mare all day so if I saw the flag up I would leave the plow horses standing and race the mare to the house, but it didn't happen that way."

Charles DeLoy born May 18, 1925

Charles continued, giving us these details about the birth of the elder brother we are still waiting to meet:

"When the time came, I was at home, and got the doctor to come from Idaho Falls, a distance of nine miles. I can tell you these things now because you all have children of your own and well understand what I am telling you.

Well, the doctor worked with her several hours, but she didn't dilate, and I was so frightened that when he said he would have to take her to the hospital, I didn't offer a single objection.

I believe the nurses knew more what to do than the doctor, because it was only a short while until the baby was born, after twelve hours of pains.

As you know, the baby was a boy, Charles DeLoy, and we loved him so, and I was so proud of my wife for presenting him to me. We recognized him as being a very intelligent and lovely boy."



We cannot doubt the specialness of DeLoy. All who knew him seemed aware of that and they spoke of him in glowing terms, praising his cheerfulness and good naturedness. Charles noted his intelligence which was obvious even at such an early age. Elverda had been forewarned that they could not keep DeLoy to raise but nothing can prepare a father and a mother for the loss of a child.

Charles wrote:

"Our happiness was so soon to end, for at eight months our Father called him home. Our world had fallen on us, and it took some time to feel like going to church again, but the Lord was good to us to teach us there is another life after death, and we hope to see our boy again. His mother has been with him these many years."



This picture has added interest for us because we recognize the dining room table DeLoy is propped up on, the red flannel quilt being used as a back drop and can see our mother's knees where she sits supporting DeLoy.



The loss of their baby boy was a terrible trial for Charles and Elverda and we appreciate his honesty in admitting it was a trial to their faith. His words were simple and few but they tell so much. They weren't defeated. Faith triumphed as it always would during the many trials still ahead.

DE LOY

By Dale Andersen

Did God need an angel in Heaven
And choose our baby boy?
Or was our Father saddened
And needed baby's joy?

Why, with all the babies in Heaven
Would He choose our only joy,
Why not some other baby
Instead of our DeLoy?

We think it's because he's the sweetest,
The dearest of them all,
That he was taken from us
To answer our Father's call.

May he be as great a blessing
To the Father way up there
As he was to us lonely mortals
That he cheered so much down here.

Though our hearts broke at his leaving,
We would not have him stay,
For we know by patiently waiting
We will meet him there someday.

Maybe it will be tomorrow,
Next year, or even today.
So we're glad he is there before us,
To guide us on our way.

Certainly Elverda had no idea how quickly she would be meeting him there.

DeLoy evidently died of pneumonia. It was mid January, which is very cold in Idaho. Grandma Andersen said the farmhouse was very cold and the bedroom especially so because of a broken window. DeLoy had kicked his covers off but Elverda was sleeping soundly and unaware of it. He got chilled, caught a bad cold and that was how it began. They took him to the hospital but he could not be saved. Comforting messages from the Spirit World verified that it was meant to be. They consoled each other and tried to understand.

Just a note about DeLoy's tombstone in the Ucon Cemetery. We all seem to remember a sweet little lamb sitting on top of the grave marker. Now we wonder if we were mistaken because it isn't there and the top of the stone is perfectly smooth, giving no indication that anything has been removed. Elverda planted a lilac bush by her baby's grave and for many years it provided lovely blossoms and shade for hers as well.



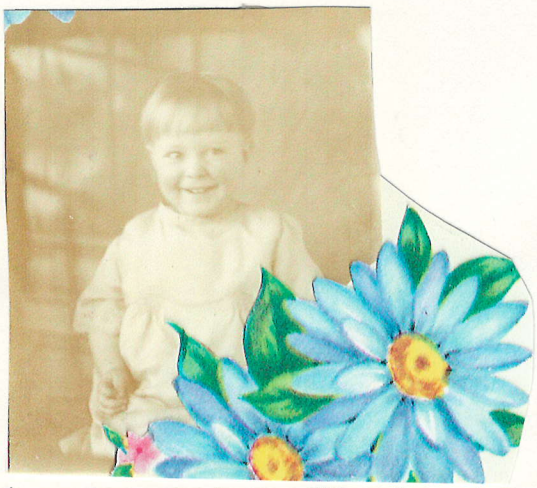
This picture was taken with the lilac bush in full bloom. DeLoy's marker nestles right against it at the lower left and Elverda's is a flat marker just to the left of his.

Unfortunately, as can be seen here, the bush grew too large and had to be removed by the cemetery's caretaker (who happened to be Uncle Alfred Cramer, married to Charles' sister Emily).

Norma D'On Tyler
Born 12 October, 1927

Fortunately Norma was born next, since she is the only one with any early memories to help fill in those first early years.





We're a little uncertain here about the homes Elverda and Charles lived in. Grant said Charles and John rented a farm west of Ucon before DeLoy was born. Perhaps it was right after that that Charles and Elverda purchased a farm east of Ucon, not far out of town. Was Norma born while they lived there?

Charles' comments were brief. He had been writing about losing DeLoy and then said that:

"God softened our grief by sending us you, dear Norma, and we were just as proud of you and loved you just as much."

Norma also was born in the L.D.S. Hospital in Idaho Falls, Idaho, so it is safe to assume that hers was another difficult birth for Elverda.

Norma was to be the only child to have our mother's blue eyes and the Andersen tendency for left handedness. Charles chose her middle name with its unique spelling. What a joy it was for Charles and Elverda to feel themselves a family again. Norma's presence brought joy once again into their lives. However, Elverda's fear of losing her also was ever present.



Charles wrote:
Norma in my mother's chair in which she died. It was used by her for a cradle for several of her babies.



Norma on the Model "T" Ford that belonged to her Grandpa Andersen (bought by Grant)

Their Own Home

All in all this must have been a wonderful period in our parents' lives. They had Norma, they were buying their own place, with all the hopes and dreams that involves. Charles was finally farming his own land. Surely their dreams for the future were bright.

Norma astounds us with her early memories, but we're so happy for them. She recalls that this was a big, beautiful farm and she even remembers a view of the inside of the house from her high chair vantage point. She remembers two rooms. The living room was long and narrow, facing east. The kitchen faced west. The memory of being there is pleasant, including the sun shining through the window.

But alas, things were to change. Norma knows the farm was lost but she doesn't know why. She remembers Elverda crying and crying about leaving her home. Although it was not spoken of in future years, we do have some basis for speculation. Norma was aware that the loss had something to do with Charles extending their meager means to try to help Elverda's parents. Perhaps it was at this same time that John and Hilda lost ownership of their ten acre parcel of land upon which they had built their home. They continued to live there until John died but we have learned they were tenants at that time rather than owners.

Farming is at best a risky business and eventually Charles would give it up all together. But not yet. He continued farming for others and hoping for the bountiful crops that would change their luck. How could he have known the country was entering into the Great Depression and that hard times were only to get harder?

The Wolf House

The disheartened little family moved into the Wolf house, which was in Ucon, near to Elverda's parents. Norma remembers it as a pleasant house with a white picket fence and beautiful roses. She would have been about a year and a half at that time and has a vivid and frightening memory of being scared by an airplane flying over at a low altitude. Also clear in her memory at the Wolf house is the ditch and a snake. But happy times with the Andersen grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins, are prominent in her memories of living in the Wolf house.

Here is Norma's own account of her memories at the Wolf House:

"We lived for a while at the farm just to the east of Grandpa & Grandma's place. I know that Dad farmed that summer. One day he came to the house and asked me if I would like to see a snake. I was a little afraid but took Dad's hand and we went to the back by a ditch. He showed me a very big snake he had killed. I cannot remember what kind Dad said it was, but it must have been six feet long and three inches around. I am sure it was the first snake I had seen. When I got a litttle older I remember seeing water snakes along the ditches. It was while we lived here that I was playing alone on the front lawn. An airplane flew over - flying really low. I was terrified. I had never seen a plane before. I thought it was a big bird that was going to get me. I ran screaming into the house. I can remember Mother picking me up and comforting me."

The Log House Near Rigby

Charles rented another farm outside of Rigby and Charles, Elverda, and Norma moved into a log house, which Norma describes as having had a living room, a bedroom, a kitchen at the back, and a sloping roof. There was, of course, an outdoor toilet or privy that is involved in one of Norma's memories. Here are Norma's memories of the log house: "Dad rented a farm outside of Rigby, Idaho. The house on it was a log house. I think it had a kitchen (small), a living room, and two bedrooms. My brother, Merrill was born in this house. I think the doctor came to our place. I do not have a memory ot the day Merrill was born in this house. I think I remember his basinet standing in Mother & Dad's bedroom.

It was also here outside of Rigby that I was very sick with measles. Our cousin Kleta was visiting us when I got sick. Mother had to get word to Uncle Glen and Aunt LaVere so they could come from Blackfoot for her. I was sad for her to leave. I do not know if she caught measles from me. I remember Mother caring for me and trying to make me comfortable. A blanket was put at the window to keep the room dark so my eyes would not be hurt. Dad told me in later years that they feared I would not survive the measles. I had some complications."

Having already lost their first child, it is easy to understand their fear of losing their second also.

Merrill John Tyler, Born 5 June, 1930

Merrill was born at home in the log house. Charles noted his birth with these words:

> "Then came another boy, and even if he was born in a three room log house with a dirt roof, he too was, and still is a wonderful boy, and we love you, Merrill."

Merrill was the only baby Elverda was able to have at home, although she tried to each time. He was given his Grandpa Andersen's name for his middle name. His cousin Merle, Clifford's boy, was born at about the same time and it was said that they also wanted to use the name Merrill, but since Charles and Elverda used it first, they named him Merle instead. Aunt Evelyn's story didn't exactly match that but we know it was the understanding our parents had. In any event it has proven to be a good name -- not easy to ruin with nicknames and somewhat unique.



Of course Norma remembers Merrill's birth and how happy they all were when he was born. She remembers him as a baby and as a toddler and playing on the floor with him with blocks and trucks. He must have been a good natured baby because she can't remember him crying.

The Edward's Place

Probably by the time Merrill was a year old, the family had moved back to Ucon into a house across the field from Elverda's parents. This was known as the Edward's Place because a Mr. Edwards owned it and in fact, continued to live in one of its bedrooms. We are uncertain if Elverda cooked and washed for him but it seems reasonable to assume so.

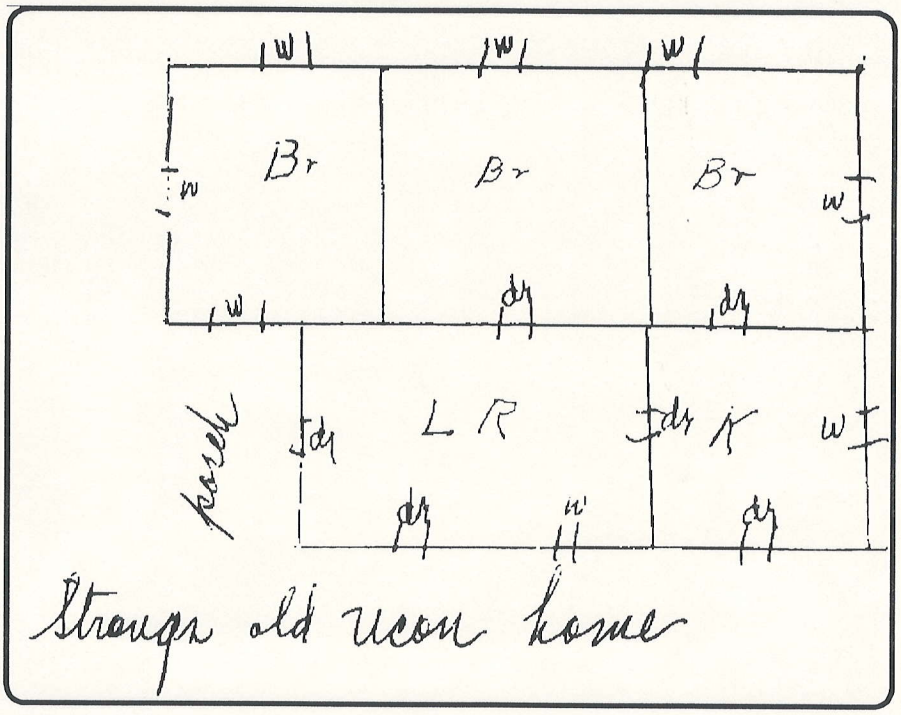
Norma has lots of memories that include Merrill at the Edward's Place. Sometimes she took him by the hand and they went into Mr. Edward's room for a visit. They played outside together with a little wagon. She gave him rides in it sometimes and sometimes they filled it with leaves to help clean up the yard.

Here are Norma's memories of life at the Edwards place in her own words:

"Our family next moved back to Ucon. This time we rented the house and small farm just to the west of Grandpa & Grandma, known as the "Edwards House". I don't think there was much farming ground. I remember a pasture for our cows, maybe a little grain or hay. Dad couldn't make a living there, and worked out - mainly helping on farms or working in the Ucon spud house in the winter, sorting potatoes before they were shipped. This was hard physical work with a lot of lifting. Mr. Edwards was an older man who kept a bedroom - living area for himself. He was a kindly man. I remember Merrill and I visiting him and his giving us Fig Newton Cookies to eat. The house had tall trees all around it. Dad was asked to cut the trees down as they had become dangerous. It seems like he had help. Merrill and I had a wonderful time climbing around on the tree trunks and limbs, and playing in all the leaves - so it must have been fall. Dad had a bonfire to burn leaves & small limbs. Mother brought out potatoes to bury in the hot coals & cook - I remember how good they tasted. We also cooked hot dogs on sticks, a real treat; and yes, marshmellows.

Donna was born while we lived here at the Edward's house. I remember how thrilled I was. Mother and Dad let me help name her. I loved the name of "Donna". I think I had a friend by that name. Mother let me hold Donna and try to keep her happy while she was busy cooking."

The house had lots of tall trees around it and Charles worried about one of more trees coming down on the house. He therefore cut the trees down and the resulting clean-up was enough to keep sister, brother, and wagon busy for long time. The big sister remembers only good times with the little brother. She remembers no fights and no jealousies. She does remember Elverda's panic one time when Merrill wandered off and was lost briefly. Having lost DeLoy, she was doubly cautious and fearful for the safety of her children.



Charles drew this diagram and it is probably the same house Norma calls the Edward's house.

While living in the Edward's House Norma started school and one more memorable thing happened -- Donna was born.

Donna Elverda Tyler Born 7 December, 1932

Of course every good big sister deserves both a sister and a brother and the parents obliged by providing Donna. Norma was excited to have a part in choosing her name. Like the others, it has proven to be a good name and it has been an honor to have her mother's name for a middle name.

Charles wrote: "Donna, our last child born, was a beautiful child also, as were all of you. Of course we loved each and all of you.



By now the Great Depression was in full swing and the struggles to get by were great. Both parents worked hard -- Charles farming and Elverda raising a garden, cooking, cleaning, canning, sewing and making over clothing, quilting, caring for the children, and chickens, and all the things a farm wife does. She cooked for the harvest crews and Norma remembers how very much the men enjoyed her Swedish meat balls.

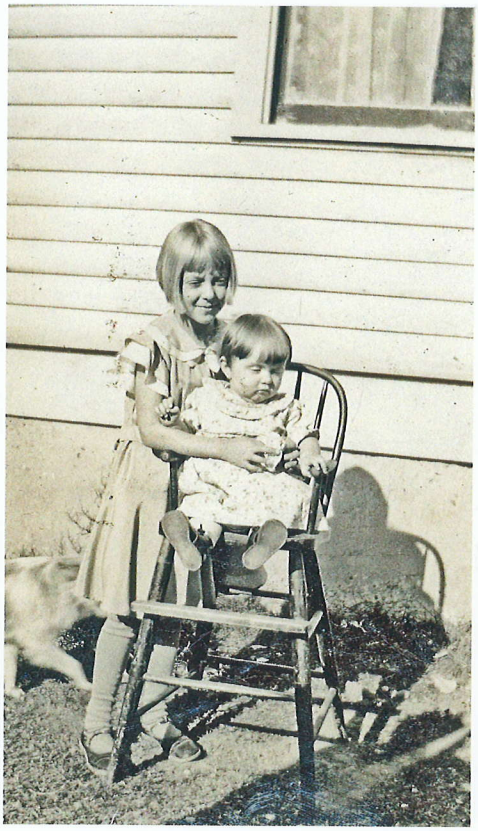
Without even mentioning the Depression (we think to him hard times were more or less expected), Charles noted the hardships they went through and how he felt about them:

> "Your first few years were spent on the farm and we all spent some hard times together. I couldn't do all the things for your mother and you children that I wanted to and it hurt me to see you needing things I couldn't get."

Most babies were born at home in those days and, of course, there was no medical insurance. Donna too was born in the hospital and those medical bills must have been very hard to pay.

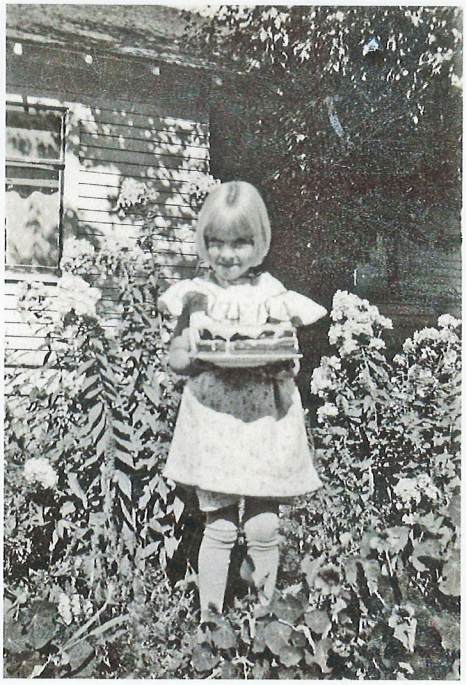
They stayed on at the Edward's place for a few years because Merrill has a few memories from there. There were only 15 or 20 acres of land to farm so it was necessary for Charles to supplement their income with other jobs. He helped other farmers, and in addition spent some time at the potato house in Ucon (which involved hard, heavy work) and at the coal company there also. Merrill remembers that Charles hurt his foot in the ice and coal at the coal company job.

Merrill also remembers crossing the field between their house and the Andersen's. One fun memory was on April Fool's Day when the children (probably put up to it by Charles) went over to tell Grandpa Andersen that his horse had a colt. Grandpa ran out to see it and they laughed and shouted "April Fool, April Fool!" We guess Grandpa would have been surprised since the horse was **NOT** a mare.



Norma taking good care of little sister, Donna, Andersen home in the background.

Ucon



Norma - It looks like 4 candles



Norma, Donna & Merrill. Prob 1934



Donna



An early picture of
DeLoy's & Elverda's graves.
(No lamb on DeLoy's)

Charles Helped Build the Idaho Falls Subway

Norma remembers that while the family was living in the Edwards' House, Charles worked for most of one summer in Idaho Falls helping build the road nd subway that went under the railroad tracks. It was right in the middle of the Depression and undoubtedly the income was a big help to the family.

Charles had a good, strong team of horses, probably Maud and Nel, and not only was he paid for his work, but he was also paid for his team. Grandpa Andersen had a sheep camper that Charles borrowed and took with him. Thus he was able to live right there until the job was finished. There was a regular little community of men doing the same thing. The hardest part of it was leaving his family alone for the summer -- hard for him and hard for the family.

At least once during the time Charles was gone, Grandpa Andersen took Elverda and the children to visit him. Norma can't remember for sure if Grandma Andersen went too, but it seems likely. Elverda prepared a nice picnic lunch and also additional food to leave with Charles. She remembers how excited and happy they all were to see each other and how much they all enjoyed the picnic. An extra special treat was the watermelon.

The visit ended all too quickly because the nine mile trip back to Ucon would take quite a while. The trip had been made with Grandpa's team and wagon and of course Grandpa had animals to care for and chores to do when he got back. But what a wonderful outing it had been. Years later when the family lived in Idaho Falls they would make almost daily use of the subway Charles had helped to build many years earlier, yet we don't remember him mentioning it. How glad we are for Norma's good memory.



Uncles Clifford, Grant & Glen with Grandma Andersen

Norma adds these details:

"My earliest memories of attending church are going with Dad & Mother & Merrill & Donna here at Ucon. I started school in the first grade also. Mother made pretty dresses for me. We lived a mile or mile and half from the school. Dad arranged for one of Uncle And's sons to take me to school at first. He rode a pony and I rode behind him. I think I cried the whole way the first day. I was scared, had never been away from Mother and didn't know what to expect. My cousin was kind, and in a few days I was proudly pointing him out to new girl friends. I think he was high school age then.

We often saw Dad's brothers and sisters and families, too. I remember their visiting us, and our visiting them. Every summer we had a wonderful Tyler reunion at one of their homes."

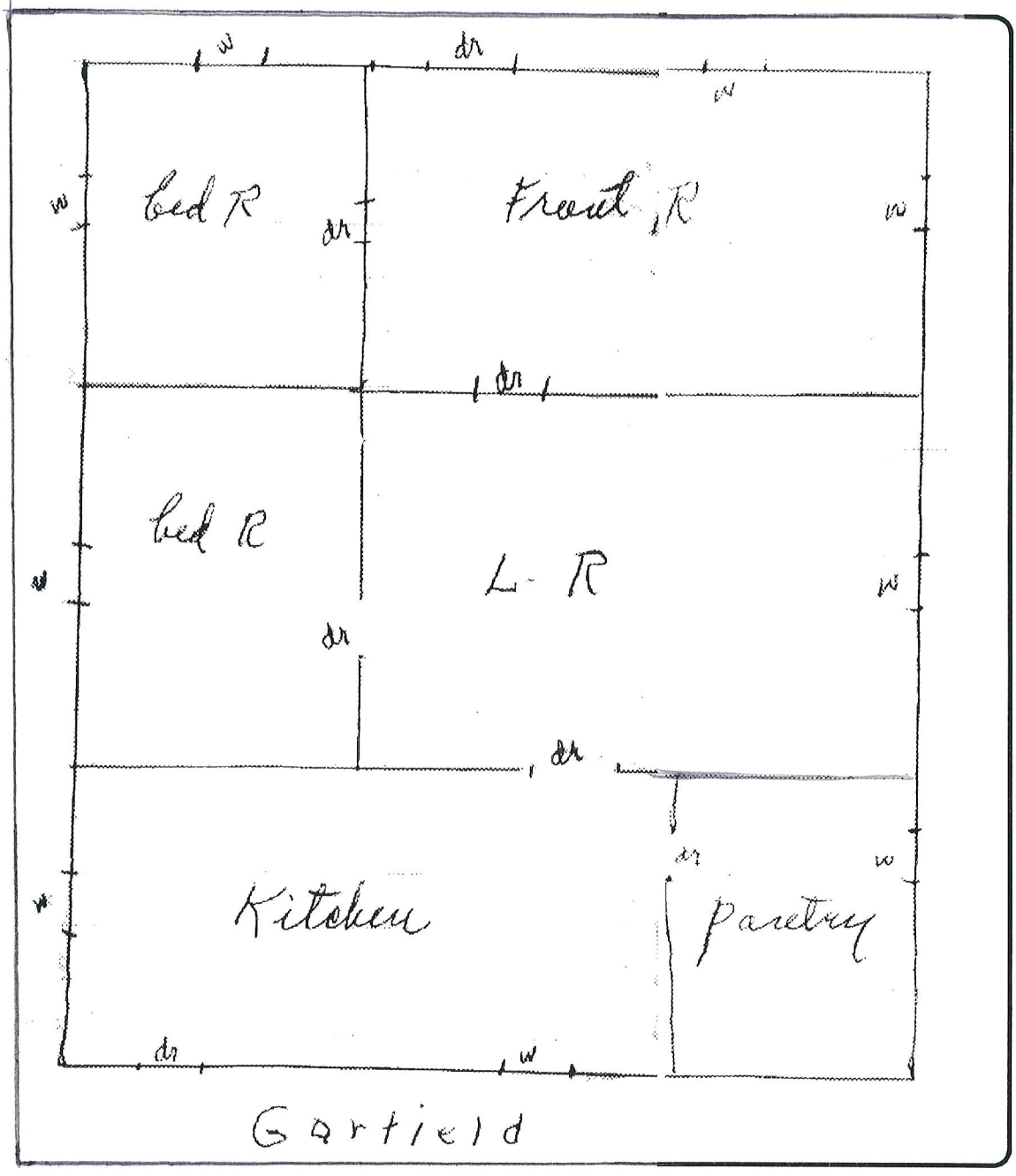
Life may have been hard for the parents but the memories are pleasant ro the children. The family visits with grandparents and other relatives. The home-made candy and root beer. The love and humor. Life was as good as it would ever be. They were all together ~ ~ a happy family.

The Garfield House

Another move to another farm ~~ this time to Garfield, which was 3 or 4 miles north of Ucon. Charles called this the Huffaker Farm, so it must have been owned by one of his relatives on his mother's side. This was not considered good farmland ~~ it was far too rocky. But he put all his skills to work and did the best he could. Chickens do not require good land, so he built a large new chicken house, intending to expand that part of the business.

The house originally served as the local school house, so it wasn't exactly what you would call cozy. At Donna's request Charles sketched its floor plan back in 1966. This is the first house Donna remembers and her memory needed a little assistance. The kitchen and the pantry are best remembered by her. Through the kitchen window she watched Charles coming and going as he went about his chores. She waved and threw kisses and loved him with all her heart. Also through that window, Donna watched the big trees moving back and forth, making the wind.

The living room had a big heater to huddle around in winter, and Norma had her broken arm put in a sling right there in that bedroom off the living room. The "front room" was really used as a bedroom, because Donna remembers having the measles there in a big double bed and crying and putting up a terrible fuss when the doctor came to call. He gave her a penny but even that wasn't enough to shut her up. The bedroom off the front room was not a bedroom at all, but a storage room. Sometimes the children played in there and poured grain from hand to hand and sucked on mouthfuls of it, trying in vain to soften it up.



Merrill also has Garfield memories of Charles doing the farm work and squirting warm milk in his mouth when he milked the cows. Charles trained a Billy goat to pull a little sleigh and all the children remember those exciting sleigh rides, with Charles running along beside them. What joyful fun that was!

Norma shares these Garfield memories:

"Our next move was S.W. of Rigby at Garfield. I was in the 2nd or 3rd grade at school. Dad rented a bigger farm. The house was an old school house. There was a large kitchen, two bedrooms, what we would call a family room, and a front room or living room. The kitchen had a wood or coal burning range, and the family room a coal burning heater. In the winter the other rooms were really cold. I remember Mother putting a hot water bottle in our beds to take the chill away.

Mother and Dad started teaching me ways to help. Mother had a fair sized chicken coop and laying hens. I gathered the eggs and then washed them in cold water and carefully put them in a large crate. The eggs were sold at the co-op in Rigby. I hated the job in wet weather because the eggs were really muddy and messy. Mother taught me how to take the cream separator apart and wash and rinse and dry it. It had to be done every day. That was a job that I didn't enjoy either.

Dad had a larger herd of cows at this time. He had received a check from the government - or something connected with his navy days. The money was put into cows. He hand milked the cows, separated the milk, sold the cream at the co-op, fed the whey to pigs, and we had pigs to sell or eat when grown.

Mother also taught me how to wash dishes, sweep floors, & dust furniture. At first we did not have electricity at Garfield. For ironing clothes Mother had a set of irons which were heated on the cook stove. There was a clip on type of handle. Mother taught me how to iron handkerchiefs and pillow cases. It was a hot job because the ironing board needed to be close to the stove so you could frequently change irons. I helped care for my little sister and brother.

We were active in our Garfield Ward. I can picture our family attending meetings in the old chapel. Our bishop was "Bishop Groom." In those days families took turns taking the sacrament trays and little glass cups home to wash. I was allowed to help Mother do this, and really felt proud to do so. I turned eight and was baptized at the Rigby Stake Center.

Merrill started school at Garfield School. We were a mile or more from school. We usually walked, but in the coldest part of winter, one of the neighbors had a covered sleigh and big team of horses, and he took children of our area. One winter there were snow drifts as deep as the telephone wires."

Charles loved to play with and entertain the children and took whatever opportunities he could find to do so. Merrill believes his first memory of his dad was when Norma gave him a black eye with her knee while they were all rough-housing on the floor. It must have been memorable because Norma's feelings of remorse are with her still.

Juggling was one of Charles' skills, probably taught to himself during Navy days to help pass the long hours. He would juggle balls or rocks -- whatever was handy. Merrill says now, somewhat wistfully, that he wishes his dad had taken time to teach him to juggle, to swim, and maybe helped him more with reading. Perhaps all parents fall a little short somewhere but we all agree that when it came to parenting, Charles' shortcomings were few. The values he taught and the examples he set have served us well our lifetimes long.

Also remembered by all the children was Charles balancing broomsticks, rakes etc. on his chin or nose. He had big bulging biceps and he would let the children tie strings around his upper arm and then amaze them by breaking the string when he flexed his muscle. One fun payoff for all his hard work. He was also a good shot with a 22 rifle and could hit cans thrown into the air. He only demonstrated that skill a couple of times. And oh yes, he even taught the family dog to climb up a ladder onto the haystack. No other dogs we knew could be seen on top of a haystack!

Isn't it strange that most of our early memories involve Charles and not Elverda? One has to wonder if all children so take their mothers for granted that they take little note of them in storing up memories. The things Elverda did for us were vital but perhaps mundane. Mothers should do startling things once in a while just to assure themselves a place in their children's memory banks.

One Garfield memory shared by Norma and Merrill does involve Elverda. The frequent Sunday drives to Ucon and the Andersen grandparents. In the winter these trips were sometimes made in a horse drawn sleigh. Merrill remembers one trip in the car when there was such a bad blizzard you couldn't see the road. The windows were opened, snow was coming in, and Elverda was wiping the fog off the windshield with diapers. She was scared and upset, so the children were too, but they made the trip home safely. Norma said Elverda had lingered with her family longer than prudent, with near disastrous results for the whole family.

Their Child Rearing Philosophy

Elverda and Charles were in agreement on how children should be raised and Norma remembers that they always supported each other. They believed in a united front and did not disagree in front of the children (if at all).

Both parents expected the best of the children and taught them to be mannerly, they themselves setting the example. "Please" and "Thank you" were ingrained in the children. Charles seated his wife and daughters at the table and the children could not leave the table without asking to be excused.

Faith and prayer, of course, were a way of life and a blessing on the food was always given. Sometimes they knelt at their chairs for family prayer but more often that was reserved for bedtime (at least as the years went by). When the children were old enough to give the blessing on the food Charles would just nod his head at the child he chose to say it, without speaking a word.

It was expected that the children would honor, respect and appreciate their parents and each other. Gentleness and love were given and expected. The parents explained their reasoning to the children so as not to leave them wondering why. A lot of nonsense was not tolerated and quick obedience was expected from the earliest years. Punishment was not harsh -- it didn't need to be. There was about one spanking per child and no more. Actually Norma remembers none (probably she never needed one). The worst punishment for all the children was to feel they had disappointed Charles. His "talkings to" hurt worse than anything.

The Work Ethic

The Tyler parents worked hard and the Tyler children were expected and taught to work also. They were given chores from a very early age on and the chores were assigned, so each child knew exactly what was expected. Norma easily compiled a list of duties she remembered having:

1. Gathering wood chips for the stove (these were left after Charles chopped wood to burn)
2. Helping in the garden (especially weeding)
3. Baby sitting
4. Setting the table
5. Sweeping and dusting
6. Getting buckets of coal for the stove
7. Carrying water
8. Gathering eggs
9. Herding cows and sheep
10. Washing dishes
11. Running errands
12. Cleaning the cream separator (she hated that job)
13. Washing eggs (given this number because she hated it the most)

The children were not given pay for their work or even an allowance. It was during the Depression and we doubt there was any money TO give. But the parents always tried to give the children a little money to spend at Christmas.

Responsibilities increased with age and Norma was SO proud when only 8 years old to get to drive the derrick horse to help with the hay harvest. The hay was piled onto wagons out in the field and then brought to where the haystack was to be built. One man had to be on top of the haystack and the derrick fork would pick up a big bite of hay from the wagon. A horse then had to pull the attached rope to lift the hay up onto the stack. Norma led old Maude, the big work horse, back and forth while Charles directed the load (there were about 3 "bites" to a wagon load). Charles made Norma feel that she was doing a very good job and that she was indispensable (and undoubtedly she was, because without her another man would have to have been hired). Norma said she preferred driving the derrick horse to helping in the kitchen. Her best memory was how important Charles made her feel and how pleased he was with her efforts.

And speaking of haystacks, Merrill remembers SKIING down that haystack in the winter.

Anything For You, Daddy

Norma early on showed a tendency to left handedness, like her Grandma Andersen. Charles was concerned that left handedness would be a disadvantage to her and so asked her to learn to write, color etc. with her right hand. He explained the reasons to her very carefully and she was willing to make the effort for Daddy's sake, if not her own. Her determination brought success with the result that she is largely ambidextrous. Her greater strength remains in her left hand but she uses her right for writing, sewing, using kitchen utensils etc. Give her a broom or a shovel and the left hand takes over. She feels that no psychological or emotional trauma resulted. Three of her five children are left handed and she doubts they could have made the same change she did. Merrill and Donna are both right handed.

List Of Homes
Charles and Elverda Shared

1. (1924) The Jensen Farm near Ucon.

2. (1925) The Farm Charles & John Rented Together
   (They lived there when DeLoy was born).

3. (1926-1928) The Farm They Bought east of Ucon.
   (Norma born while they lived there and her first memories there).

4. (1929) The Wolf House in Ucon where Norma was frightened by an airplane.

5. (1930-1931) The Log House near Rigby where Merrill was born.

6. (1932-1933) The Edwards' House in Ucon. Donna was born while they lived there.

7. (1934-1936) The Garfield House, which was their last home together.

In their twelve years together, they shared 7 homes.

Life may have been hard for the parents but the memories are pleasant for the children. The family visits with grandparents and other relatives. The home-made candy and root beer. The love and humor. Life was as good as it would ever be. They were all together -- a happy family.

Friendly Persuasion

Norma remembers the gentleness of both parents and does not recall experiencing the so-called sibling rivalry. If Merrill and Donna recall a little, it was very little and the three children (now old and gray) remain devoted to each other. For this precious gift we give credit to our parents' training and example.

It Had To Be A Very Special Reason

There seem no words to close this chapter that are better than Charles own:

"Your mother was to get another baby in April, but for an unknown reason, God saw fit to take her from us also, in November of 1936. I know it had to be a very special reason to take the mother of three young children.

"The days following were like a nightmare to me, but I realized I had to carry on, as I was the only one my children had to depend on for the necessary things of life, and I worried a great deal."

A Time For Sorrow



Last picture of our darling.



"And you and I, dear children, learned what it was like
to be without her kind and gentle care."

A Time For Sorrow

The unthinkable had happened and the Tyler home was missing its heart -- Elverda -- wife and mother. The loss was simply too great for Charles to write about in detail, or hardly ever to speak of. But we knew, oh how well we knew and trying to shield him from further hurts became our near obsession for the rest of his life.

It was many years before we really came to realize part of the reason for his unspeakable anguish. Because of Elverda's health problems, they had been advised after Donna's birth that she should not try to carry any more babies. That was easy enough for a doctor to say in 1932 but he could not provide a means to prevent pregnancy and still carry on a normal married life. Since the pregnancy was partly responsible for Elverda's death, he could not hold himself blameless and he carried that heavy cross for the remainder of his life.

In Grandma Andersen's life story she gave this account of Elverda's death.

From Grandma Andersen's Point Of View

"In 1936 we were grieved to lose our only daughter. In the spring of that year Elverda's children were down with the measles and it looked as though she and her father wouldn't be able to spend their birthday together as they always had. However, on the spur of the moment, I prepared a meal and John and I went to her home and we had a birthday dinner. I have always been so glad we did because as it turned out they would never be able to share a birthday again.

"A few months later Verda began to suffer ill health. She was expecting her 5th child and all was not going well. She was hospitalized in November and we were terribly concerned for her. We prayed so hard that she would be restored to health and we really had faith that our prayers would be answered. She was such a good girl and she had a fine husband and three little children who needed her so badly.

"But it just wasn't God's will that she live. One day as we entered the hospital, we heard someone screaming with pain. How distressed we were to find it was our own daughter. She was to have been seen by a specialist that afternoon but she was taken from us before he came and we could only wonder if he could have saved her.

"It was a long time before we could accept this terrible loss and go on. John took her death very hard and never really got over it. It was six months before I could turn once again to my Heavenly Father in prayer. I really had to humble myself and realize that our children are not really ours to keep, but rather ours to care for and love as long as God allows. She brightened our lives while she was here and I'm so thankful for that."

We are indebted to Uncle Grant for his account of Elverda's death.

Uncle Grant's Account

(He was alone in Yellowstone at the time, as the work was only going to last until the middle of January.)

"Toward the end of November I was washing my dishes for the day and a knock came to my door. I opened the door to find an acquaintance standing there looking sober. He said that the telephone operator had asked him to look me up and inform me that there was a phone call and whoever called wanted me to know that my sister had died. I guess I thanked him but I don't know. I paced the floor. Later in the night I tried sleeping but there wasn't any sleep.

Next morning I put a few things in the car and headed over to where my boss lived. He was coming my way and didn't know that I already knew the sad news. I told him I would be gone a few days, but I would be back as soon as I could, as the snow was beginning to get deep enough to close the roads through the park. I headed the car for the road going south, up past the Terraces, through the Hoodoo's and up and out of the Golden Gate. Up there on Swan Lake Flats, I could see the skyline toward Idaho. It was all black sky, nothing but a stormy period ahead. Yes, big black, stormy clouds and a man with three wonderful little children facing a stormy future 'cause their wife and mother was no longer with them.

I requested to serve as pall bearer. I sat there with the others, and occasionally glanced at the sad faces. Mother cared for little Donna, so very young. Genevieve was there. Slowly and sadly we laid my sister to rest beside the grave of the little boy that had gone on before. Left there behind was the sadness; the little children too young to understand it. Quite a few of those sad ones have also departed now. It seems hard to think that the grass has been growing over that grave for over 40 years."

Farewell, Mother

Elverda spent the last night before her burial in the Andersen's front room. She looked beautiful and serene in her Temple clothes and the flowers were so lovely and their fragrance somehow sad. The children patted her and kissed her and tried to understand. How wise Charles was not to try to protect the children from this contact. Those moments of farewell were a necessary part of the process of having her gone from us.

Norma adds the memory that the family all slept there in the living room near the Mother's casket - Their last experience united together as a family.

Charles took a picture of her there in the casket, surrounded by beautiful flowers, and labeled it: "Last picture of our darling."

The funeral over, Charles and the children went home to the empty house and tried to figure out how to go on without Elverda. At least it was winter and Charles didn't have to be out in the fields all day. But Norma and Merrill were in school and there were many outside chores to be done. Donna was just barely turning 4 and afraid to be left alone in the house. Sometimes he bundled her up and took her with him and sometimes he did leave her alone for brief periods. Even though he went back to the house frequently, Donna would open the door, calling for Daddy. It seemed an impossible situation.

Before and after school, Norma and Merrill did their best to help out. Norma, at nine, took lots of responsibility in the kitchen, trying to fill the mother's empty shoes. Christmas must have come a month after Elverda's death but memories of it seem non-existent. How could there be a Christmas without a mother?

Norma remembered being terribly aware of the sorrow Charles was experiencing. For the sake of his children he tried hard to keep his emotions under control and be the strength they could lean on. And he was. But there were evenings when she saw him give in to his tears and she wanted nothing more in the world than to comfort him. Her tears would come then too, feeling such anguish for both the loss of her Mother and the sadness of her father.

Merrill and Donna simply do not remember this period. Did they cry over their motherlessness? They hope so, but they don't know. Perhaps they were angry at her for dying, but knowing it was wrong to be angry at her for that, they locked away the whole period of time. Or perhaps their grief was so great at that young age that the only way to deal with it was to lock it away so well, that even now, when they want to, they cannot call it to mind.

Relatives, seeing Charles' plight, offered help. They didn't live near enough to offer help at home, but they would be willing to take a child or two to raise (perish the thought, erase, erase!).

We think Charles did not ever consider one of those offers. Which of us could he part with? And which of us could bear to be separated from the others? We shared this great loss and only together could we come through it intact. No, he would not break up his family -- no matter how difficult the road ahead. He would find a way somehow.

And he did -- to our eternal gratitude.

Norma's Personal Account of Elverda's Death & Funeral

In the fall of 1936 I turned 9 years old. I was aware that Mother wasn't well, that she rested more, that she needed me to help more in Donna and Merrill's care and around the house. I was not aware that she was expecting another baby and that there were other health problems.

Shortly before Thanksgiving Day, Dad and Mother decided she should go to the hospital. In those days an expectant mother did not have frequent office calls with a doctor to make sure that she and the baby were doing okay. We drove to Ucon to Grandpa and Grandma's house and we children were left there while Dad and Mother went on to Idaho Falls. Dad and Grandma tried to make Mother comfortable in the back seat with pillow and quilt.

We children knew something serious was happening and we were scared. I remember Mother leaning forward to hug and kiss each of us. She was concerned for us, and I remember her telling us that she would have Dad bring fruit for us, which was a real treat for us. I am still touched to remember she was thinking of us and what would give us pleasure when she was so sick.

We were not allowed to visit Mother at the hospital because we were under the age of 14 -- hospital rules. Dad arranged for "Mother Ray" to go to our house to take care of us. She was a friend of our family who often helped families when there was an illness or a new baby. This made it easier for Grandpa and Grandma to go to the hospital. The day before Thanksgiving Dad came home with the sad, sad news that our Mother had passed away. We lost a loving, caring mother who had given us a happy home and who would be greatly missed. It just didn't seem possible that she wouldn't be coming home again.

The family gathered for the funeral. Uncle Grant and Aunt Genevieve and family came from Yellowstone. Uncle Clifford and Aunt Evelyn and our cousin Merle came from California. Most of Dad's brothers and sisters lived nearby in eastern Idaho.

Mother, in her casket, was brought to Grandma's living room the evening before her funeral. Dad and we children also came to Grandma'a and Grandpa's home the same evening. Winter had come early and the country roads were often closed. We slept in the living room close to Mother because the house was full of family members. This may sound unusual, but at the time it seemed a natural thing to do. I remember frequently , that evening and the next morning, standing by the casket and looking at Mother and touching her. It was a last chance to say "good-bye." Ever since that time I have not felt afraid of death, or of being by a deceased person.

Some floral wreaths were brought to the house the evening before, but by the time to leave the house to go to the Church, the living room was really full of flowers. Our girl cousins on both sides of the family were asked to be "flower girls." Arrangements were made for them to ride in cars in a group. Each girl carried two wreaths. Someone, I think an aunt, thought it would be nice for me to be a Flower Girl. At the Church we sat in the choir seats after the flowers were arranged in the front of the chapel. After the funeral, we were supposed to carry the flowers to our cars, and then to the cemetery. It was okay to start with, but part way through the funeral I felt overcome with grief. I could see Dad and Merrill and Donna below on the front seat. I just wanted to be with them, so I got up and went down. Dad understood and gave me a loving hug.

At first there was a lot of help for us from family and ward members. But gradually we were on our own. Merrill and I went back to school. When we were gone, Dad wold have to bundle Donna up and take her out with him to do the chores or feeding. Dad did the laundry and the cooking. He taught me how to make gravy and scramble eggs.

This had to be a sad, difficult time for Dad. He had lost a little son and a beloved wife in a few short years. His concern was for Donna, Merrill, and me. He could manage during the winter time, but what would he do when spring came and he needed to be in the fields? Sometimes he would be filled with grief and worry and the tears would flow. All three of us remember seeing our beloved father in tears and not knowing what we could do to comfort him. Each of us were left with such a feeling of tenderness for our father that lasted throughout his lifetime and we still feel it.

Dad was a tender, loving father. We always knew he loved us and was proud of us. I do not remember any time that Dad complained or found fault with the circumstances of his life. He loved and had faith in our Heavenly Father, and he prayed for strength and for a way to be found so that he could keep us together as a family. Some family members thought we should be split up -- Donna to one uncle and aunt, Merrill to another, and myself to another. Dad would not even consider this. I am thankful for this. One of the great joys in my life has been the closeness I've always felt with my sister and brother.

PLACE OF DEATH
County of Bonneville
City of Idaho Falls

STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
State File No. 101254

Registration District No. 73
Primary Registration District No. 2150
Local Regisrar's No. 232

OCT 7 1936 RECEIVED

No. L.D.S. Hospital
(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its name instead of street and number)

2. FULL NAME Hilda Elverda Tyler
(a) Residence No. Rigby #2 St.
(Usual place of abode) (If nonresident give city or town and state)
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred yrs. mos. ds. How long in U. S., if of foreign birth? yrs. mos. ds.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3. Sex: Female
4. Color or Race: White
5. Single, Married, Widowed or Divorced (write the word): Married
5a. If married, widowed, or divorced HUSBAND of (or) WIFE of: Charles Tyler
6. DATE OF BIRTH (month, day and year): May 5, 1903
7. AGE: Years 33 Months 6 Days 20 If LESS than 1 day ___ hrs. or ___ min.

OCCUPATION
8. Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, as spinner, sawyer, bookkeeper, etc.: Housewife
9. Industry or business in which work was done, as silk mill, saw mill, bank, etc.
10. Date deceased last worked at this occupation (mo. and yr.)
11. Total time (years) spent in this occupation

12. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country): Mt. Pleasant Utah

FATHER
13. NAME: John W. Anderson
14. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country): Mt. Pleasant Utah

MOTHER
15. MAIDEN NAME: Hilda Kolstrom
16. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country): Sweden

17. INFORMANT (Address): Charles Tyler Rigby R. F. 4 #2
18. BURIAL, CREMATION OR REMOVAL
Place: Iron, Idaho Date: Nov 30, 1936
19. UNDERTAKER (Address): Jack A. Ward Idaho Falls, Idaho
20. FILED: 11/30, 1936 [signature] Registrar.

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

21. DATE OF DEATH (month, day and year): Nov 25 1936
22. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Nov 19, 1936 to Nov 25, 1936
I last saw her alive on Nov 25, 1936; death is said to have occurred on the date stated above, at 5 P. m.
The principal cause of death and related causes of importance were as follows:

	Date of onset
Acute obstruction of ileum	11/25/36
Chronic obstruction pastral	11/19/36

Other contributory causes of importance:

Name of operation: None Date of
What test confirmed diagnosis? Was there an autopsy? yes
23. If death was due to exter'l causes (violence) fill in also the following:
Accident, suicide, or homicide? Date of injury, 193
Where did injury occur? (Specify city or town, county, and state)
Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in home, or in public place.
Manner of injury
Nature of injury
24. Was disease or injury in any way related to occupation of deceased? If so, specify
(Signed) H. O. Sweet M. D.
(Address) Idaho Falls Ida

State of Idaho.....)

County of Ada.....)

THIS IS TO CERTIFY That this is a photostatic copy of a certificate filed with the State Department of Health under Title 39, Idaho Code.

MAY 26 1961
Date Issued

W W Benson
State Registrar of Vital Statistics

Enter The Lovely Lady Who Cheered Up The Sad



Finding Help

With heavy heart Charles realized he could not manage the home, the farm, and the family by himself, especially with the coming of spring and the need to be out in the field.

Not knowing how he could pay for help in the midst of the crippling depression, he nevertheless felt prompted to look for a housekeeper. Naturally he first asked his relatives if they knew anyone who could help him.

Charles' own account was pretty brief: "I learned of a widow named Nora Moore Windsor, who came to keep house for me." Fortunately, Nora's account gave more detail.

Charles' nephew, Murray Tyler (John's boy), was a milk truck driver for Challenge Dairy, and naturally was acquainted with the farmers on his route. So it was that he knew Nora, the daughter of Willard C. Moore, a farmer who lived a mile out of Ririe. Nora had been widowed, re-married, and divorced. She was earning her way by milking cows for her dad.

Murray, being aware of Charles' situation, suggested to Charles that he might want to contact Nora to see if she would keep house for him and care for the children. This was about two months after Elverda died.

So it was that on January 20th, 1937, a letter arrived at the Moore's home. Nora recognized the name on the envelope and without reading the letter, told her dad: "That is Murray Tyler's uncle who lost his wife. If he wants a housekeeper, you can sell the cows."

Of course that was exactly what he wanted and needed. Whether or not the cows were sold or another milker hired, we don't know. We do know that arrangements were made and within a few weeks, Charles took Donna with him and drove to Shelton to pick up Nora.

Meeting The Children

Donna remembers the day, though perhaps not entirely the significance. The "lady" was pretty and kind, permitting the mother-hungry four year old to sit on her lap, dig in her purse, and put on her lipstick. It was an exceptionally hard winter and remembered also were the high banks of snow on each side of the road. They were nearly up to the tops of the telephone poles it seemed, making the trip almost enchanting, as though driving through a miles long tunnel.

Norma remembers well the day when Nora arrived in their home and in their lives. She and Merrill had pleaded to miss school and go along to pick up Nora. However, Charles would not permit them to miss school. Norma said they may as well have missed because they were so full of excitement and anticipation that no studies could be accomplished. They were too impatient to wait for the horse drawn sleigh that served as a school bus that winter, and walked and ran through the deep snow to get home as soon as possible.

Memories of all three children of this period are in short supply. It is reasonable to assume that they were still in a form of denial at the loss of their mother -- and had a reluctance to accept and love a replacement. Not only would it seem disloyal to their mother, probably, but very risky for themselves. To love again might mean to lose again.

Donna, the youngest, seemed the most eagerly accepting, sleeping with Nora from the first night and being the first to call her "Mother." But it was deceiving because Donna proved to be the most resentful, with mean feelings that took much of a lifetime to overcome. Norma was always too purely good of a person to harbor such resentments and Merrill always blessedly able to take things at face value and not dig below the surface.

Surely for everyone in the family, Nora took a little getting used to because she was -- different. Less genteel perhaps, inclined to be outspoken in ways that didn't always seem kind. However, it cannot be denied that there was more to be praised and admired than to be criticized. For this hurting little family, she was truly an angel of mercy. A good person who stepped in, filling a desperate need and making everyone's life better.

Making Her Own Place

It was so good to have a mother's presence in the house again. Nora just walked in and used what was there. From the beginning it seemed that she belonged. Norma and Merrill were almost afraid to go to school the next morning after she arrived, afraid she would vanish. That evening they again rushed home and Merrill breathlessly asked, "Is she still here?" With tears in her eyes Nora promised, "I'll always be here when you get home from school." And she always was.

Charles said, "When she walked into our house a great weight seemed to lift of my shoulders." We don't know what wages were agreed upon for Nora, but over the years she used to laugh over never having been paid anything at all but love. She was satisfied with her pay.

No doubt there were many adjustments for each member of the family, probably especially for Nora. But there were many pleasures. She knew an endless supply of rhymes and jingles. For Donna the tea parties were a special pleasure. Norma's heart was completely won over when Nora cut up her own lovely dress to make one for Norma for a special occasion.

Those were Depression years and Nora's know-how and innovative ways were great helps. She worked hard to prepare good meals and keep everyone and everything clean and well cared for. And best of all, Charles gradually stopped looking so sad. His teasing ways returned and once again his laughter was heard in the house.

Courtship & Marriage to Nora



Courtship And Marriage To Nora

An Unusual Courtship

Nora's presence had indeed "cheered up the sad and made someone feel glad." Four someones. Charles was deeply grateful for the help, and as might be expected, that gratitude grew to love as the weeks and months of joint effort on behalf of the family went by. Norma recalls that everything was perfectly proper and that a feeling of gladness settled upon the family.

The long winter crept by and in the spring Charles could plant the crops with peace of mind, knowing that his children were cared for.

What a healing force Nora was for the children and Charles, and they for her. Nora related that the love between her and Charles became more real as the days went by. She said she realized the great responsibility it would be to raise someone else's children, but she loved the children, and Charles, enough to take it on, trusting in God to help.

Charles wrote: "I recognized in Nora a woman who could assist me in raising you children and teaching you correctly. She had many traits like your mother's and they were near the same height and size. I have felt since the first day that your mother approved."

With the coming of summer came plans for marriage. Norma remembers being told of the marriage plans and not being surprised. She said, "we already felt like a family and we children already called her Mother. She brightened our lives and it was a joy to see Daddy smile and laugh again."

Once again the tease, Charles told the children he was going to Utah to bring them back a new mother. They immediately set up a howl saying they already had a mother and didn't want a new one. All was well when they figured out he was teasing.

Both Charles and Nora had happy memories from Logan, Utah, and they decided to go there to be married. They'd never had any time together without the children and they felt they needed that. Elverda's parents, though nowhere near recovered from the loss of their daughter, and not entirely approving of another marriage so soon, still agreed to have the children stay with them.

Marriage

Charles and Nora drove to Logan, where they were married on July 16, 1937, by the stake president there. Nora, having been sealed to her first husband (after his death, by proxy), could not marry Charles in the Temple. They had a brief, but happy honeymoon and then returned home to their family. They pickedthe children up immediately and all arrived home about 10 P.M. Saturday night. The next morning they attended Church together, a united and happy family.

Nora And Charles: Early Adjustments

Neither Charles nor Nora ever said so, but there must have been some difficult adjustments in their union. She came from a somewhat more earthy background and was liable to speak her mind in sometimes thoughtless and inconsiderate ways. Charles would not reciprocate in kind; it was strictly against his nature. We can only surmise that this must have been frustrating for both of them because disagreements could not be resolved. Nora used to say they'd never had a quarrel. Of course not -- Charles wouldn't. Whether or not that was admirable or regrettable, we're not sure.

Nora might use mild gutter language -- Charles didn't. This may have "bugged" them both in their own individual ways.

Charles had done enough traveling in the ten years before his first marriage to last him a lifetime. Nora longed to see more of the world. Home was just fine with him -- stay there or hurry back there. Nora said he'd just set his jaw and keep driving, avoiding all side trips that tempted Nora.

Their marriage began during the Depression, when survival was what it was all about. It took their united efforts to provide the family with the necessities. They worked closely in this endeavor.

They wished for a child of their own. Nora did conceive once but could not complete the pregnancy. This was a disappointment to both of them. But fortunately her deep longing for motherhood was mostly fulfilled when she took over the mothering of the Tyler children.

You would expect there would be disagreements in child-rearing philosophies that would trouble them, but it didn't seem to be the case. The children agree that for the most part Charles and Nora showed a pretty united front, just as Charles and Elverda had.

Nora Moore

1898-1984



Child



Age 21



Nora Annie Willard

Childhood

Nora wrote her own life story about 1977 and it is available for anyone who would like to read it and have a copy. Naturally it was used as source material for Charles' life story, providing many valuable details of their life together.

It seems fitting to include a few details of her early life here, in order to make this endeavor more complete.

Nora and her twin sister, Cora, were the 9th and 10th children of Annie Morgan and Willard C. Moore. Nora was the 2nd born of the twins and they were delivered by a midwife at their Shelton farm home. Unfortunately, Cora died after a few months and Nora spent the rest of her life not feeling quite complete.

She had many happy memories of growing up on the farm, the next to the youngest in their large family. She said: "Our home was a very happy home. Both my parents thought their children came first. We always had a nice clean bed to sleep in each night, plenty to eat, not fancy, but good. We always had warm clothes to wear. My parents were very strict about our dresses so sometimes we were not dressed like other children which made us feel self conscious and embarrassed."

Siblings

1. Joseph Edward - Got Diphtheria and died when only 16 months old.
2. Willard C. - Named for his father but called Wit -- because he was witty. He was her good friend all his life.
3. Annie Elizabeth - She was her father's pride and joy. She died two days before her 2nd birthday.
4. Ezra - He had curly hair and dark eyes. Was lively and mechanical.
5. Ira - A kind and loveable boy, and man.
6. John - Lived but one month.
7. Sarah Emma - Named for both her grandmothers. She was a kind and loveable sister who died when a young mother.
8. Cora - Nora's twin who died at 8 months of age of pneumonia and abscesses on her neck.
9. Nora
10. Jeannette Isabelle - They were close throughout their lives.

All preceded Nora in death.

Bill Ross

Nora fell in love with Bill Ross when she was 16 or 17. His family had been neighbors to the Moores when she and Cora were born and he had actually walked the floor with her when she was a baby, charming her with his whistling. His family moved away but when he came back to work on her father's farm, he soon charmed her again.

They married when she was 18, but once again disaster struck the one closest to her heart. The flu epidemic of 1918 claimed first her father-in-law and then her husband. She was a widow before her 21st birthday. Heartbroken, she returned home to her parents and went to work in the fields with her brothers, riding the mowing machine, piling hay and shocking grain.

Jack Windsor

Three years later Nora met and married Jack Windsor. She gave no details of their courtship and few of their marriage. He was alcoholic, unfaithful, and she suffered abuse at his hands. After several years of misery, she returned home to her parents. She said: "May the Lord bless me that I may forget the hours and days of tears this marriage gave me." She got a divorce and milked cows to make her way.

Charles

Nora first met Charles in late January, 1937 when he arranged to ride with his nephew, Murray, on his milk truck route so Murray could introduce them. Nora needed a job and Charles needed a housekeeper. In her life story Nora gave this little insight:

"In talking about my coming to work, Charles said his wife was a good cook. Well, he just about lost me right there but being so tired of milking cows, and so lonely, I decided to try it." He told her that Norma and Merrill would be cooperative but Donna had become a Daddy's girl since her mother died and might be a problem. Nora said, "I worried about this some, but I had always been real good around children and they seemed to enjoy being with me. I felt I could win her over."

Nora admitted later that actually she had fallen for Charles immediately. As far as she was concerned, it was love at first sight. But it would be a while before she could express those feelings.

It was probably early February when Nora went to work for Charles and it didn't take her long to endear herself to each member of the family. She was marvelous with children, knowing by heart all the nursery rhymes, songs and stories you could imagine. She had tea parties with Donna, serving catnip and spearmint tea and good homemade bread and butter to dunk. She sewed for Norma, modernizing her look, cuddled Merrill when he was sick with strep throat, and eased Charles' burdens in many, many ways.

Description

Nora was short, only about 5 foot, 2 inches tall, and had brown hair with an auburn tinge and hazel eyes. she kept herself well groomed and attractively dressed, and didn't put on extra weight until middle age. Her one extravagance most of her life was to have her hair done. For quite a while she wore it in an upsweep. When dressed up in high heels and with a hat, she looked very, very nice. We felt proud of her appearance and liked to be seen with her.

Personality

Nora wasn't likely to sing around the house but she often whistled. Generally her mood was pleasant. She loved a good story or joke and it was okay if it was a little on the seamy side.

Somewhat insecure, Nora hungered for approval. It was important that the sheets hanging on her clothesline be as white as those on the neighbor's line. The meals she cooked were very tasty, especially considering those hard times of many shortages. But she needed the compliments that fortunately Charles was generous with.

Nora was a hard worker who always carried her share of the load and more. She was able to put the needs of others ahead of her own and made no demands for things they cold not afford. It is still an amazement to the family that she was willing to wear and wear out Elverda's clothes rather than insisting on her own. She was frugal at a time when frugality was vital.

One of the sweetest things about Nora was her attitude about Elverda. She right away said she felt as though they were sisters, loving sisters, and that always seemed to be the way she felt. Insecurities she expressed in other areas didn't seem to extend to worrying about how she measured up with her predecessor in the family. She spoke about Elverda and helped to keep her memory alive with the children. Not having known Elverda personally, there wasn't a lot she could say, but she did try. It was like a breath of fresh air to the children, who couldn't feel free to speak about their mother to their father or grandparents.

There were some things, however, about Nora's personality that left the family bewildered. You were never quite sure how you stood with her and if you angered her, you might be pretty miserable for a while. And you never quite knew what would upset her. Once the Carnival came to town and naturally the children wanted to go. Nora didn't feel well but told them and Charles that she would be okay and to go ahead. Foolishly, they did. They were chastised for weeks to come because they were so uncaring as to go off and have a good time, leaving her alone and sick. She wouldn't remind you her birthday was coming but you'd best not forget it. Things like that. Normally considerate and kind, there were unexplainable moments when her comments were unkind. Unquestioning respect was insisted upon by both parents, so the hurts and resentments could not be expressed or repaired. Many, many years too late, it was learned that we handled it all wrong.

In the environment Nora came from, she would have been challenged. In the Tyler household, no one did that, perhaps losing her respect and giving her power that was easy to misuse. However, most of her qualities were admirable and there's no need to dwell on the negative except to acknowledge it.

Nora was dependable and kept to a routine. Meals were served on time, laundry was done on Mondays, ironing on Tuesdays, etc. She was industrious. She raised a big garden, sewed, quilted, canned, baked, did Church work, and seldom took leisure moments for herself.

One of Nora's endearing qualities was that she was appreciative. You liked giving her gifts or doing things for her because she appreciated it. Once Merrill and Donna found a live potted plant discarded at the cemetery next door. They gave it to Nora and she made them feel as though they had given her the best gift in the world. And that's the way she was -- whatever you might give her.

It was enjoyable to be around Nora. She carried on a good conversation and was interested in all the little details of your life. That was a very nice quality that perhaps we didn't appreciate enough until it was missing from our lives. Norma and Donna have each confessed how often they long to talk to Nora and share their lives and feelings with her.

Health

Nora's health was generally good but with some important exceptions. She could not bear children, though she wanted to very much. During her first marriage she lost a baby when about 7 months along. It was stillborn and she was alone and without medical attention for several days. Some permanent damage may have resulted.

While a young woman, Nora got a gum disease and had to have all her teeth pulled (but she never let anyone see her without her dentures). Her eyesight was good and she didn't need glasses until middle age.

There were many times when Nora didn't feel well but a specific cause was not known to us. One scary time she actually fainted -- her body went stiff and she fell over from a standing position. We never knew what caused it -- aren't even sure if she saw a doctor about it. Years later when she had an electrocardiogram, it showed that she had had an earlier heart attack. It must have been at one of those times when she was "under the weather" for a while. We really can't remember her having to stay in bed other than briefly when she had a bad cold.

One winter in Idaho Falls, Nora slipped on ice and broke her ankle. It was a very bad break, causing such swelling that it was several days before it could even be set. This laid her up for some time but with her walking cast she accomplished a great deal. She was no panty waist!

When in her late 40's, Nora told us she needed to move to a lower altitude for health reasons but we were still not aware of a specific health problem and perhaps we weren't entirely convinced the move was necessary for that reason.

Later in life Nora was troubled with the aches and pains of arthritis, though not actually crippled by it. She had cataract surgery and one day, without warning, had a blood vessel burst in her eye, blinding her completely in that eye in less that 5 minutes. Nora also suffered hearing loss in older age and was very frustrated at her inability to see and hear well. She seemed unable to adjust to those losses.

Additionally in her later years, Nora was troubled with high blood pressure, tremors, and congestive heart failure. She died less than a month short of her 86th birthday, a much loved mother and grandmother.

Talents and Favorite Things

Nora did some embroidery work that was lovely but she was more likely to crochet, at which she was quite skilled. She had trouble taking the pattern from written instructions, but could study a doily or child's dress and copy it just fine. She could make over clothing or make new clothing, without even a pattern, sometimes using ideas from dresses in catalogs or store windows. Donna was the greatest beneficiary of Nora's sewing skills, remembering cute pinafores and whirl-about dresses made from colorful fabrics.

The skill at which Nora most excelled was quilting. Her stitches were the tiniest and straightest of anyones and she was frequently the quilting chairman in Relief Society. She could, and sometimes did, piece patchwork quilts but she was far more likely to quilt a beautiful pattern on a solid color quilt. Her grandchildren have fond memories of playing underneath the quilts she had set up in the living room for quilting. And most of her grandchildren snuggled under satin baby quilts made by Nora. Many have survived and are treasured keepsakes.

Later in life, when Nora's eyesight had become so poor, she worked quite a bit in liquid embroidery, making many beautiful things. She had a good magnifying glass on a stand and it enabled her to see well enough to paint the pretty flowers, animals etc. It was quite tiring for her and she could only work for a little while at a time but she completed many sets of pillow cases, sheets with flowers clear across the top, table covers, and even pictures suitable for framing. It was a good outlet for her creative longings and when she could no longer do even that she became quite despondent.

Somehow you wouldn't have expected Nora to write poetry but she did, and quite well we think.. She really didn't get the credit she should have for a poem she wrote for the Tyler Reunion about Charles' parents and family. It gave more credit to the father than he customarily received, and told their story in an interesting and touching way. And the poem about her own heartaches prior to meeting Charles and joining his family is very poignant. Her infrequently written poems reveal a talent that was hardly noticed. We'll try to correct that at least a little bit by including one or two here.

Favorite things? Nora liked to read but was not a recreational reader. Rather she liked to study. She and Charles had a large library of L.D.S. reference books and she read for a greater understanding of the Gospel and to prepare for her Church callings. Crafts interested her and she would look through craft books for ideas.

Crossword puzzle solving was Nora's favorite pastime and she was very, very good at them. She knew all those strange little words peculiar to crossword puzzles. She also enjoyed jigsaw puzzles and was good at putting them together.

Nora also enjoyed music and had some favorite songs. She said her favorite hymn was "A Wintry Day, Descending to its Close." We know she loved "Lara's Theme" from Dr. Zchivago and "It's a Long Way to Tiperary." Early on she taught Donna to sing "Nobody's Darling But Mine," so it must have been a favorite too. It certainly became Donna's lifetime favorite, because it brought back such pleasant memories of time with Nora. She (Donna) was just delighted recently to find a recording of the song done by the Statler Brothers. Also, Nora loved watching the Lawrence Welk show on television and felt a personal interest in each of the performers. And game shows. Nora always enjoyed the game shows and very frequently knew the answers before the contestants did. Did we say Nora was bright? Well, she definitely was, even though she hadn't been privileged to go on to higher education.

Faith

The Moore family were faithful members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for several generations. Nora's activity may have waned somewhat during the years she was married to Jack Windsor, but she sprang back quickly afterwards. For the remainder of her life she continued in full activity, gave admirable service and received much spiritual strength.

From the very beginning of her marriage to Charles, Nora attended Church with the family and set a good example for the children. For years Nora taught the Blazer boys (9 year olds) in Primary and was very successful in that calling. She also served in the Primary presidency for several years, working very hard to help all the children progress. Later she and Charles served several years as stake missionaries and finally a 6 month full time mission in Georgia. While there she was the Relief Society president in addition to her missionary duties. She had serious health problems during this time but refused to let that stop her from succeeding in both responsibilities.

Relief Society was always important to Nora and she was an enthusiastic participant in all phases of it. For a year or two Nora taught Cultural Refinement in Relief Society, which required very serious study of great literature and great writers. Nora studied all month for her lesson and would spend a full day or more with Donna making posters and discussing the lesson. This was enjoyable for both of them. And of course the Homemaking Days were especially enjoyed by Nora for the social part of it as well as the quilting and working on crafts.

Love is the golden chain
That links our lives together
And if a link we never break
Our love will last forever

With Love,
Mrs Nora Tyler

Love Notes from Charles

Charles wrote to his children:

"Nora has loved you as her own and your own mother could not have done more for you... I love her dearly and know you do also. It has made her happy that you have called her Mother. It has also pleased me and I thank you. She has earned the distinction of being call Mother. She never expected or tried to take your mother's place; only to make a place in your hearts for herself. So if I should go before she, please be considerate and kind to her, for you will be the only ones she can turn to."

Nora and Charles, lived with Wilbur and Donna for 7 years while Charles was an invalid, receiving herself what care she needed. Norma and Merrill then gave her attention and tender care in the 2 years she lingered after Charles' death. Charles was right - they loved her also.

My Prayer Answered

By Nora Moore Tyler

As night pinned her curtain around me
And my daily work was through,
I stood alone, forgotten
By the one I thought was true.

My days had been so lonely
But night brought on despair.
Why must I stay and suffer:
Oh, My Lord, it isn't fair.

I cried out in anguish
The tears, they dimmed my eyes.
For I stood alone, forgotten
Where only the forgotten dies.

On my knees I asked my Father
To guide me through that night.
When I arose, I felt His presence
And I knew I was in His sight.

I prayed for home and husband,
Who from me would not stray
And cause me all these heartaches,
And with me always stay.

So in answer to my pleadings,
We drifted far apart
And in my heart there is no love,
For he who broke my heart.

And now my prayers are answered,
In a home where love abides.
I never stand alone, forgotten,
For he is always by my side.

I have my home and husband,
And children numbered three,
And I am loved and cherished,
As I had prayed to be.

May God grant me this privilege,
To live, and love and care
For those who make my life complete,
And at night my prayers to share.

Tyler Family History

By Nora Moore Tyler

In the little town of Huntington
Dwelled a family, Tyler was their name.
Honest, straight in all their dealings,
You always found them just the same.

Happy, smiling, and contented,
Until death came to their door.
And it took their father from them.
In tears, his absence they endured.

But their darling mother saw her calling
And their saddened hearts did cheer.
Always smiling, but never forgetting
The one she loved so dear.

Dan, the eldest son, came forward,
Tried his father's place to take.
Saying, "Our mother I will cherish,
And our family I'll never forsake.

But their trials and sorrows deepened
As they were called again to mourn.
Nathaniel was laid beside his father
On that cold, January morn.

And still the Master called again,
For one so sweet and fair.
Ruth and Mel then bowed in grief,
Their sorrow more than they could bear.

Soon, with God's divine guidance,
Zina started north to make her home.
There she settled with her children,
Praying they would never from her roam.

Hand in hand they worked together,
Brothers, sisters just the same.
To lighten this mother's burdens and
Overcoming each trial that came.

One by one the children parted,
For homes of their own to make,
Always thinking of their mother
And her constant guidance take.

Until one September morning
As the sun this earth did light.
It was then this darling mother
Left to take her angel flight.

Oh, the tears and sorrows came again,
As they missed their mother's love.
But they knew their father waited
In the heavenly home above.

God has blessed the Tyler family
In seeking out their kindred dead.
Their parents left such good examples
That no tears of regret were shed.

While speaking of this lovely mother
And her flight made unafraid,
Let us not forget the father
And the sacrifice he made.

For a mother alone can't mold you,
And all the sacrifices make.
Its takes a father's blessings
To help you all evil to forsake.

Daniel's health was always ailing,
But his smile was always there,
To guide his family onward
And their happiness to share.

His journey here was shortened,
As his Master called to him.
He was asked to leave his loved ones
As their eyes with tears were dim.

Hand in hand they're waiting
In their heavenly home above,
For you they dearly treasured,
To share with you their love.

It was through these loving parents
That some have found our mates.
We too will meet and greet them
As we enter heaven's gates.

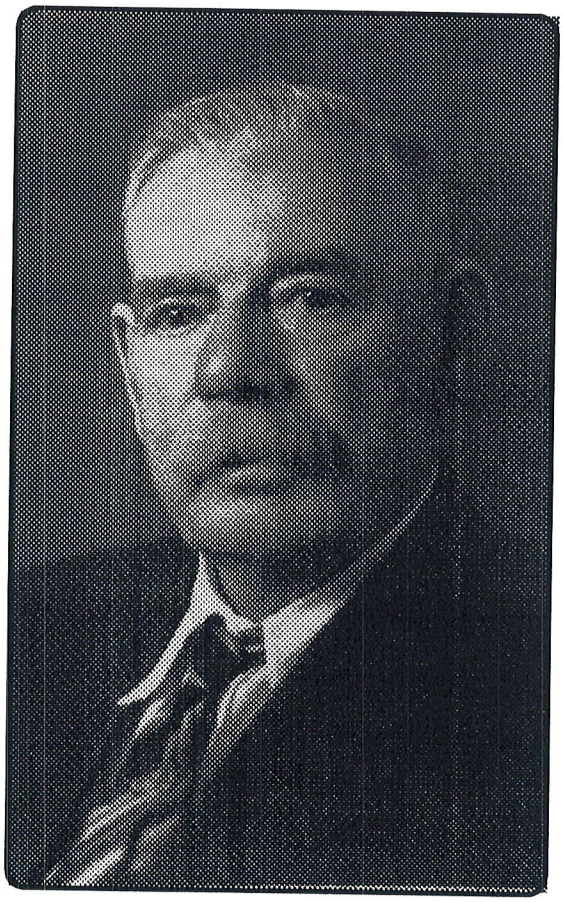
Life is such a short, short journey,
As down life's lane we go.
Let us be so very careful,
The kind of seeds we sow.

Let us not let Satan tempt us,
And our actions have to blame.
Let us all be chaste and honest
And thank God we bear the Tyler name.

In-Law Relations with the Moores



Annie Morgan



Willard Moore

Nora's parents and Charles had a close relationship. They were very happy for their daughter to be loved and appreciated by a good man. After Nora's first husband died she had had two marriages that were unfortunate and heartbreaking, so they rejoiced when Charles came into her life.

Annie and Willard were wonderful to Charles' children, taking them into their hearts and embracing them as their own. In the children's lives they were kind of a replacement for their Tyler grandparents, who they'd never known. They now had two sets of grandparents, as they were supposed to have.

Willard and Charles had a fine working relationship. Charles farmed his ranch for him for one season, and maybe two and Willard later often spoke of what a fine farmer Charles was.

Annie and Willard had several other children, but it speaks a lot that when they could no longer manage alone, they moved in with Charles and Nora. It was with them and under their loving care that the Moores lived out the remainder of their lives.

See Nora's Own Life Story in Her Own Words at the very End of this Book.

Charles, Nora, and Children 1936- 1947

The Year in Garfield

1937 - 1938

The summer Charles and Nora were married, the family had picnics in lovely places along the Snake River. Two pictures beside the river remain -- one with Merrill standing on Charles' shoulders and one with Nora on his shoulders. Since even a poor quality picture is supposed to be better than 1,000 words, here they are:





About a week after their marriage, Charles, Nora, and family joined some of Charles' brothers and sisters and families on a vacation to Yellowstone Park. Nora had some real challenges as a new mother, keeping Donna and Merrill out of the geysers and bubbling mud pots. Merrill got excited and started to run, nearly falling over a steep cliff into the Yellowstone River. Nora said her heart nearly stopped. As if that wasn't enough, a big bear walked into their tent one night. They were very still and quiet and he walked out again, to their great relief. Other than those instances, Nora said they sure enjoyed the trip.

The crops were not very good that fall, as was usually the case there because of the multitude of rocks. Knowing money would be short, they made a horse and wagon trip to Island Park to haul enough wood to provide fuel for the winter. Norma and Merrill missed out again because they had to go to school (you can tell that Charles valued education very highly). But Donna got to go. They left early in the morning and arrived home late the same night. A pretty remarkable accomplishment. Nora said the winter was long and they chopped that wood all winter long and were so glad to have it.

Nora's parents spent the Christmas of 1937 with them. They built a fire in the living room and were snug and warm. That may have been when plans were made for the Tylers to move to Shelton, near the Moores, in the spring.

That also must have been the Christmas of the practical joke. Nora retold it and laughed about it for the rest of her life. Norma was a very good sport about it, though it's hard to think she was truly amused. She was, after all, only ten years old. There was a great big, beautifully wrapped box with Norma's name on it. All of the children could hardly wait for Christmas day to see what it contained. Finally the day arrived and all watched excitedly as she tore the wrappings from it and opened the box. Inside was a dried up potato! Guess who didn't laugh and thought it was mean? Donna, of course.

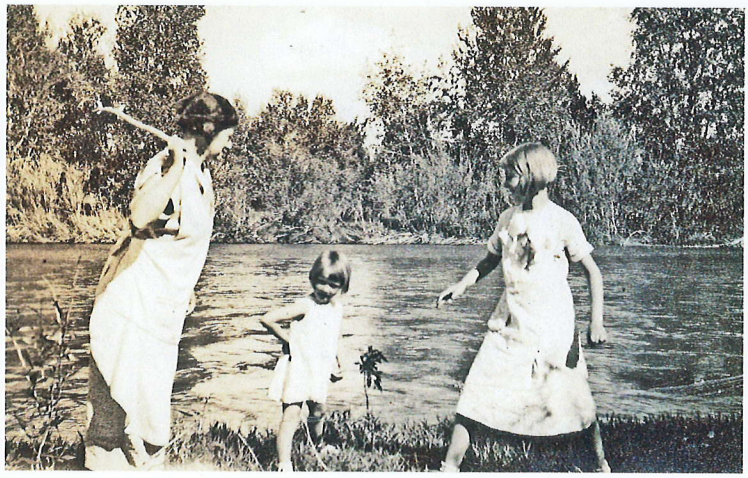
Log House in Shelton

1938 to 1939

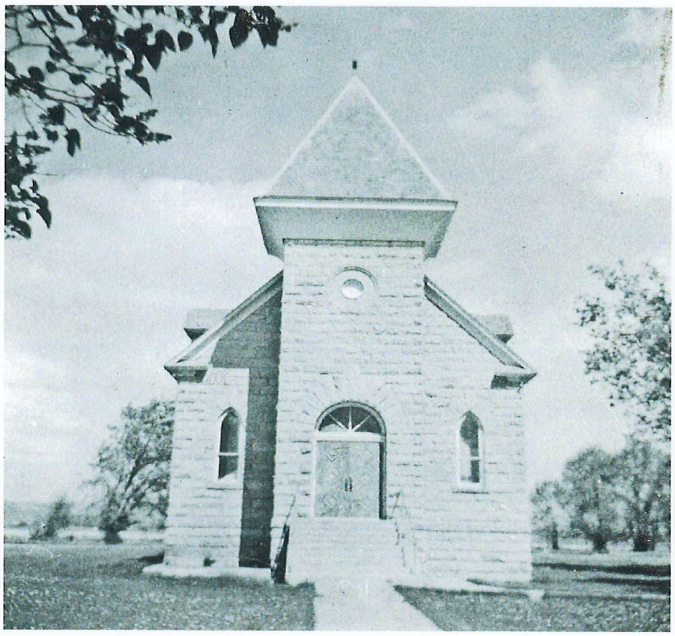
In the spring of 1938 Charles gladly gave up renting the rock-pile farm in Garfield and they moved to Shelton so Charles could farm Willard's land that year. They moved into the two room log cabin that was close to the cemetery. Actually the cemetery land had been part of Willard's farm at one time and he had donated it for the Ririe, Shelton Cemetery. The well cared for cemetery became a very nice playground for the children. Donna still loves to visit cemeteries and has done so all over the country. It began there, reading the tombstones, crying over the dead children, and trying hard never to step on a grave.

The log cabin had a kitchen in the back and a larger front room that served as bedroom and living room. The children slept in the house and Charles and Nora slept in a tent out in the orchard, a happy arrangement for all. Merrill had a small bed in the kitchen and Norma and Donna shared a double bed in the front room.

Shelton



Nora, Donna & Norma at the Picnic by the River
Summer 1936



Shelton Church



Shelton School

Nora helped in the fields and they hoped to finally prosper a bit. The beet and potato crops looked beautiful. However, not only the depression, but the weather, plotted against them. During the beet harvest it rained, making it difficult, but not impossible and they completed the beet harvest okay, expecting to begin the potatoes the next day. It froze that night and completely ruined the potato crop. They were barely able to pay their bills.

Such is the life of a farmer. Although he was a very good farmer, it had never paid off for Charles. We can't remember him saying so, but we suspect he was about fed up with it by this time, especially since he didn't have land of his own.

It may have been tough for the parents, but it was a great place for the kids. There was the cemetery, the Side Hill Ditch, the orchard, willows for whistles, mud for squishing, neighbor kids to play with, and grandparents nearby. Norma remembers making mud pies once (the mud was wonderful there, like clay) and using a real egg. She got a good scolding and didn't do that again. There was no running water, except in the ditch, and no bathroom, except in the willows, but still it seemed like heaven on earth. The Shelton years were very good years for the children.

All three children went to school that fall, in the two room Shelton School. The "little room" had grades one through four and the "big room" had grades five through eight. It was a bit of a walk, but no problem. Usually they cut through the fields and it was a scenic and enjoyable walk. In the winter they could almost sled all the way on the frozen Cleverly Ditch (or was it the Cleverly Canal?). However, the farmer's barbed wire fences that went right across the stream did present a problem to navigation. They didn't have warm shoes and often arrived with toes practically frozen. (Okay, Bliss kids, I hear you moaning and won't tell you that canvas shoe story again.)

The children weren't that aware of the financial difficulties. Little did they know that Charles and Nora were frantic over how to provide Christmas for them. They were very successful in their efforts, however, and it proved to be one of the more memorable Christmases for the children. Nora made clothes for Norma, dressed a broken but mended doll for Donna (oh, she was so beautiful in her yellow organdy dress -- Donna's all time favorite doll), and bought Tinker Toys for Merrill. Life seemed so happy that year, it's hard to believe they would have minded getting no gifts at all. But these gifts were special and very much loved and enjoyed. Norma reminded us that we actually got a Christmas tree after Christmas was over, but decorated and enjoyed it anyway.

With winter approaching, a tent was not going to be adequate for a bedroom for Charles and Nora. They borrowed a sheep camper (a covered wagon with bed, stove, table, etc.) and they were very cozy. The hard part was keeping the kids out of there! Misfortune awaited, however, when Nora tripped getting out of it one morning and broke her shoulder! She wore her arm in a sling for some time.

It had always been Charles' practice to get up first on winter mornings and start the fires and try to have the kitchen, at least, warm and inviting for the rest of the family when they got up. We probably didn't think to appreciate it as much as we should have.

The children had chores to do, of course. Merrill learned to chop wood while at the log house, and Donna helped carry it to the house. Sometimes Merrill and Donna would carry bushel baskets of chips to the house, each holding a wire handle. They could swing it back and forth and then up and over and never lose a chip. Water had to be carried from the ditch for laundry, cooking, drinking, and baths. This took some effort, especially in the winter when holes had to be chopped through the ice first. The wood/coal stove had a reservoir which heated quite a bit of water, and Nora also heated water in big, oval, laundry tubs. Our baths were in a big round tub, and no oftener than once a week.

Merrill has a couple of log house memories to add. One good, one bad. He remembers getting to be pulled on skis behind a horse, which was great fun. And he remembers some man offering him a bum lamb (guess that's a crippled lamb). He was shy and uncertain and refused it. Charles scolded him for that, saying he should have taken it. Oh, one more bad memory. Merrill carelessly burned Norma's arm and Charles was very angry. He made Merrill go get a willow to be spanked with. That was his one whipping.

We all remember stuffing cardboard in our shoes to cover the holes -- Charles did it too. It didn't seem like any big deal, just something you did. First you had to take a kitchen knife and scrape out the dried up mud that was inside them. You carefully cut out several layers of thin cardboard to fit your shoe, and slipped them in. This was just a Sunday and winter time activity for the children. In the summer they just went barefoot.

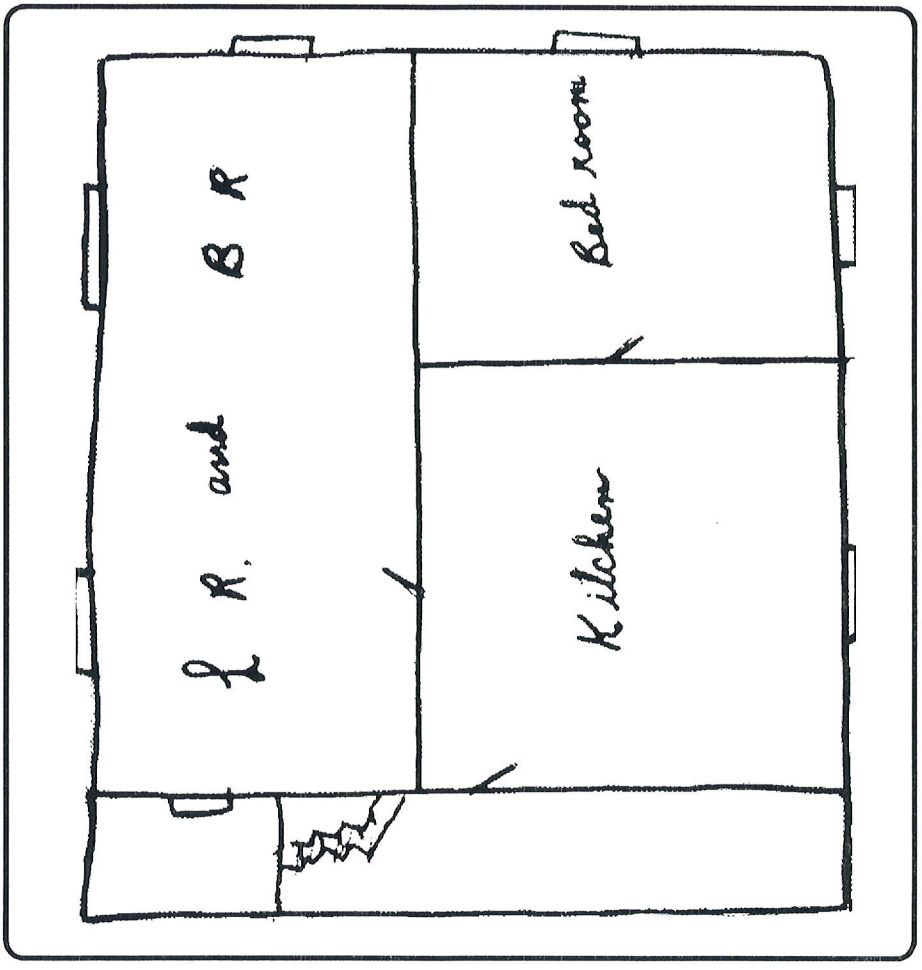
The family raised rabbits that winter at the log house, but they provided lunch for neighboring dogs instead of for the family. It was just as well, maybe, because the thought of eating those darling bunnies was not pleasant!

One more cemetery memory. If the children were out playing and a funeral procession came by, they were instructed to stop playing and stand quietly at attention until all the cars had passed by. It was a matter of showing respect for the deceased and their families. And of course there was to be no playing at the cemetery during a burial service.

The Basement House in Shelton,

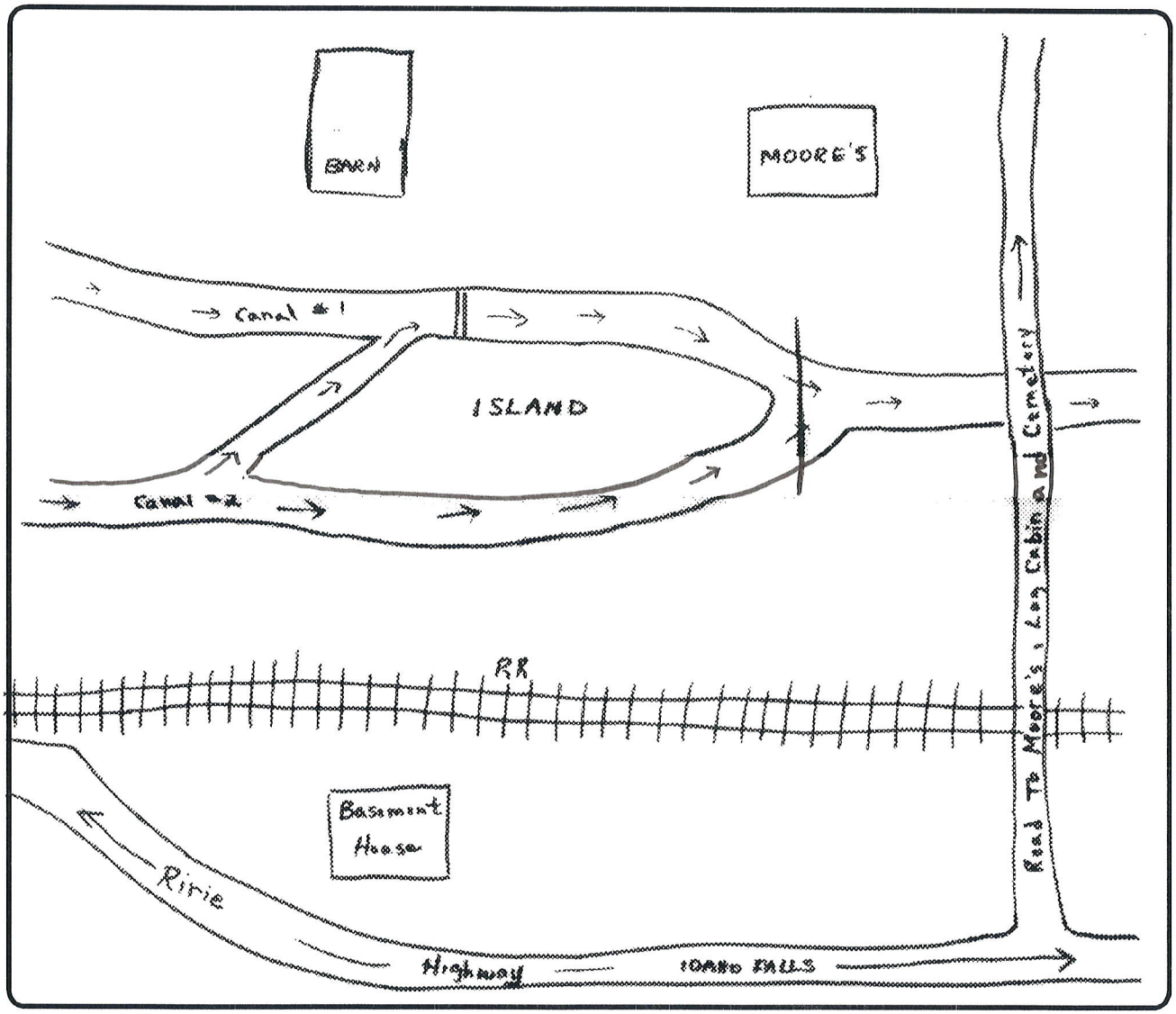
1939- 1940

Charles must have farmed for Willard again in 1940, but of course Willard had several sons of his own so it wasn't a permanent arrangement. That fall, Willard gave Nora part of her inheritance early in the form of 27 acres of land. They were thrilled to have a place of their own, and hurriedly built a basement house on the portion of the land that rested between the highway and the railroad tracks. This was the main highway between Idaho Falls and Yellowstone Park and was quite heavily traveled. The animals and farmland were all across the highway from their home.



Nora made this sketch of the Basement House

It's hard for the children to believe they only lived in the basement house a year. There are so many memories there that it seems longer. There were two bedrooms, a living room, and a kitchen. Norma and Donna shared the bedroom, so Merrill must have used the couch. Water had to be carried from the Cleverly Ditch, across the road, and as before, they drank from a community dipper kept in a bucket of water. After a while there was an outhouse complete with an old Montgomery Ward catalog. When you've done without for a while, an outhouse with two holes is a luxury.



The railroad tracks and irrigation canals are prominent in the memories of the children while living in the basement house. The water in the canals was swift, deep, and dangerous. They were main feeder canals, so in many ways they more resembled rivers. Two of them joined between the Tylers and the Moores, and naturally that most dangerous spot was where the children most liked to play. It was an enchanting place, with minnows swimming near the banks, fish jumping in the stream and water within careful reach. To fall into it though, would be to get swept away to a certain death.

The children were permitted to play there, but with strict warnings. Once Merrill was off playing with a neighbor boy without letting anyone know where he was. The frantic parents thought for sure he had fallen into the canal and was gone forever. Another scolding resulted the day Merrill and Donna sat on the narrow (4 to 6 inches wide) board that crossed right at the point the canals joined, and scooted across to the other side. Nora and Charles walked across that board regularly going back and forth to the Moores, but Donna and Merrill were forbidden to do so.

Norma, however, was trusted to cross on that narrow foot bridge. She herself felt less secure but risked it often when running errands between the two homes. One time she was carrying a wire potato basket that seemed to throw her balance off. She was really scared and tried to toss it ahead of her to the other shore. It didn't make it, but thankfully, Norma did.

Tom Sawyer had nothing on the Tyler children. They had an island too. Donna doesn't remember getting to go there but Norma and Merrill do. There was a swinging bridge to it from the Moore's barnyard. Sometimes the older children picnicked there and on occasion, even took blankets and slept over there. Moore "cousins" were often a part of these island adventures.

There was a car in Shelton but no one remembers it clearly. Mostly the family walked, sometimes even to Ririe. It seemed far but was really only a mile away. They walked to school and to the church for Primary. That was a two mile walk. Norma says the car was used on Sundays to go to Sunday School and Sacrament Meeting. Occasionally they drove to Rigby or Idaho Falls to shop and/or go to a movie.

The children weren't allowed to play on the flat, basement house roof, but Merrill and Donna enjoyed sitting there, leaning on the slanted stairway roof. They watched the cars going by and talked a lot. It was pleasant. The basement was made out of cinder blocks that were covered with an imitation brick covering. It provided some insulation but not enough. In the winter the house was very damp. Everyone got bad colds and Nora had pneumonia.

The farm's 27 acres wasn't large enough to provide a living for a family, so Charles also worked away from home for other farmers. The family helped out on the home place. Nora irrigated the potato, corn and alfalfa crops and everyone helped with the weeding. Donna's favorite memory of weeding potatoes was listening to Merrill copy the bird calls.

Merrill and Donna were always together -- herding cows, herding sheep -- setting the haystack on fire while playing with a magnifying glass, playing near the water, on the railroad tracks, searching the barrow pits for pop and beer bottles to redeem. Merrill even taught Donna to ride a bicycle while out herding cows. Charles pushed a stick in the ground and told them to come back with the cows, or sheep, when the shadow reached a certain spot -- their own sun dial. Together they lay on their backs watching the cloud formations or the lightening. Precious memories -- for Donna, at least, and hopefully for Merrill too.

Norma helped with household chores and spent a lot of time helping Nora's parents. Annie had become quite frail and needed someone to help with dinner and dishes. Frequently she stayed nights with them, as it would be dark when she finished up. She spent many a pleasant evening playing Rummy with Willard.

Charles bought a small tractor while at the basement house. It was called a Powerhorse and was steered with reins, of all things, rather than a steering wheel. Other than that, it was apretty neat little machine and he enjoyed it very much. He didn't love it as much as Maude and Nel, his work horses, though.

The family had goats that year and what a kick they were! The children got to bottle feed the little ones. Once the goats all got loose, crossed the road to the house and gleefully jumped in through the open windows and bounced all around on the beds and furniture before they could be chased out. Sheep and cows aren't nearly as much fun as that!

Norma remembers that the mailboxes for the little farming community were all at the corner of the road leading to the schoolhouse (did I tell you that the teachers, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, lived in the basement of the school?). The mailboxes were mounted on a wagon wheel that you turned to bring yours to the front. After school we returned home that way, rather than across the fields, to pick up the mail.

Other Shelton memories for the children include home made ice cream. Charles tried hard to keep some winter ice in order to have ice cream on the 4th of July. He burried it under lots of straw and sometimes it worked. Charles was very patriotic and July 4th was always an occasion for family picnics, fireworks and celebrations.

All three children became proficient at walking on top of the rails without losing their balance. Pennys put on the tracks would be flattened by the steam engines as they puffed and rumbled by. Once Donna and Merrill hammered pieces of wood in the crack where the rails were joined together and the section crew gave them a good lecture - saying they could have derailed the train.

That fall, after the crops were all harvested, Charles got work at the Blind Bull coal yard in Idaho Falls, which was a 16 mile drive one way -- too much for their old car. Therefore the parents decided to move to town and rent an apartment, at least for the winter.

And that was the end of country living!

Basement Apartment In Idaho Falls -"J" Street

Winter of 1940

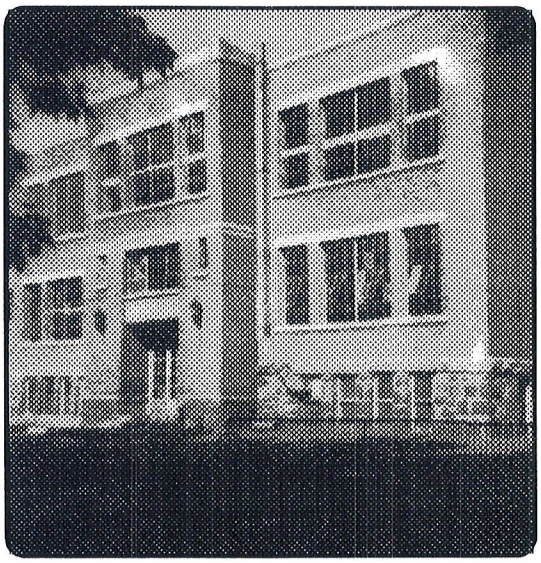
A basement apartment was found on J. Street in Idaho Falls and arrangements were made to move. It was not pleasant for the children because they loved it in Shelton, and it meant having Norma separated from them. She had started 9th grade in Ririe High School and Charles and Nora had her go to Shelley to stay with Nora's niece and family and go to school there. Nora said those two high schools were similar in their curriculum and it would be easier for Norma than transferring to Idaho Falls. Norma, at least, never questioned the reason. She earned her board and room by baby sitting and doing household chores.

The apartment was very small, having only one bedroom. The furnace room provided space for an additional bed. The apartment was very modern compared to what they were used to, with hot and cold running water, a full fledged bathroom and an electric stove.

For Charles and Nora life must have seemed much easier with a regular paycheck and regular hours. Frugality was still a requirement and Charles admonished the children to turn off the light when they left a room, and only to put an inch or two of water in the bathtub. That sure took the joy out of having a fancy bathroom!

They lived just a few blocks from the Snake River, so of course it was an attraction for Donna and Merrill. There were grassy parks along the shore, so it was pleasant there, but not like their own personal playground as the banks of the canals and ditches had been on the farm.

After the little two room country school, starting school in the big, two story Riverside Elementary School was traumatic for Donna and Merrill. Not a lot of pleasant memories there.



Donna would have just started 4th grade and Merrill 6th. At the beginning Donna clung to Merrill's hand during recesses and lunch hours. That was about the last thing he needed and it's a great tribute to his kindness that her permitted it at all. Not surprisingly, the playground bully began taunting Merrill, who was dressed differently in farm style overalls and had a little sister hanging on him. Merrill tried in vain to ignore him and avoid him but enough was enough and finally a fight began. Other children formed a ring around them to enjoy the excitement. Oh, glorious conclusion -- the bully got a bloody nose and skulked off (yes, skulked!). That was the turning point and things began to look up for the two out of place farm kids. That little sister was mighty proud of her big brother and gained a great admiration for his strength and skill that has not diminished to this day.

Norma was greatly missed and everyone looked eagerly forward to Christmas when she would visit. She packed a suitcase and took a bus from Shelley to Idaho Falls. Why no one met her at the bus station is uncertain, perhaps she hadn't been able to communicate her arrival time. She had to walk and it was freezing cold. Merrill and Donna saw her coming down the sidewalk and ran to meet her. She looked much more grown up than when they saw her last and they were so thrilled to see her. But she was crying and miserable. She had no gloves and her fingers holding the suitcase were frozen. Nora had her soak them in tepid water and it was several hours before she felt well enough to enjoy the visit.

Once again the family pretty much walked where they wanted to go unless it was to visit relatives out of town. The church and school were within a few blocks and even downtown Idaho Falls was only a few short blocks away.

House on "C" Street

1941

The basement apartment was just too small, and early in the spring, the family moved to a rented house across town on C Street. Donna and Merrill continued to attend Riverside School, although they should have changed to a different one nearer by. Norma stayed on in Shelley to complete the school year.

Everyone loved the house, as it was the nicest place they'd ever lived. There was a glassed in sun porch in the front of the house, right off the master bedroom. Many green plants flourished there and it was ever so pleasant. The kitchen had a dining nook in a bay window that gave a nice view of the back yard.

The biggest event at the C Street house was that the Moore grandparents came to stay. Willard brought Annie into town to visit and when he was ready to go, she refused to leave. She knew she just could not manage alone any longer and that Nora would take care of her. They were very welcome guests and Nora and Charles gladly gave up the lovely master bedroom to Annie and Willard. The green Hudson automobile that belonged to Willard seldom went back to the ranch again after that.

Town was still a reasonably short walk away and Saturday movie matinees became a regular pleasure for Merrill and Donna. The entrance fee was 11 cents, so a quarter would get them in, buy popcorn and candy, and probably still have enough left for a 5 cent hamburger on the way home. Those were the days! Westerns and serials were the common fare and you saw 2 full length movies, a cartoon, a newsreel and the serial episode, all for 11 cents. The projector broke down frequently but yelling at the projectionist was part of the fun.

That house was also a short distance from the subway that took the highway right under the railroad tracks. That's the one Charles helped build years earlier when they lived in Ucon. Often the children walked under there, unaware of its history in their family.

Norma was not home during the months the family lived on C Street. She must have worked on in Shelley for the summer months. But soon the family was to be united again.

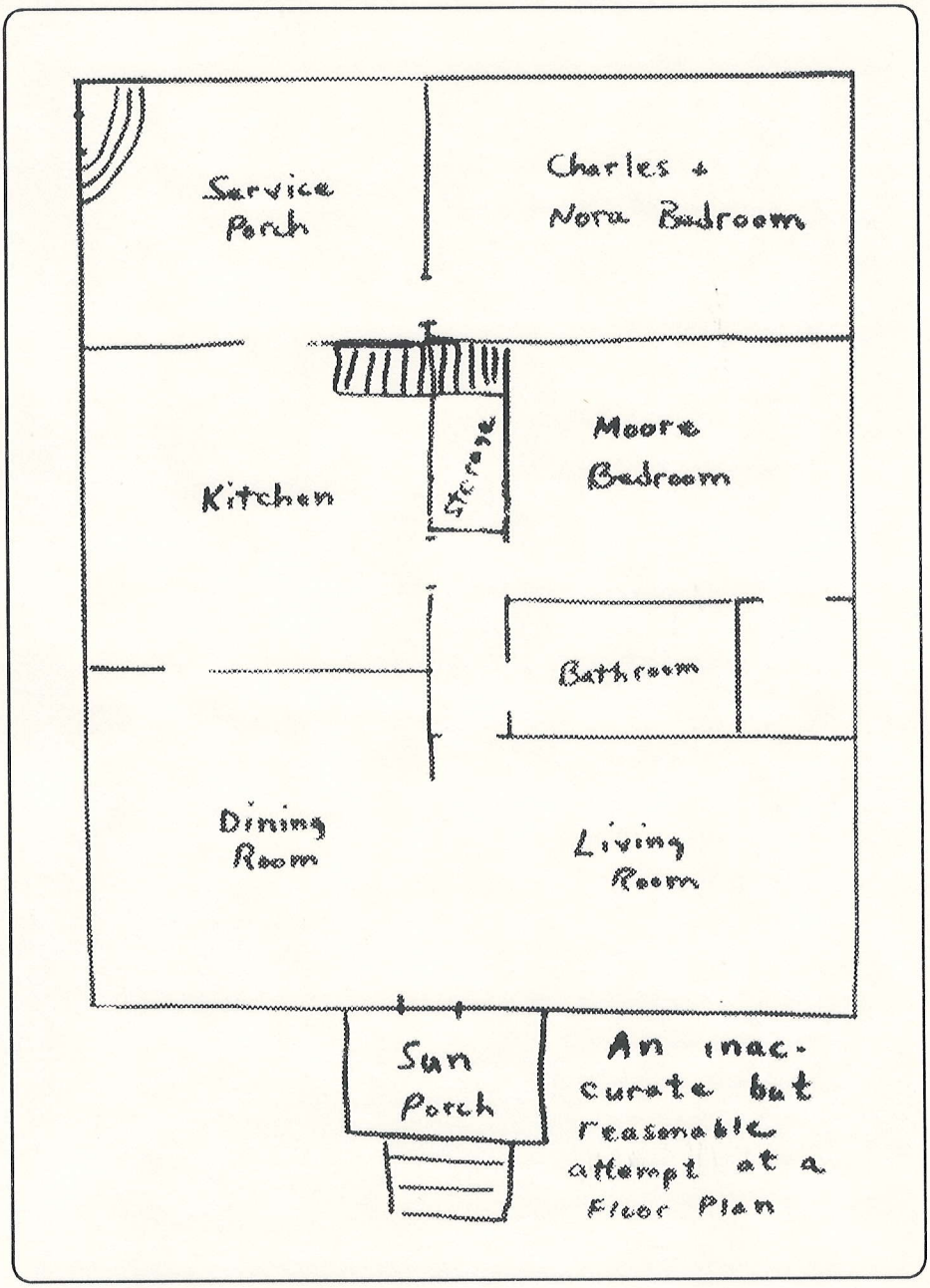
1585 Idaho Avenue

Summer 1941 to Summer 1947

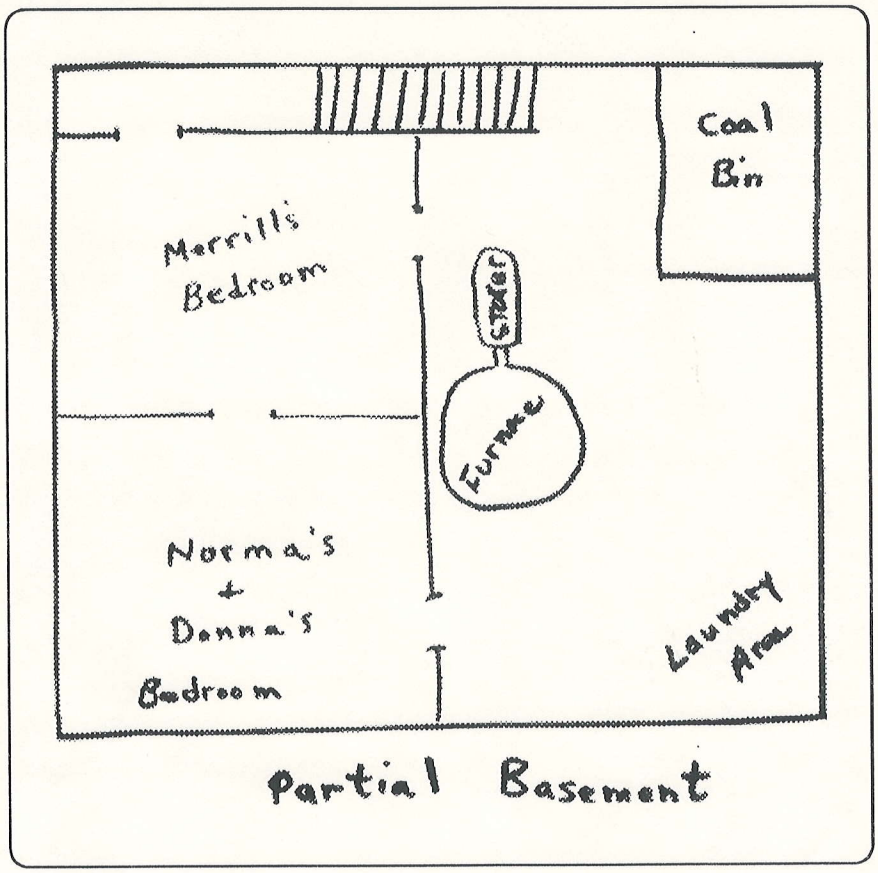
Nora stated in her life story that she was able to trade the 27 acres of land in Shelton for a white frame house on Idaho Avenue. We do not know if it was a straight across trade or if they owed a balance. Nora did remind periodically that the house was purchased with her inheritance.



The whole family loved the Idaho Ave. house and lived there longer than anywhere else. It was only a block away from the Church house and 4 or so short blocks to the elementary school and Sutton's neighborhood grocery store. Town and Jr. High and High School were farther, but still well within walking distance. Best of all, Norma came home and the family was once again complete.



The house had a single-car unattached garage, a fair sized back yard and nice flower beds beside the house. There was a beautiful red climbing rose in the front that provided hair decoration for Norma and Donna all the summers they were there.



They were always active in the Church, Nora serving in Primary, Mutual and Relief Society and Charles usually having positions in the Priesthood Quorums. Eventually they served together as stake missionaries.

Times were at their best when Charles and Nora began having a weekly date, going out to dinner together, and often to a movie. Charles bought Nora a set of rings including a diamond and she got a nice ring for him as well. When Nora decided she just had to have a fur coat (like Arlie Markowskie's), it was not impossible to fulfill her dream. Unfortunately she got it the winter before they moved to California where it was excess baggage.

There was a vacant lot next door where the Tylers raised a large garden which was a big asset to the family. The cow was another big help, though Merrill might disagree. He had to walk the 3/4 of a mile or so to feed and milk her and then carry the bucket of milk home. But Merrill-like, he didn't complain and fair weather or foul, did his duty. Donna usually tagged along but the responsibility was Merrill's alone. The milk, cream, and butter were wonderful. The buttermilk was not unappreciated either, at least by the grownups.

Sub-headings seem necessary to relate the Charles Tyler Family History during the years on Idaho Avenue since it covers a six year period of intense living.

Charles and Nora



Charles and Nora standing in front of the house. The sun porch is on the left. The flower bed behind them held the bleeding hearts, bachelor buttons and snap dragons. Nora's hair was in an upsweep.

For the most part the Idaho Avenue years were good years for Charles and Nora. Never completely free of financial concerns, things were comfortable in most ways. It was necessary for Charles to change jobs several times, but he was never without work for more than a few days at a time.

Nora's Parents

By the time the family moved to Idaho Avenue, Annie was pretty much bedridden. She lingered for quite a while though, cared for by Nora and loved by the whole family. She died in January of 1943.

After Annie's death Willard stayed on with the Tylers and never wore out his welcome. Towards the end his mind was a little confused in an endearing sort of way. One day he put on three hats and went out for a walk. His spirit was broken after his driving became erratic and Charles and Nora had to take his car keys away from him. He was a wonderful Grandpa to the children, always pleasant to be with and generous with his funds. He could always be counted on for movie or treat money and his green Hudson was at Charles' disposal. Willard died in April of 1946, never having gotten over losing Annie, to whom he had been married 63 years. He died in the Idaho Falls L.D.S. Hospital where Norma and Donna were born, where Elverda died, and where Nora received treatment for her broken ankle and waited 10 days for the swelling to go down enough to put it in a cast.

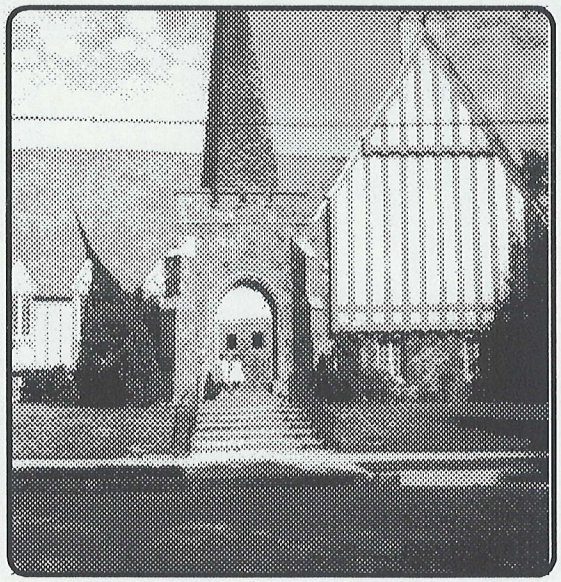


The hospital is pictured in the lower right hand corner of this picture postcard of Idaho Falls.

On the way to Shelton for Willard's funeral the Hudson broke down. The children were reminded of "Grandfather's Clock" and sang the song with revised lyrics, now forgotten, while they waited to be rescued. Life went on relentlessly, but the Grandpa-in-residence was sorely missed.

After her father died, Nora almost single handedly remodeled the house, knocking out the wall between Willard's bedroom and hers and Charles' room, making one generously large bedroom in place of two small ones.

Church



The beautiful Idaho Falls Fourth Ward Chapel was a short block away from the Tyler residence. On Sundays the family attended Sunday School at 10 A.M. and Sacrament Meeting at 7 P.M. During the week there were Primary or MIA and often a Ward Social. Much of daily life centered on the Church. The chapel had a beautiful mural depicting the scripture about the 5 wise and 5 foolish virgins. Although it wasn't realized until years later, that mural was meaningful and influential in the lives of the children (perhaps the adults as well).


LIGHT DIVINE



Idaho Falls Fourth Ward Primary about 1944.
Nora was a counselor in the presidency
and can be seen at the podium between two boys.
Note the mural so fondly remembered by the family.

Uncommon by today's standards, only one ward met in the meetinghouse, so there were no scheduling problems. The ward building did not have a baptismal font, but the Tabernacle did. Stake conferences were held in the Tabernacle, also an easy walk for the family. Merrill and Donna were baptized there, although they lived in Shelton at the time. Therefore the historic Idaho Falls Tabernacle was important in the lives of the Tylers.

Temple



The Idaho Falls L.D.S. Temple was built during the years the Tyler family lived in Idaho Falls. Many hours were spent sitting on the banks of the Snake River watching the beautiful edifice take shape. Remembered are the pre-dedication tour of the Temple and Temple Dedication Day. The Jr. High School offered excused absences to attend the dedication but you had to get it at the school the day of the dedication. It was a long, unnecessary walk and Charles and Nora decreed that Donna didn't have to go after it. Thus Donna played hookey for the first time ever, to attend the Temple dedication. It was a wonderful and memorable occasion.

World War II

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor obscured Donna's 9th birthday and the resulting war absorbed daily reality for years to come. Radios were brought to the classrooms and everyone listened fearfully as President Franklin Roosevelt declared war on Japan. Soon it seemed America was at war everywhere.

Patriotism was fierce and everyone did everything they could to further the war effort. Every spare (or not so spare) cent went to buy war bonds. You bought stamps at school and pasted them in a bond book until it was full and then you exchanged it for a bond. $18.75 bought a $25.00 bond (but you had to wait ten years to get $25.00 for it). The school celebrated when enough bonds had been purchased by students and faculty to buy a tank.

Rationing didn't seem to have much of an impact on the Tyler family. They had no car so gas and tire rationing were no problem. Because of the garden and the cow, food rationing was hardly felt. Extra sugar was allowed for those who did home canning so even the sugar bin was hardly ever empty.

Progress of the war was followed closely, both by reading the newspapers and listening to the radio. The Movietone Newsreels in the movie theaters gave reality to the seriousness of it all. The stars in the windows of homes with men and women in uniform touched the hearts, especially when the color of it indicated they were wounded or killed (there were red, blue and gold stars and we think gold was for those who were killed in action).

Girl and Boy Scouts, including Donna and Merrill, collected bacon fat and scrap metals for the war effort. School children learned all the Armed Forces songs, went to movies about the war and learned Geography in the most meaningful way possible. "Japs" and Germans were hated and Hitler was despised, mocked and made fun of. There were war posters everywhere warning that "Loose Lips Sink Ships" and other such slogans.

Charles was very disturbed about the war and followed developments closely. After all, he had fought the Germans in World War I (the war to end all wars) and had sailed to places once again involved in battles. President Roosevelt had his complete devotion and support (had he not eased the Depression and brought electricity to rural Idaho, including the Tyler farm?).

Like most Americans, the Tyler Family was ready to make any sacrifice to bring the world again to peace. Too old or too young to fight -- they watched and worried and worked -- and prayed. And finally it was over.

Family Life

There were difficult and confusing times but as the thoughts of Norma, Merrill and Donna turn back to the Idaho Avenue years they seem mostly pleasant. Norma was back with the family where she belonged and doing just fine in that "progressive" high school. Donna relished time with this most looked up to big sister. Especially fondly remembered are the times they washed dishes together, singing every song they knew.

Meals were always adequate and often delicious. Breakfast was almost always Germade, a cracked wheat hot cereal, undoubtedly very good for them. Bread and milk suppers were very common place but with home made bread and fresh milk, some radishes and green onions from the garden, they were great. When there was nothing else to eat Nora would make a dish called "lumpy dick." It was made with flour and milk and kind of resembled potato soup except instead of potatoes there were lumps made from the flour. Actually it was pretty good. On Sundays there was usually a chicken dinner. Nora made cakes and cookies and did a good job of keeping the family well fed.

Nora and Charles were also somewhat interested in physical fitness and from the beginning had encouraged the children to exercise, often joining them in toe touching exercises and the such. Sometimes the children were encouraged to run several times around the house before a meal.

Merrill and Donna still spent a lot of time together but in many ways he had outgrown her, spending time with the fellows. She also had friends and was less dependent on him for companionship. But they were together often at cow milking time, at the Saturday movie matinees and sometimes on his yard care jobs or when he helped the widows in the ward with wood and coal for their stoves or clearing the snow from their walks. Sometimes she helped him deliver his paper route when it was too icy to use the bicycle. At home there were many games of Rummy and Monopoly. Times were good but times were changing.

Norma graduated from High School and went to work for Hart's Bakery and then in Dr. Hatch's office. Merrill went away to Scout Summer Camps, had various jobs, as mentioned, and had little time to waste. Donna was pampered with tap and vocal lessons, but she too earned what she could, baby sitting (for 10 cents an hour) and doing housework after school for about the same amount per hour. Everyone's life seemed to be going in different directions except when all were together at home.

Home Sweet Home. Precious Memories.

Spud Vacation

Idaho is a potato growing state, and especially during World War II, all available hands were needed to harvest the potato crop. Therefore, during most of the month of October, schools closed for Spud Vacation and everyone old enough went to the fields to pick potatoes. It was a back breaking job, but the money earned was very helpful. The Tyler children participated in this activity during the Idaho Falls years.

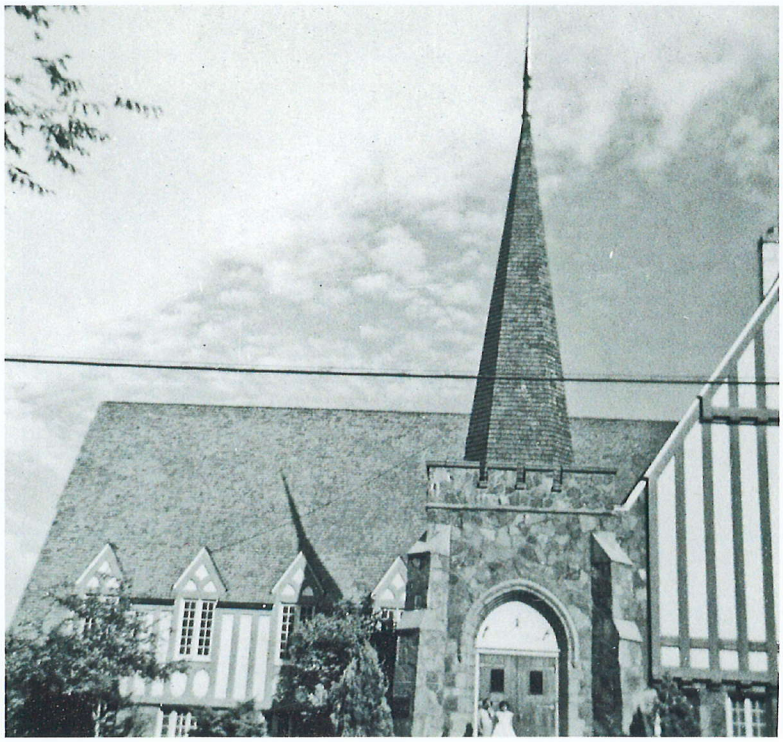


Pickers worked in pairs and a partner your own age was best because you were more likely to work at the same speed. The farmers had already plowed the fields, exposing the potatoes, and dropped gunny sacks every little way. Partners working separate rows, side by side, filled the wire baskets and then helped each other dump them into a sack and worked quickly on. Some rows were very, very, long and you thought your back would break before you got to the end, or you'd die of thirst. Usually you froze in the mornings and roasted in the afternoons. The cloth gloves you bought yourself wore out quickly. The pay was about two cents a basket but by the end of the month, if you worked hard, could amount to something. Machines now do the work and the kids stay in school (too bad).

Idaho Falls



Merrill and almost Donna



L.D.S. 4th Ward Chapel
Where we attended church.



Temple.
L. D. S.
Hospital
(now gone)
and the
Falls

Charles' Jobs in Idaho Falls

1. Charles worked for the Blind Bull Coal Company from the fall of 1940 until March of 1941. It was a dirty job and the coal dust apparently irritated his skin. He broke out in terribly painful boils on his back and buttocks. Not one or two but a dozen or more, and they didn't heal up quickly.

2. During the summer of 1941 Charles worked for a Mr. Epstein, a beekeeper. He came through the experience mostly unstung.

3. Nora stated in her life story that Charles then worked briefly for the city of Idaho Falls. The children do not remember it and thus cannot say what his duties were. It would have been the fall of 1941.

4. The time period here is uncertain but it appears likely that Charles then worked as a salesman for the Jewel Tea Company. His district was large enough that he would sometimes be away from home for a few days at a time. The company furnished him with a nice panel truck filled with spices, pudding mixes, dishes and various other supplies. Once he came home late at night and the family, not expecting him, had locked the house up tight and gone to bed. He couldn't get in, couldn't rouse anyone, and thus spent the night sitting in the truck. A good guess would be that Charles worked for the Jewel Tea company during 1942 and 1943.

5. The Pacific Fruit Express (P.F.E.) (Railroad) was hiring men to clean and repair cars for potato shipping and provided employment for Charles for two or three winters, possibly from 1943 to 1946 -- maybe even in 1947. Apparently this was a winter job and he filled in with other jobs. Once he pulled one of his practical jokes on the other men that brought him laughter for years to come.

He told the boss he was going to crawl into one of the railroad cars and lay there like he was dead. The boss went along with it and when the crew came along to clean the car, they opened the door and saw a "dead" man lying there. Running out, they hollered "We've got a dead man here!" Everyone rushed to the car to see and then proceeded to remove the body. Instead they found Charles -- very much alive and laughing his head off. They didn't all find it as humorous as he did.

6. During one lull at the P.F.E., Charles worked at the potato dehydrating plant (late summer of 1946). It was a new industry then and the dehydrated potatoes were like curly, hard, thick, short noodles. They had to soak quite a while to reconstitute them but then they tasted just fine. They preserved the potatoes, but convenient they were not.

7. Charles worked for the Fielding Memorial Cemetery as a grounds keeper from 1945 to 1947. He must have worked part of the time for the P.F.E. during the same time period during the winter months. They let him use the cemetery pick-up truck to get back and forth to work and Merrill remembers having his first driving lessons behind the wheel of that vehicle.

The landscape gardening Charles did at the cemetery was good training for later on in California when he would become a professional landscape gardener. His love for plants and flowers made this a natural and enjoyable occupation, at which he was very skilled.

Kaye



Charles wrote this caption on the back of the above photograph:
"Sweet little Kaye Holmes, Nora and I cared for in Idaho Falls while her mother taught school, 2 years. She is now married - 1962."

Charles and Nora both adored Kaye and found such pleasure at having her in their home. Nora made the beautiful satin dress she is wearing in the picture. Note the embroidery at the top and bottom and the French knots around the collar and sleeves. Myrtle Holmes, her mother, taught music in the Ucon High School. Donna did house cleaning for her in exchange for vocal lessons.

Recreation and Vacations

Vacations were mostly non-existent but no one felt particularly deprived. After all, it was mostly war time while they lived there and hardly anyone was going on vacations. One family trip is remembered but it must have been while Norma was working because she wasn't along. Willard, Nora's father, Charles, Nora, Merrill and Donna traveled to Logan Canyon in Willard's Hudson. They took a tent and food and had a wonderful time. There were stops at Lava Hot Springs and Soda Springs on the way, and Logan Canyon was beautiful. That may have been in 1944.

In June of 1946 Nora and Charles took a train trip to Salt Lake City, using the railroad passes he got working for the P.F.E. They had a great time, visited relatives, and Nora attended Primary Conference.

Spring of 1947 Charles and Nora, again using passes Charles earned at work, traveled to Long Beach, California and visited Marion and Cleo, Charles' brother just older than him, and his wife.

For recreation the family played table games, went to movies, and picnicked. Highland Park was a short distance from their home, with its grassy areas, playground, and rodeo stadium. Traffic to the rodeos streamed past their house, around the corner and down the hill to the park. The family never attended the rodeos (maybe once) but the children often slept outside in the summer and the lights of the returning cars gave flavor to the night.

Sledding and skating added pleasure to the winters but usually those were enjoyed only by Merrill and Donna. The others were just too old and too busy! Donna wanted figure skates, which she got the Christmas of 1946. Like Nora's fur coat -- they weren't of much use in California.

There were occasional drives to Ucon to visit the Andersen grandparents (when a car was available), and once in a while a drive to Shelley to visit Nora's sister, Jeanette. Jeanette and her husband Pete owned restaurants in Shelley and in West Yellowstone and she always had tasty treats to serve. She was kind of elegant. It was at her house that Donna learned 7-Up wasn't green. Until Jeanette served it in a glass with ice cubes, it had always been drunk from the bottle. It was at Peterson's restaurant in West Yellowstone that Merrill worked the summers of 1946 and 1947.

Norma On Her Own



Norma always seemed mature beyond her years. Possibly the little girl in her vanished when only 9 years old and her mother died. Because time with her seemed so fleeting, Merrill and Donna cherished every moment. She was always admired and looked up to by her younger siblings.

When only 14 years old, Norma lived and worked a year away from home, which made her seem all the more grown up when she came home. Always she seemed to be gone, studying, or working, and shared activities were far too few. A hunger for them continues even today.

Norma was an excellent student who wold love to have gone on to higher education. But it was so impossible that it was never even mentioned. After graduation she went to work right away at Hart's Bakery. It was not a small little bakery shop, but a large bakery that supplied the whole community with bread and other baked goods. Norma once nearly got fired when she unthinkingly bought a loaf of Wonder Bread at Sutton's Grocery Store and then walked right by the Hart's house with that loaf of Wonder Bread plainly visible in the top of her bag. Mrs. Hart saw her and was NOT pleased, and lectured Norma accordingly, much to her humiliation.

Shortly Norma was to get a more educational and better job, working in the office of Dr. Hatch, a very busy physician. She did well there and liked the work. But an even greater adventure awaited her when she applied for and got a government office job in the Idaho state capital of Boise. Suddenly she was gone from home again!

Norma was really on her own this time, far away from friends and family. Fortunately, Evelyn Andersen, her cousin on her mother's side,was working in Boise also and they were able to make connections and eventually share a room.

Donna made a memorable bus trip to visit Norma there and was, as always, impressed by and proud of her big sister's class. To say she was in awe of her is an understatement.

On Thanksgiving time in 1946 Norma went home to spend the holiday with the family. Through a friend she met the young man who was to steal her heart and share her life, Ralph Higley, of Firth, Idaho. She returned to Boise and a long distance romance ensued. She returned home in February of 1947 to be married.



Norma and Ralph were married on February 21, 1947 in the living room of the Tyler home. They made their first home on the Higley family farm in Firth.

Merrill,
The
Terrible Tease



Merrill certainly inherited his flather's playful ways. He loved to tease and there wasn't anyone around to tease except for Donna. She wasn't always a good sport about it but secretly she loved the attention from this much admired big brother. Beyond teasing, he was always so very kind to her. There are many fond memories, among the best of which was the story telling time.

Merrill had a teacher who read to the class the last 10 minutes of the hour. At night, after they were in bed in their separate but adjoining rooms, Merrill wold relate the day's episode to Donna. He was a superb story teller and held her spellbound with "Les Miserables" and "Lassie Come Home."

Once Merrill took Donna's cat to Scout Summer Camp with him. He and some of his Scout friends pitched a tent in the back yard and slept there the night before they were to leave. Early the next morning the tent and sleeping bags were rolled up and pitched in the bottom of a truck bed. Boys piled on top and rode to camp. Imagine their surprise a few hours later when a bedraggled but still alive cat emerged when they were setting up camp. They all had a nice vacation while Donna was mourning the loss of her pet.

Merrill willingly shouldered the many responsibilities given him as the only son in the family. He could be depended upon to be obedient, follow through, and do a good job -- whatever the assignment. Charles had him shovel snow and chop wood etc. for widows in the ward and he always seemed glad to perform those services. He was a cheerful boy and a hard worker.

Merrill was only 16 and 17 the summers he went to West Yellowstone to work in the Peterson's cafe. It was not the most safe and uplifting environment but he did not allow himself to be scarred by his experiences there.

Donna, the Pest



Norma and Merrill shouldered well the burdens of a little sister who was overly sensitive and always getting her feelings hurt. Looking back she wonders how they could have been so unfailingly kind and patient with her -- especially during the Idaho Falls years when they were nearly grown up and she remained so dependent on them.

They might well have resented her "baby of the family" position and privileges she got (usually because the struggle to survive was easing up) that they were denied. But to their credit, she never felt anything but loved and accepted by them. In spite of her favored position in the family, Donna felt fiercely protective of Norma and Merrill and secretly harbored and resented any injustices done to them -- forever and ever.

Donna had some vocal lessons and treasured the opportunity to sing in the award winning Jr. High School Choir. Often they sang at churches and once even on the radio. The choir traveled all over the southern part of Idaho to participate in choir competitions. Often they sang acapella and it was all very rewarding to her.

Donna loved the house and the years at 1585 Idaho Avenue -- the sights, the sounds, the smells. They were the best of times, but with the completion of 9th grade were about to end. Already Norma had left and soon they were all to leave.

Decision to Move to California

Nora had stayed put in one place about as long as she ever could and was itching to move on. It seems to have been the pattern of her whole life. She was having some health problems and thought that the elevation of the Rocky Mountains and the cold winters were partly responsible.

On the 1947 trip to Long Beach, California, Charles and Nora decided that would be a good place to live, found a house and put a deposit on it. The children were totally unprepared for the subsequent announcement that they would be moving to California in a month! It was not a welcome announcement by any means. Merrill had gone to West Yellowstone to work and wold not be returning to the home he left. Donna had realized some success and popularity in Jr. High School and was looking forward to starting High School in the fall. She had a boyfriend. Norma, though married, would miss her family.

The beloved Idaho Avenue house was put on the market and sold promptly. Everything had to be disposed of. The move was to be made by train, and the California house was fully furnished already. No furniture, no matter how treasured, could go, and very limited belongings. It was traumatic for Donna and must have been so to some extent to the parents as well (although it had been their choice).

Donna felt a responsibility to Merrill, in his absence, and tried hard to be sure the things he loved most were packed. She didn't feel a great deal of support in her effort and ended up carrying a box full of Scout odds and ends and books she assumed to be of importance to her brother. The box too was precious to her and about to be left behind. Charles had, at her request, made her a lock box, painted it white and painted her name on top in black paint. She had decided on the need for a lock box after having been scolded by Nora for things written in her diary. Also tucked into the box were other rescued mementoes of Charles' Navy days. Unfortunately it could not hold and she could not carry everything precious she would like to have salvaged. Heavy and awkward as it was, she carried that box with her, holding it on her lap or when possible, at her feet, all the way to California.

Charles must have been worried, leaving home and security to go to an unknown place with heavy obligations, including a sizeable house payment, and no job. But everything was in motion and he had to proceed.

In the middle of one June night, Charles, Nora, and a very unhappy Donna took a taxi to the train station and headed into the unknown. Donna tried to drink in and memorize every last sight of the home and town she held dear. There was no joyous anticipation, only sadness and fear.

The Idaho days were over.

Pony Express to California

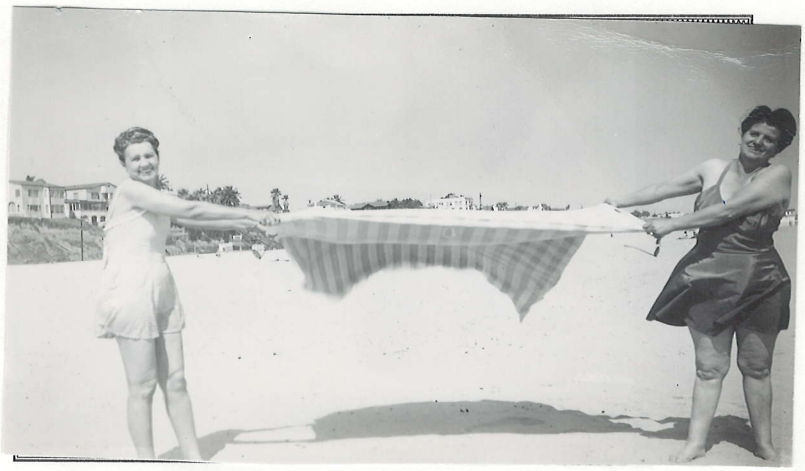
Nora's description of the trip to California in her life story seems quite adequate and will be quoted here:

"That was one hell of a trip. One thing that made it worse, we had a bawl baby on our hands. Donna didn't think she'd ever have another friend or feel at home again. We had to change trains in Salt Lake City (it had been a nice and comfortable train up until then). We didn't have time to get breakfast before the one for California pulled out. We got on the "Pony Express" (with an old, soon to be retired steam engine and no air conditioning in the passenger cars, thus the windows had to be opened). A dirtier, smokier, hotter train was never on the rails. Donna was sure a sorry sight when we got into Long Beach. What with her crying and the heat and the soot, -- she looked like a striped quadroon (look it up)."

Goodbye Idaho, Hello California!

The California Years Homes, Children, Etc. 1947-1980

Long Beach, California



Cleo and Nora on the beach in 1947

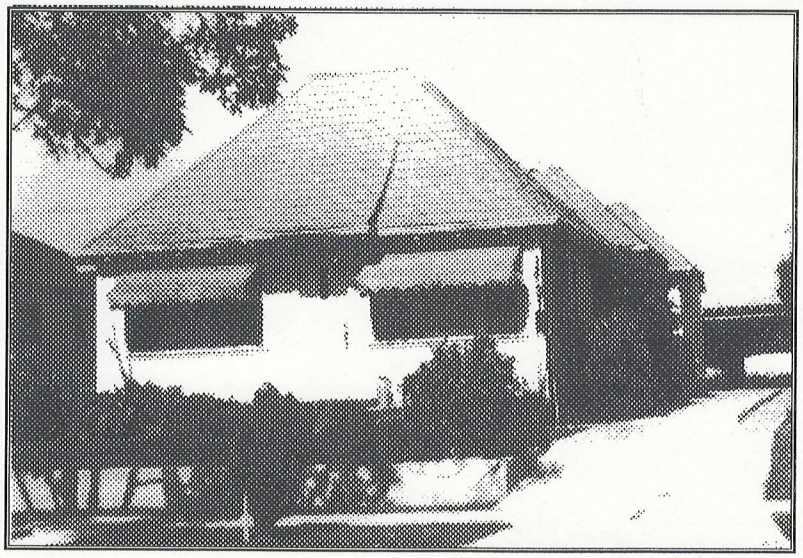


Charles, Donna, Merrill, and Bing
on front steps at 3030 Cedar Ave.



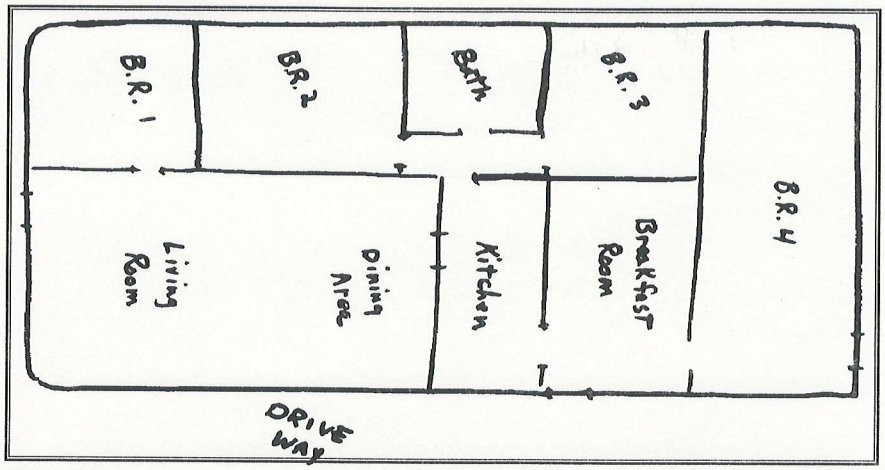
Nora, Merrill, Donna and Bing

3030 Cedar Ave.
Long Beach, California
1947 - 1949



This is the first house we lived in California. There was a pretty little white picket fence around the front yard then.

The house and furnishings on Cedar Avenue were beautiful -- beyond anyone's dreams. The bedrooms had large walk-in closets and every detail was perfect. There were four bedrooms in the main house and a two story guest house and garage on the back of the lot.



This rough sketch of the floor plan doesn't do it justice, but will at least give you an idea.

In Search of An Income

Charles' worst fears were realized when he could not find work. They couldn't go back -- they'd burned all their bridges behind them. Always in Idaho he'd had no trouble finding work. Things were different in California. He studied the Classified Ads and checked out everything he could get to on foot or by bus. Donna went with him to check out a job driving a taxi cab. It was a terrible and defeating experience, revealing to Donna for the first time the seriousness of the situation.

Never mind paying the bills, there was hardly any food in the house. Nora told about one neighbor giving her a squash from her garden and another neighbor gave her a fish. Fortunately it was a large ocean fish and Charles, Nora and Donna lived on squash and fish for a few days.

Charles got acquainted with a neighbor across the street who was a landscape gardener. They had a lot in common and Mr. Conrad took a liking to Charles and hired him to dig out a tree for $20.00. He then encouraged him to start his own gardening and landscape business and offered to help him get started by turning over a few of his jobs to him. Not having any other possibilities, Charles decided to go for it. First he had to get a vehicle and gardening equipment. We don't know the details of how he made those purchases, but he managed.

Charles bought a big old yellow 1939, four door Oldsmobile, with plenty of power to pull the trailer filled with equipment. He enjoyed the work and in every spare minute studied his gardening books to increase his knowledge about it. Naturally his clients liked him and recommended him to their friends and he was thus able to support his family.

Phone 204-435

CHARLES TYLER
LANDSCAPE GARDNER

5026 WALNUT AVE. LONG BEACH 7, CALIF.

Meanwhile Nora took in boarders to help out. This brought about some "musical rooms." Donna started out in room #1, Nora and Charles in room #2. An elderly lady came and rented room #2. Donna moved to room #3 and Nora and Charles took room #1. A teenage boy moved into room #4. He was the same age as Merrill and would share the room with Merrill when he finished up for the summer in West Yellowstone (poor Merrill). One of the garage rooms was rented to a man probably in his 30's. So financially Charles and Nora were making it, but not without a lot of work and worry.

During this first summer, Nora's brother Willard died and Nora went back to Idaho for a week or so. I believe she actually returned back with Merrill. Donna was left to cook for Charles and one boarder. She remembers it as a terrible and terrifying experience. Not only did she not really know how to cook, there was very little to cook with. Fortunately the boarder stuck it out but ate away from home a good share of that time.

Even Church Attendance Was Different In California

Long Beach First Ward was renting space in the large Masonic Temple in 1947. Attending there was nothing like attending Church had been in Idaho Falls. However, the fellowship, beliefs, and meetings were the same and Church provided the bridge that made the and different life in California mostly okay.

Charles and Nora were soon serving again as stake missionaries. Nora was busy also in Relief Society and Charles in the Priesthood Quorums. The Church youth group must have been the best in the world and was invaluable to Donna, and soon to Merrill as well.

Unique in the lives of the Tylers, they were able to participate in the building of the new Long Beach First Ward Meetinghouse. Both Charles and Nora put in many hours. The stake missionaries provided a meal once a week for the 20 or more builders and Charles also did carpentry work. A few years later he helped build the Long Beach Stake Center, at which time and place this photo was taken of him working on the roof. His caption read: "Ouch, my back!"



Children

Merrill finally arrived in California after finishing his summer of work in West Yellowstone. He arrived with a heavy suitcase filled with huge potatoes, each the size of a man's shoe, and some silver dollars, both of which were a novelty in California.

Polytechnic High School, where Merrill and Donna attended school the fall of 1947, was very much like a college campus, a real change from the smaller Idaho schools. Donna would like to have asked him to hold her hand again as he had when they went from the country school to Idaho Falls, but refrained. The Church youth group joined together on the grass during lunch breaks and activities, making the experience much less painful. Merrill completed his senior year and Donna the 10th grade. Each made good friends among the Church group, and for that matter, each fell in love.

Norma and Ralph harvested their crops, turned the farm over to Ralph's brothers, and made their way to California to make their home. That made California seem lots more beautiful to Charles, Nora, Merrill and Donna. They stayed a short while at 3030 Cedar Ave. and then bought a trailer home just a few blocks away. Ralph found work and they settled in to California living, and waited for their first born to arrive.

Donna and Wilbur Bliss had attended all Church and school functions together that school year and by summer had become very serious -- too serious for their tender ages. The needed words of counsel really weren't offered. Charles had pretty much left things up to Nora and Nora was anxious to be finished raising this family. Wilbur's mother also was ready to be finished and Wilbur was to go to Washington State to make his home with his father year round. Refusing to be separated, Wilbur and Donna were married in a lovely home wedding on Charles and Nora's 11th wedding anniversary, July 16, 1948.



Merrill was Wilbur's best man
and
Dorothy (Wilbur's sister) was Donna's maid of honor.

The garage rooms at 3030 Cedar Avenue provided a first home for Wilbur and Donna. Thanks to Merrill, Wilbur found work at the Masonic Temple (it was offered to Merrill first). In a few months they were able to buy a small house trailer in a neighboring park to the one Norma and Ralph lived in. It gave Norma and Donna a chance for some wonderful time together.



Charles and Nora on their 11th Wedding Aniversary

The First Grandchild

On October 11th, 1948, a whole new phase of life began for Charles and Nora, when Veda Joy Higley, their first grandchild, was born. This new role suited them just fine. Additional grandchildren came along pretty regularly and a later chapter will give more details.

Merrill

The winter of 1949, Merrill got engaged to Zada Price, one of the Church group. The following summer he went to West Yellowstone to work in the Peterson's (Nora's sister) cafe again and fortunately the separation did not make their hearts grow fonder. They broke their engagement upon his return.

The house on Cedar avenue was sold and Charles and Nora bought a smaller house in North Long Beach.

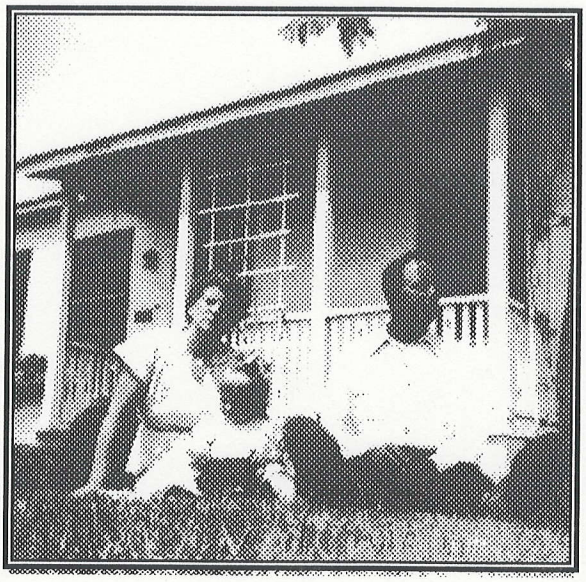


5026 Walnut Ave. North Long Beach

1949-1956

The house on Walnut Avenue only had two bedrooms and no dining room, but it was adequate for Charles and Nora's needs. Merrill was the only child living at home. It had a larger yard than the one on Cedar, allowing both Charles and Nora more of the gardening opportunities that they both enjoyed.

When Merrill came home from West Yellowstone the fall of 1949, he and Charles went together to buy a new car -- a Nash. This permitted Merrill to date in style and soon he was dating Ilene Hughes. They had Idaho in common as she was from Malad, Idaho, and only visiting in California for the school year.



Nora, Charles and Veda

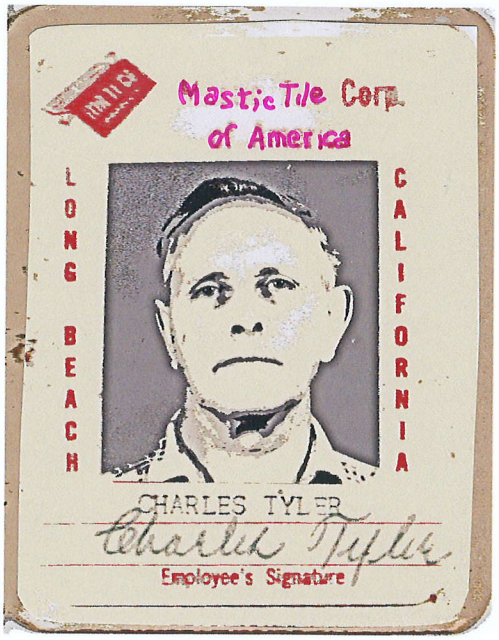
Job Changes

Sunnyside Cemetery

About this time Charles gave up being in business for himself and went to work for Sunnyside Cemetery and Mausoleum in North Long Beach. It was close to home, but didn't prove to be as enjoyable as working for the Fielding Memorial Cemetery in Idaho Falls had been. There he was mostly gardening but at Sunnyside he was mostly digging graves. He was in his late 50's and the work was pretty hard on him. Besides that, the sandy soil had a habit of caving in. One time he was quite badly injured in a cave-in and his partner's leg was broken. Charles said that while there he irrigated, dug graves and cleaned marble.

Mastic Tile

A couple of years of digging graves in the California heat was enough and when the opportunity came to work for the Mastic Tile Co., Charles took it. He was very grateful to them for giving him such good employment. He worked for them over 10 years, giving them great loyalty and dependability. Once when the union called a strike, Charles refused to be part of it and, ignoring the angry taunts of "Scab!" crossed the picket lines and went to work. Most of those years he worked nights and never missed. The family worried when he insisted on going to work even when sick but he would not be dissuaded.



Information given on back:

Age	-	***65***
Height	-	***5'11"***
Weight	-	***170***
Hair	-	***Gray***
Eyes	-	***Blue***

*Charles had brown eyes but they faded

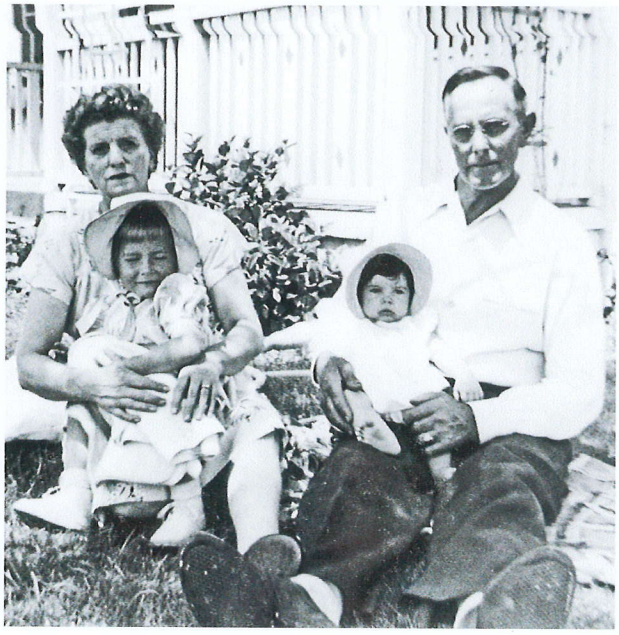


Weekly Visits From "The Sisters"



Norma and Donna at 5026 Walnut Ave. with Veda & Andrea

For most of 1949, Norma and Donna, living in adjacent trailer parks, took baby Veda on the bus to North Long Beach and spent a day a week with Charles and Nora. Charles was working swing shift and so was home to enjoy the visits. Those visits were special to all of them. The two sisters were finally getting some real quality time together and Donna was learning some tips on mothering she would be needing shortly (Andrea was born on February 16, 1950).



Charles and Nora with their first grandchildren

Television

In the early 1950's television antennas were popping up on rooftops everywhere. The first family in a neighborhood with a television could count of lots of company. Darkened living rooms would be crowded with people sitting on the floor or anywhere, to watch anything that happened to be on (usually Milton Berle, Wrestling, or Howdy Doody).

Wilbur worked for an appliance delivery and service company and was soon able to get a TV set for Charles and Nora. It had a 7 inch screen with a glass magnifying bubble to set in front of it to magnify the picture. Like the rest of the world, they were enthralled. Nora was especially enthused about wrestling and didn't want to believe it might not always be on the up and up. One New Year's Day, Jeanette and Pete (Nora's sister and husband) were visiting and they were all thrilled with the small black and white pictures of the Rose Parade floats.

Merrill's Marriage

Merrill found his life's work when he took a job working in tile. Things were going well enough for him to think about getting married, which is exactly what he and Ilene did, on March 10, 1951. Charles and Nora drove with them to the Mesa, Arizona Temple (the Los Angeles Temple was not yet built) and then on to Idaho to her family and a reception there. So Charles and Nora were with them on their "honeymoon."



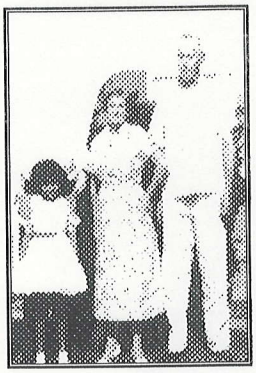
Not their wedding picture, but a
youthful picture of Merrill and Ilene.

With Merrill's marriage, Nora and Charles were living alone together for the first time since their marriage 15 years earlier.

SARAH

Nora didn't adjust very well to being alone in the evenings (the empty nest syndrome had set in) and was soon to find an unusual solution: another child to raise. The L.D.S. Indian Placement program was still in the future. Many Indian children were being educated away from their home and families in large boarding school. There were many bad influences there and the program was begun to bring L.D.S. Indian children into L.D.S. homes off the Reservation for the school year. Families were carefully screened and Indian children were better off than in the boarding schools. But that was to come later.

The Genoways, members of the same ward as Charles and Nora, had a young Indian boy in their home and Nora was drawn to the concept. The arrangement had been made privately. When Nora talked to Sister Genoway, she learned that Jerry Pete, the Indian boy, had a younger sister named Sarah and that their parents were willing for her to come to California. Arrangements were made and soon 5 year old Sarah had come to live with them. She was with them the year around, only going to the Reservation for brief visits with her family.



Sarah, Nora, Charles, about 1956

Was it a good idea? The jury is still out. For Sarah there were advantages and disadvantages. For Charles and Nora there were advantages and disadvantages. But they loved her very much and did the best they could for her. She loved them too and was accepted by all as part of the family. Sarah was to be with Charles and Nora seven years and then with the Blisses another 7 years. She became a licensed vocational nurse (LVN), married a Hualapai Indian boy (she's Navajo) and returned to Arizona. They are wonderful parents and have raised a large family. The families keep in touch and the relationship is cherished.





Charles' Birthday Tradition

Merrill and Ilene began their family with Dixie Lee, born December 27th, 1952. Each of the three Tyler children had thus started out with a girl and from then on had only boys. They were coming fast and furious during the 1950's and each one happily welcomed and embraced by Charles and Nora.

Charles' birthday was Christmas Eve and it became traditional for the whole family to join together on December 24th. These were wonderful gatherings that would continue for many years. By the time Charles and Nora's home could not accommodate the gatherings, Merrill and Ilene had built a beautiful and spacious home in Corona and they hosted the event. They were wonderful hosts and those evenings are dear in everyone's memories.

One time Ilene served a birthday cake for Charles and he said it was the only one he could remember having. Ouch! Could that be? Maybe so, with Christmas Eve for a birthday.





1937 1962

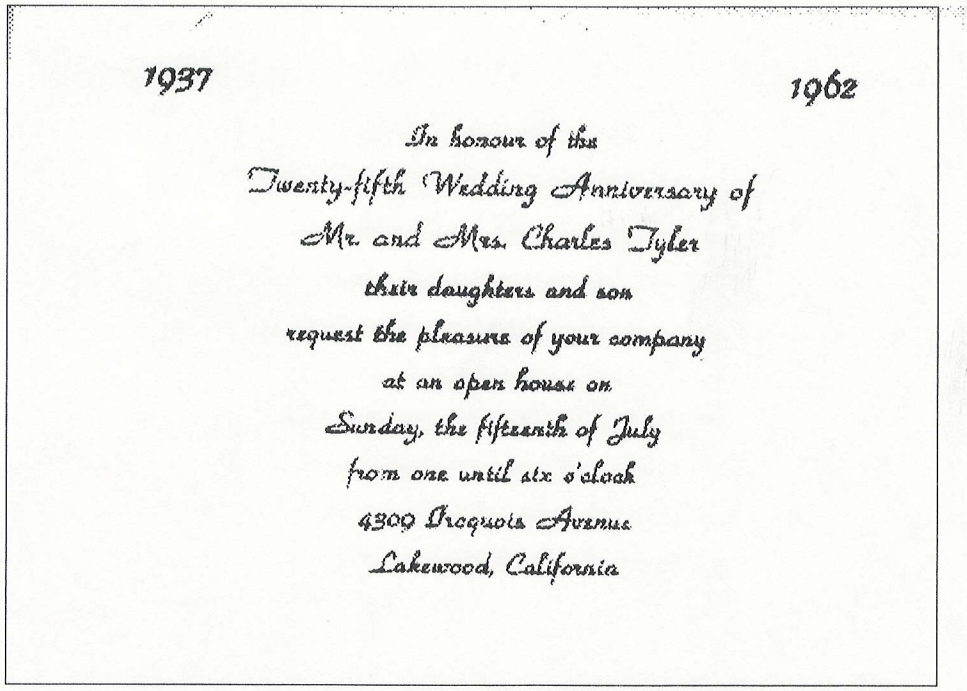
In honour of the
Twenty-fifth Wedding Anniversary of
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tyler
their daughters and son
request the pleasure of your company
at an open house on
Sunday, the fifteenth of July
from one until six o'clock
4309 Iroquois Avenue
Lakewood, California

4309 Iroquois, Lakewood, California 1956 - 1964

Charles stated in his life story that they bought another home in Lakewood and rented the one in North Long Beach. We aren't sure how long they rented it out before they sold it, but since none of us have any memory about them still owning it, we assume it wasn't long.

The new house still only had 2 bedrooms, but it had a dining area that was open to the living room, which was helpful for the family gatherings. The previous picture of a family gathering shows some detail of the inside of the house, nicely decorated. Also the Silver Anniversary pictures, coming up, show some detail of the inside, including the hutch for Nora's pretty dishes. We can't seem to find a picture of the outside of the Iroquois house. Trivia item: the phone number there was HA9-0033 (HA for Harrison). There were frequent telephone calls from Norma and Merrill, and especially from Donna who lived within the free calling distance.

Silver Wedding Anniversary



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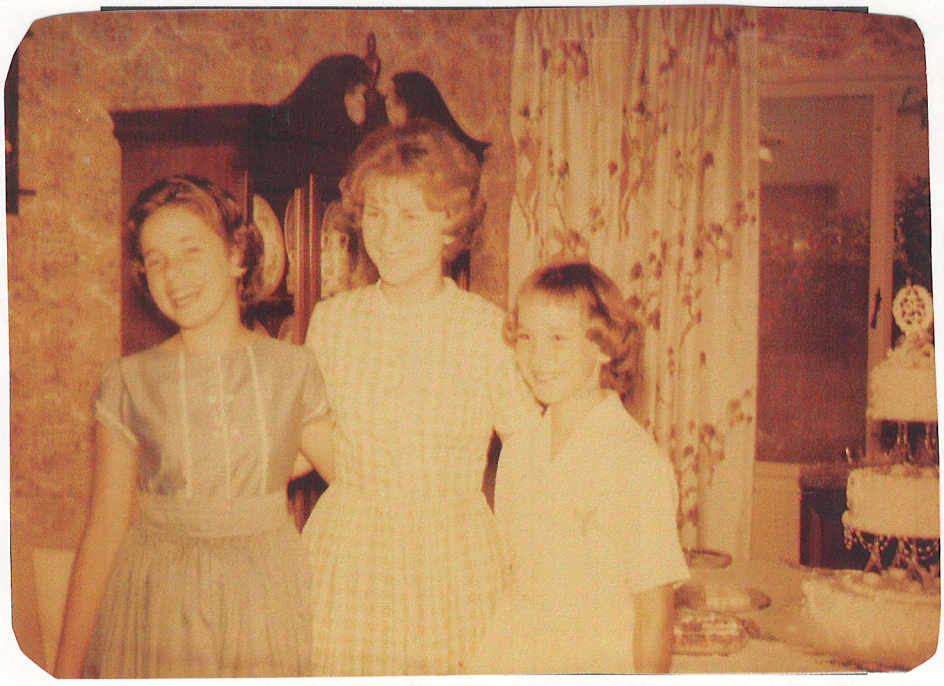
The most memorable thing that happened at the Iroquois address was Charles and Nora's Silver Wedding Anniversary party held on July 15, 1962. Realizing they weren't likely to live to their 50th, their children decided on celebrating their 25th in as big a way as possible.

Nora gave a nice account in her life story, which will be quoted here:

"We had a wonderful surprise in 1962. About a week before our silver anniversary, we got an invitation to the celebration. Our children hadn't said aword to us about it. What a wonderful time it was. There were so many friends and loved ones there. It was an open house in our home and at one time there were four bishops in our home at the same time. They had been our bishops in different wards and at different times. What a thrill and an honor. And every high priest in the quorum attended that day. The wonderful presents were so much appreciated.



Andrea Bliss, Veda Higley, Dixie Tyler

Our granddaughters, Veda, Andrea and Dixie Lee served the refreshments. Nellie Gamage, my church friend and Wilbur's aunt, made the wonderful, beautiful, and delicious cake -- a three tiered wedding cake with a bride and groom on top. It really was the most beautiful cake I've ever seen. Nellie and Sally Walton (Wilbur's mother), cut the cake and did the catering and Jay Walton worked hard in the kitchen keeping the dishes washed up. What a wonderful job they all did. Daddy and I will always be grateful and thankful for all that everyone did for that most memorable occasion in our lives.

The punch was delicious. The day must have made it perfect because we've made the same recipe several times since and it has never tasted as good. Some of the ingredients must have been the sweetness and love of our three children stirred up into the mixture.



Charles and Nora cutting the cake.



Back Row: Norma, Charles, Nora, Ilene
Front Row: Ralph, Donna, Wilbur, Sarah, Merrill

Retirement

Charles was soon to be 69 years old and getting tired of working so hard. He and Nora were eager to do Temple work. The time had come to retire and collect his Social Security. That came about in the summer of 1962. It was in his nature to keep busy and that he did, including Church work, yard work and carpentry work. It was nice while it lasted but it didn't last long. He would actually work 5 more years and then retire again. But first some work for the Lord.

Mission Call

In the fall of 1962, Charles & Nora were called to serve a 6 mo. full time mission for the Church. The details of the mission will be included in a later chapter.

Of course they weren't entirely free to serve missions, as they still had the responsibility of Sarah, who was just entering 7th grade. Wilbur and Donna and family offered to have her stay with them for the duration of the mission, which she did.

While they were away they rented their home out, storing their personal belongings in half of the two car garage. Charles later said: "While our home was rented out during the 7 months we were gone, it was badly neglected. It took lots of work and money to make it fit to be lived in again." It was unfortunate, we think, but they didn't live in it very long.

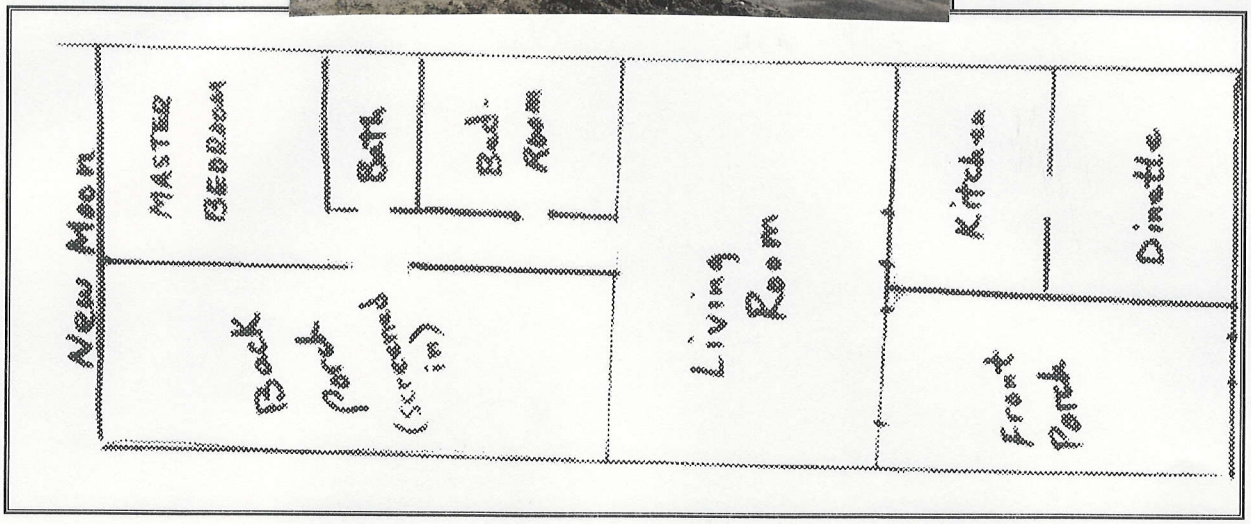
Health Notes

All through these years Charles, and Nora too, enjoyed reasonably good health. Charles had been slender most of his life but gained some weight after age 50. His hairline began to recede and thin but he contined to be a very handsome man. Even his eyesight was excellent, not needing glasses until late 40's or early 50's and then only for reading. His teeth began to give him trouble and his letters reveal that he had his teeth pulled and got dentures just as their mission was ending in 1963. His wonderful smile was unimpaired. As might be expected, he did have some hearing loss as he aged, though not severe.

Mobile Home Living
Anaheim, Huntington Beach, Riverside and Corona
1963 - 1976

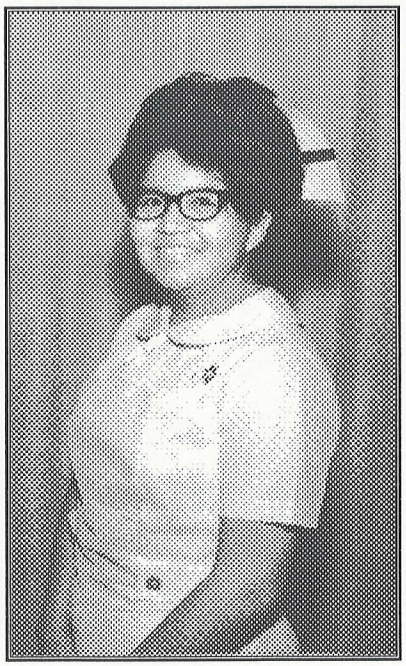
Nora was restless again. It was hard for her to deal with a teenager and she probably wanted to give up that task and needed a way out. When friends of theirs sold their house and bought a beautiful new mobile home and moved to a park where there were a swimming pool and hot tub, it looked awfully good to her. To the family's surprise, they had soon sold their home and bought a New Moon mobile home. It was 12 feet by 60 feet, with a 7 foot expando in the living room, and porches on each side of the expando that filled out the rectangle, making it 19 feet by 60 feet.





First they moved the mobile to a park in Anaheim but Nora was soon sickened by the smells of a citrus processing plant next door and they had the mobile moved to Skandia, a park in Huntington Beach. Charles was able to boost their income a bit by working there part time as a grounds keeper. But it was an adult park and Sarah wouldn't be able to go. Somehow that didn't seem fair. Nora said they would just have to send her back to the Reservation.

Donna's family felt somewhat manipulated, but they cared about Sarah and didn't feel it was good for her to have to go back to the Navajo Reservation before she finished school. Besides, she didn't fit in there very well anymore. Other Indian children called her an Apple (red on the outside but white on the inside). Thus Sarah went to live with the Bliss family for the next several years. She and Andrea were nearly the same age and in the same grade at school. Frustrations on all sides must be admitted but there are no real regrets. It was the best thing that could be done under the circumstances.



Licensed Vocational Nurse
(LVN)

Skandia to Rancho Riverside
1964 - 1971

After about a year in Huntington Beach, Charles and Nora had an opportunity to be assistant managers at Rancho Riverside, a mobile home park between Riverside and Corona. Norma and Merrill lived in Corona, so it would put them nearer to family. So once more the mobile was moved (at considerable expense) and once again, as before, they worked very hard to develop, plant, and beautify their space. And they worked very, very hard for the park. It was really full time work for both of them for part time pay. They worked in the office, the club house, and all over the park. They had a lot of responsibility. Both of them were getting up in years and the family was feeling concerned.

Once when Donna and Wilbur were visiting them, Charles showed Wilbur the new area of the park they were developing and the olive trees he had been looking after. His sense of humor intact, he persuaded Wilbur to taste a raw olive right off the tree. How he laughed when Wilbur spat out the bitter thing! It was reminiscent of the time on the farm when he got young Merrill to taste a mouthful of pulp. Yuck!



About Rancho Riverside Mobile Home Park, Nora said: "We thought it would be a good thing for us but we just about killed ourselves working. There were days when Charles worked from 6:00 in the morning until 10:00 at night, besides being on call 24 hours a day. He planted way over 100 trees. He would drag home so tired. The work was just too much for him at his age." Charles was 73 years old then. They retired again on December 31, 1967 and tried to take life easier.

However, predictably, they both began to have health problems. Charles had four small strokes in less than 3 months, spending time in the hospital three times. His mind was becoming confused, especially when he was sick. Nora had a ruptured blood vessel that completely blinded one eye in less than five minutes. She had already lost all of the hearing in one ear from an illness while in Georgia on their mission. Times were difficult for both of them and neither was able to adjust to their losses. Charles had to give up driving a car, so they were dependent on others for everything. Both of them became depressed, but Charles extremely so, and depression worsened his mental state.

A Special Gift

It was Christmas of 1971 when Charles and Nora received a gift that thrilled and overwhelmed them. They had gone home from the Birthday/Christmas party at Merrill's home and gone to bed. Soon the doorbell rang - and here is Charles' account:

"I went to the door in only my underwear, opened the drapes a little, looked out, but there was no-one in sight. But near the door was a box about 14 inches square. I went outside, looked to the side of our mobile and no-one there, so I carried the box inside.

"By then Mom was in the room and I showed her the box. It was a Christmas decorated box with a card saying, 'From Santa Claus' and nothing else. Being as it was so near Christmas morning, we decided to open it.

"If we hadn't believed in Santa Claus before, we do know, for what we saw inside we still couldn't believe. It was a little house with an attached garage. The roof of the house would raise and inside were a great lot of coins. To us it looked like a million dollars.

"We didn't sleep much the few hours left, for wondering who had done the trick. We have done some inquiring but haven't learned a thing.

"It took hours for us to classify the coins and count them for a total of dollars. Would you like to make a guess? No, you didn't guess it correctly. It was $104.00 plus (87 quarters, 2 half dollars, 41 nickels, 564 dimes and 300 pennies."

Charles continued: "It is now December 30th and no-one will confess he or she was the Santa we are still searching for. So we can only ask our Father up above to bless the ones who were so kind and unselfish."

Of course it has never been admitted to, but we know that the generous and creative gift givers were none other than Merrill and his family. We think, however, that Charles and Nora never knew.

Move to Corona
1971 - 1976

It became necessary to live closer to family, and so once more, for the fourth time, the New Moon was moved to a new location -- this time to a park in Corona, on Lincoln. Norma and Merrill were nearby and all three children did all they could to help the parents. Donna drove from Norwalk one day a week and Norma and Merrill were there real often.



A few days after Christmas, 1971, Charles had a heart attack and was hospitalized for 2 weeks. When his body was sick, his mind was absent, and family members took turns so that one of them was at his bedside 24 hours a day. They were able to keep him calm, making the harsh restraints unnecessary.

Charles' recovery was slow and Nora found it her responsibility to fix up the bare lot to which they had moved their mobile home. She bought 10 tons of landscaping rock, and using a wheelbarrow, spread it around the lot. Four of her grandsons, two of Norma's boys, and two of Merrill's, helped her out whenever they could. They also planted evergreens and roses, and the finished lot was very beautiful.

While they worked, Charles brooded, and the more he brooded, the greater were his mental losses. He had always been the gentleman, opening the doors for his ladies and carrying all the heavy loads. He could not accept his inability to do the manly things.



Charles and Nora, just before his Alzheimers took his mind completely away. So sad.

Donna will you get nice
present at least for ten dollars
and give it to her xmas
I want to give it to her then
she wants to receive it then.
to ~~it~~ ~~her~~ I ~~hope~~ to surprise
her a neck piece would be
nice.
please because I want be able
to give it to her with out her
knowing too soon.

(Christmas 1975 – probably the
last time Dad wrote – ever. – Donna)



Great Grandchildren, Edward and Michelle helped too.

Move to Norwalk
May 1976 to September 1981

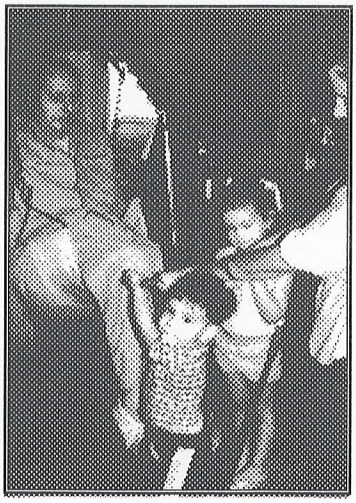
Once again, the account in Nora's life story is very descriptive and accurate and will be quoted here.

"Daddy's health continued to get worse. After his heart attack he just didn't seem to bounce back like he should and there was very little he could do to pass the time. His mind wasn't clear and sometimes he fought me when I tried to help him -- he just didn't understand. He became more and more helpless. I took care of him myself as long as I could and then had to turn to the children for help.

Donna and Wilbur were the only ones without young children, so we went there to stay. It was necessary to get a hospital bed for Daddy, so for the first time in all those years, we couldn't sleep together. I still miss his presence beside me. The doctor said he had "chronic brain syndrome," caused by hardening of the arteries in the brain and that it would continue to progress. It has, until now and for the past few years, he is completely helpless.



"We feed Charles a liquid diet with a syringe and hope we won't have to resort to tube feeding too soon. But he has forgotten how to swallow and sometimes chokes quite badly. We use a patient lift to move him from bed to chair and back and are thankful for such a modern convenience. He is too heavy for us to lift and without it we would surely have to put him in a nursing home, which we so much don't want to do.



Great Grandchildren, Edward
and Michelle helped too.

"Norma and Merrill take turns coming on Saturdays to help care for Charles and relieve Donna of the responsibility for a little while. They are so faithful to come, no matter what trials of their own they may be undergoing." (Norma was widowed and Merrill divorced during those difficult years.)

"I myself have arthritis and it's hard for me to get around. I finally had to come to the realization that I would never be able to take Daddy home to the mobile again and that even if he should pass away first, I am not well enough to live alone. Dennis (Merrill's boy) and Shauna lived in our mobile home after they were first married and that relieved me of a lot of worry concerning it. But when they decided to move and a buyer came along for it, I decided the best thing was to sell it. I'm sad to give up my home, but still feel greatly relieved not to have to worry about its upkeep."



United in loving and caring for Charles ~
Nora, Norma, Merrill & Donna



Spot slept with or on Charles
whenever he got the chance.

One Last Move For Charles and Nora Orangetree Convalescent Hospital Riverside, California

Donna was committed to taking care of Charles until he died and had every intention of doing so. As the years went by she was growing weary physically and emotionally. The task, even with all the help her brother and sister could give her was taking its toll. Normal life had been sacrificed and even Church attendance with Wilbur could not be managed. People kept telling her that if she hadn't taken such good care of him he could have gone on to Heaven by then and been out of his misery. That was no option. They all loved Charles too much to let him die of neglect. It was hard to find good help for relief even for important family events like weddings and funerals and it seemed that each time someone other than family cared for him there was a catastrophe of some kind.

Wilbur was a few years short of retirement from General Motors when they closed down the plant he was working at in South Gate, California. Thus a great dilemma arose when he was offered a job at a General Motors plant in Michigan. To turn it down would mean to lose the pension that meant so much to future security. It seemed clear that he had to go. As heart wrenching as it was, it also seemed clear to Donna that she couldn't let him go alone. After many tears and much counsel, it was decided that Charles and Nora would have to enter a nursing home near to where Norma and Merrill could visit them regularly. Both of them, of course, had to work to support themselves and their families.

For Donna, it was the hardest thing she would ever have to do. For years she had thought it a sacrifice, though a willing one, to care for them and then learned that giving it up was a far greater sacrifice. And thus we are taught great and eternal lessons.

Charles lived exactly two months, to the day, from the time he entered the convalescent hospital. Norma and Merrill are certain the staff did the very best they could, but obviously it didn't compare to home care by loved family members. For more than five years we weren't sure Charles even knew who we were. But his eyes looked at us with trust and we know he felt the warmth of our love. We could feel his, even though he could no longer express it. In the two months he had lost weight and gained contractures and bedsores. The morning he died, he waited until Donna arrived from where she had spent the night, and then peacefully returned to his Heavenly Home. We could only rejoice that his long ordeal was finally over.

Years before, in his life story, Charles had admonished his children to take care of Nora if he should die first: "So if I should go before she, please be considerate and kind to her for you will be the only ones she can turn to." He need not have worried (and we hope he didn't, really) because she was the mother who raised us, we loved her, and would never have forsaken her.

Nora continued on in the same room at Orangetree that she had shared with Charles. She was able to communicate and joke with the staff and they liked her and did special favors for her that made her life pleasant. She had her own rocking chair, lamp and dresser and was really quite cozy. Norma and Merrill visited her often and she lived for those visits. Donna wrote letters from Michigan once a week and that communication too was looked forward to by Nora. Grandchildren and great grandchildren visited when they could and Nora continued to keep up on all the marriages and births and was interested in every detail of all their lives. It was important to her to give gifts to one and all at Christmas, and with Norma's help she accomplished it.

Becoming more and more frail, Nora passed away on August 26, 1984, just short of her 86th birthday. Norma and Merrill were at her side; Donna still in Michigan, but on her way. All three children rejoice that those years of caring for their parents united them even more firmly than before. Each one did every thing they could possibly do at each phase of the parents' needs, and their needs were met.

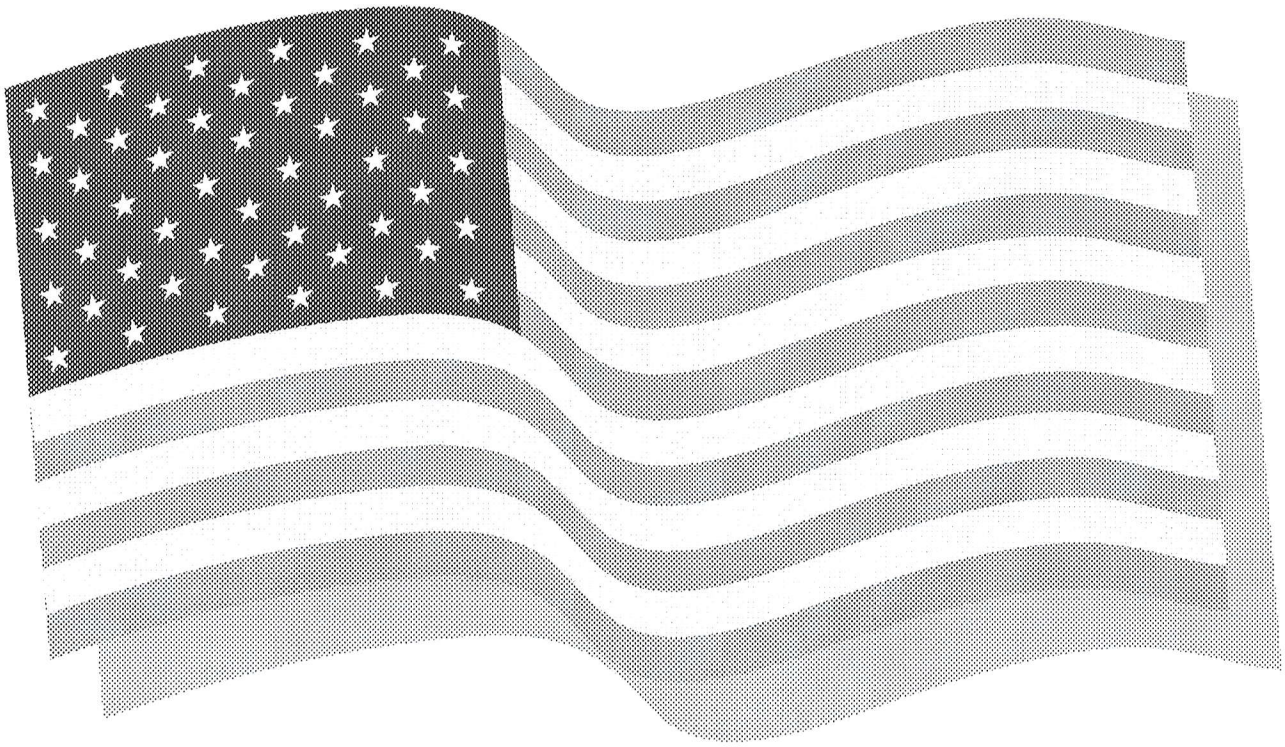
Norma and Donna look upon it as a God-given opportunity to heal wounds from years past. During those years Nora softened and mellowed, no longer making hurtful remarks, and the girls gained a greater understanding of and appreciation for Nora. Merrill didn't seem to have those same needs, but perhaps he too is grateful to have had those years to cement, with common cause, his relationship with his sisters. And just to add frosting to the cake, it gave the family wonderful opportunities to learn to love Marilyn, Merrill's new wife.

The funerals for Charles and Nora
will be covered in a separate chapter.



Marilyn was beside Merrill every step of the way, weekends when he cared for Charles and Nora, and at the nursing home, right through their deaths and funeral. We all love her.

Patriotism



Special mention certainly should be made of Charles' patriotism and loyalty to his country. He loved the United States of America, its flag, and all it stood for. He often thanked God for having blessed him to be born in America and said:

"I weep when I think where I might have been sent,
dark Africa, China, Russia, or to a Hoten-tot
couple who knew nothing of Jesus Christ or the
Gospel which He sent to earth."

Following are some of the reasons we became aware of Charles' love of country:

1. He enlisted in the Navy and served honorably during World War I.

2. He obviously honored the flag and taught his children to do so also, by standing as it came into sight and by pledging allegiance to it proudly.

3. Independence Day was celebrated enthusiastically by Charles with his family. Picnics, fireworks, and ice cream, were planned well in advance.

4. His empathy for "The Man Without a Country," destined never to be allowed to set foot again on his beloved country.

5. His love of patriotic songs - the National Anthem and "God Bless America," especially.

6. His appreciation for things brought about by Presidents of the United States that made life better for him and his family. Especially remembered are:

   (a) His gratitude to Franklin Roosevelt for bringing electricity to the rural communities of America, including his farm in Garfield. Incidentally, he gave President Hoover responsibility for getting us into the Great Depression and President Roosevelt for easing us out of it. Charles thought Roosevelt a great, great president and mourned greatly when he died.

(b) When President Johnson signed the Medicare bill that would assure Charles and Nora of medical care in their old age, he was moved to write the president a letter of thanks. He received back a photograph and letter of acknowledgement that he treasured.

7. Charles' love of country was always evident to the children as he followed closely the news of World War II on radio and in the newspapers. He would gladly have done anything to further the war effort.

8. Charles voted faithfully and did his best to educate himself on the candidates and issues before entering the voting booth. We believe he was registered as a Democrat, voting Democratic most of the time but not always, depending on his judgement of the candidate.



Remembered Automobiles California Years

(Let this be a lesson to you, all you Tyler descendants. Take photo- graphs of your automobiles because some day you will be wanting to remember them and what they looked like.)

1939 Oldsmobile - Yellow 4-door used for family transportation and landscape gardening business from about 1947 to 1950.

1949 Nash - Green 4-door bought together with Merrill. A beautiful car.

1952 Dodge - Blue 4-door probably bought about 1955. At least Andrea and Veda look to be about the ages they would have been in 1955 in this picture in front of the car we think was surely Charles' and Nora's (did you follow that?).

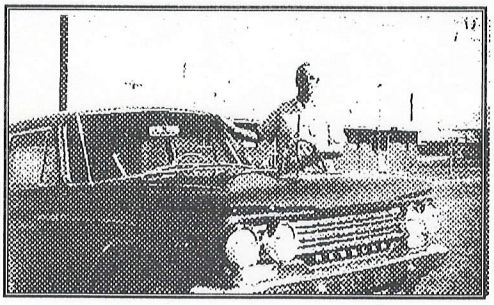


1955 Nash Rambler Station Wagon. It was two shades of green and there surely should be a picture of it somewhere. It was a very attractive little wagon that they drove for several years. It started on their mission with them but developed problems they could not solve. Charles said they prayed it over every hill until they got to Cedar City where they traded it in and left it there.


RAMBLER

Talk about history repeating itself! Back in 1919, 44 years earlier, Charles had car trouble with his first car, also a Nash, and had to leave it there for a season. This time he left his Nash there forever.

1963 Nash Sedan - dark blue 4-door. It took them to Idaho to visit family and then to Salt Lake and on to Georgia for their mission. At one point, they recorded, it had all 4 wheels in the Atlantic Ocean.

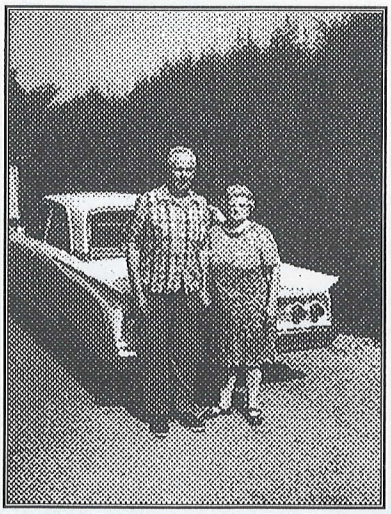


Sometime after their return from their mission (it might have been 1964), they were on their way home from a hurried trip to Idaho, they hit a deer outside of Cedar City (Charles' bad luck town). Nora hit the dashboard, getting a real bad cut on her knee, among other injuries. She was on crutches for awhile. Nora kind of blamed Charles for the accident and he was devastated.

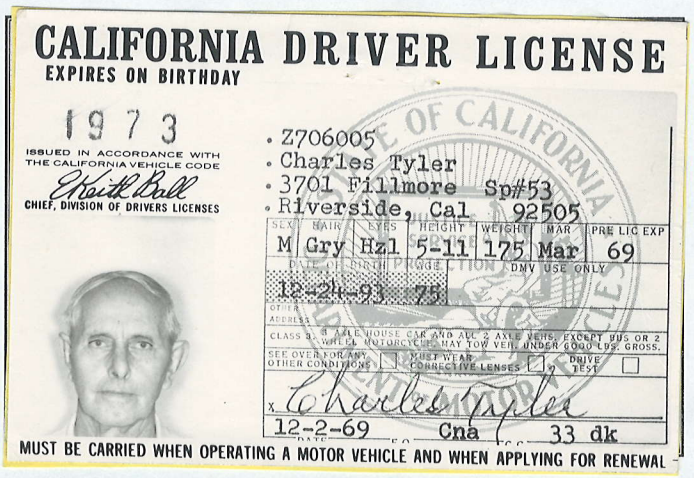
Charles must have had to leave that car in Cedar City too because Merrill went to Utah to bring them home. (That's weird, 3 Nash automobiles belonging to Charles immobilized and left in Cedar City, Utah. Is that a Heavenly joke, or what?)

1962 Ford Falcon - White 4-door. Bought after the deer accident. Immediately Charles installed a seat belt on the passenger side of the car. They were just becoming available. He put none on his own side, which seemed sad, somehow.

This was to be Charles' last car and when he could no longer drive, his granddaughter, Andrea, bought it and it became her first car.



Picture of Charles and Nora with Falcon



CALIFORNIA DRIVER LICENSE

EXPIRES ON BIRTHDAY

1973

ISSUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA VEHICLE CODE

E. Keith Ball

CHIEF, DIVISION OF DRIVERS LICENSES

• Z706005
• Charles Tyler
• 3701 Fillmore Sp#53
• Riverside, Cal 92505

SEX	HAIR	EYES	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	MAR	PRE LIC EXP
M	Gry	Hzl	5-11	175	Mar	69

DATE OF BIRTH | AGE | DMV USE ONLY

12-24-93 75

OTHER ADDRESS

CLASS 3 - 3 AXLE HOUSE CAR AND ALL 2 AXLE VEHS. EXCEPT BUS OR 2 WHEEL MOTORCYCLE. MAY TOW VEH. UNDER 6000 LBS. GROSS.

SEE OVER FOR ANY OTHER CONDITIONS | MUST WEAR CORRECTIVE LENSES | DRIVE TEST

x Charles Tyler

12-2-69 Cna 33 dk

MUST BE CARRIED WHEN OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE AND WHEN APPLYING FOR RENEWAL

PETS

While living on the farm Charles had horses for pets. He truly loved his horses. Then in town he didn't really have pets of his own, although the children had dogs and/or cats. Finally, in California, Charles and Nora had what might be considered their pets, although they were always more Nora's than Charles'.

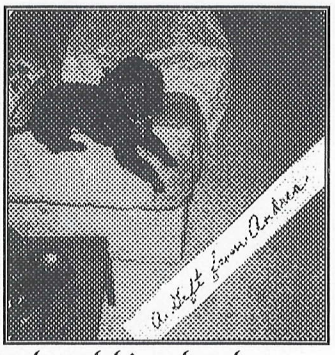



a Gift from Andrea

Bing was the first dog they had in California. He was a large, outside dog and was never quite domesticated. He specialized in chewing up socks, slippers, and shoes. We don't know what became of Bing, but he wasn't around too long.

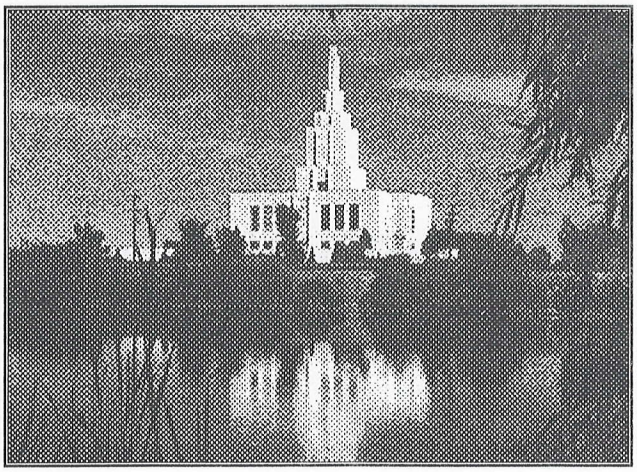
Bimmie A cute little brown, pug-nosed dog Charles had when they lived in Lakewood. Sarah used to dress him up in doll clothes and cart him around in her doll buggy. He was a good companion for her. Nora spoiled him so bad that when they went on their mission and left him with the Higleys, he couldn't be tolerated.

Laddie A toy poodle Andrea gave them when they lived in the Mobile. He was a beautiful dog and had he been well trained, he would have been an excellent pet. Unfortunately it didn't happen. He smelled up the couch, chewed up an expensive hearing aid, and did other naughty things. But they loved him dearly and kept him groomed and handsome. After they went to live in Norwalk with Donna, he used to jump up on the cement block front fence and pose there like a decorative statue. The trouble was, he could thus get out of the yard -- and did -- once too many times.



Big neighborhood bully dogs attacked and mortally wounded that pretty boy. Trying to spare Nora, Donna told her he just didn't come home, hoping she would have hope for his life and believe someone picked him up and gave him a good home. Unfortunately, Nora thought Donna had gotten rid of him (not that she hadn't been tempted) and was bitter about it. But she never knew for sure and that seemed better than having her know the awful truth.

Church Service and Devotion Through the Years



As a youngster, Charles attended Church with his family, gaining, at his mother's knee a testimony of the Prophet Joseph Smith and of the Gospel of Jesus Christ that would be strong enough to sustain him throughout his life.

Charles said he was happy when he was old enough to be baptized. However, there wasn't an indoor font so he had to wait a few months past his 8th birthday for the ice to melt and the Farmer's Friend Canal to warm up a bit. Knowing his devotion, we don't doubt he would have been willing to enter the icy water of winter if given the opportunity. He was baptized on June 13, 1902.

We always had ample evidence of Charles' testimony and love of the Gospel. We observed it in his faithfulness in any calling and his commitment to the living Prophet and other Church leaders, to studying the scriptures, and to righteous living. He revered Joseph Smith, Brigham Young, and every Prophet. He honored the leaders in positions over him. He studied the scriptures, paid his tithes and offerings, obeyed the commandments and taught his family to do likewise.

Charles testified to his children that his prayers had been answered. Such experiences were sacred to him and he largely kept them to himself but that he walked by faith was obvious. His prayers offered with the family were very thoughtful, humble and personal, addressing his Heavenly Father as though he were an earthly presence.

A man of humble service, Charles never aspired to high positions but always served faithfully wherever he was called. He seemed most often involved in Priesthood Quorum activities.

Charles saw to it that the family attended Church together each Sunday and the remainder of the Sabbath Day was spent visiting relatives or in restful activities. As the children grew older they were expected to fast the breakfast meal on Fast Sunday.

Widows and others in need were offered assistance by Charles. Merrill and Donna were sometimes assigned to do yard work or snow shoveling for widows in the ward. Charles genuinely cared for others.

Record of Charles' Church Service

We do not, unfortunately, have a full and complete record of Charles' Church service. We will record here that which we do have. Charles said: I worked in the Church at everything asked of me." And we know he did. Spiritual or menial - he was happy to do it.



1. Charles' Notice of Ordination to Elder.

This notice must be sent immediately after ordination to the Bishop of the Ward where the person's membership exists.

Entered in Record of Members, page

Notice of Ordination

No. 82

To the Bishop of Ucon Ward, Bingham Stake

This Certifies that Charles Tyler

was ordained an Elder by Lee S. Robinson

on the 14th day of June 19 15

at Ucon Ward Priesthood meeting

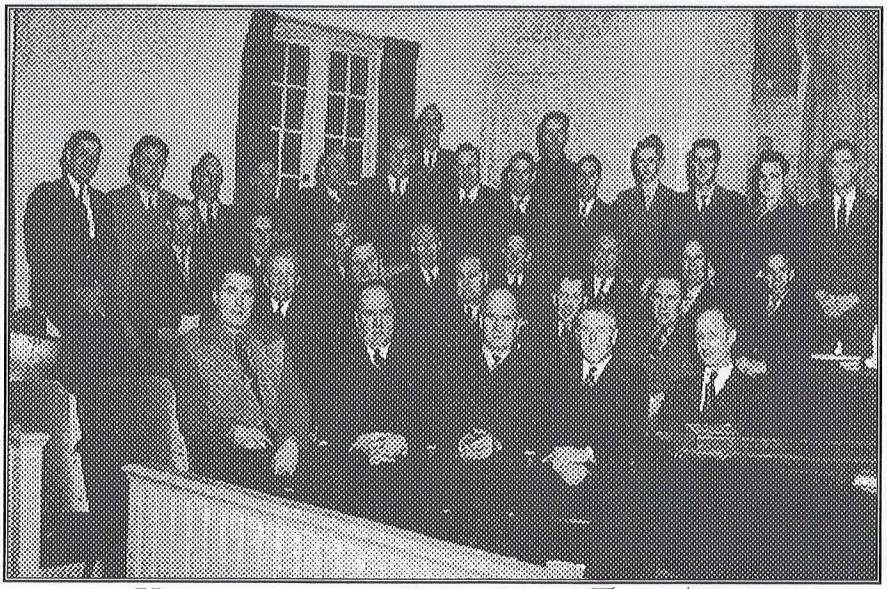
Albert Parker

Clerk of Third

Quorum of Elders.

when he was 21 years of age.

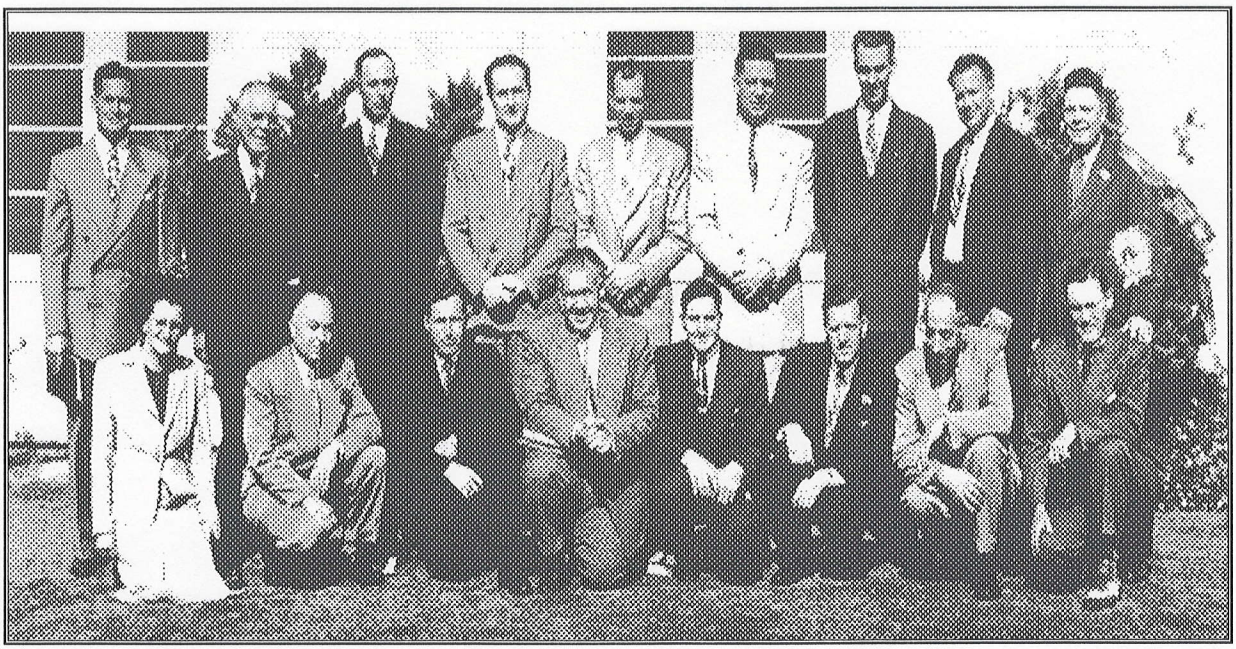
2. Charles said he served as secretary and president of the Elder's Quorum but he didn't say where. Was it Ucon, Garfield, Shelton, or Idaho Falls? We know he was a faithful Ward Teacher (later called Home Teacher) and that he participated in all welfare activities. Norma remembers that he particularly loved his Priesthood Quorum activities.



Here is a picture of the Idaho Falls Priesthood Quorum(s). Charles is in the center row, 2nd from left. Notice the corner of the mural we all remember and love.

3. In Charles brief life story he mentioned having served as secretary to the Young Mens' Mutual (YMMIA) and counselor to the YMMIA Superintendent. We wish we could fill in some details but we can't, although we think this was probably in Idaho Falls.

4. In 1946 Charles was ordained a Seventy in Idaho Falls by General Authority, S. Dilworth Young. Charles and Nora were then promptly called as stake missionaries and began their first of three stake missions. The mission call was for two years and Nora said in her life story that after the move to Long Beach they were soon asked to finish the two years they had left unfinished in Idaho. When the two years were up, they were called to another two year stake mission and then another. They studied hard together and seemed to enjoy the work and the association with the other stake missionaries. It was during this time that they cooked meals for the builders and assisted in the building of the Long Beach First Ward Building and the Stake Center on 38th and Pine.



The leadership of Long Beach Stake.
Charles is the 3rd from left in the back
row. He was the Mission District President.

He also served as Seventies Group Leader
(same now as Ward Mission Leader).

5. Charles was ordained to the office of High Priest in 1961. He served as secretary to the High Priest Quorum, more than once, we think, in the different wards they lived in.

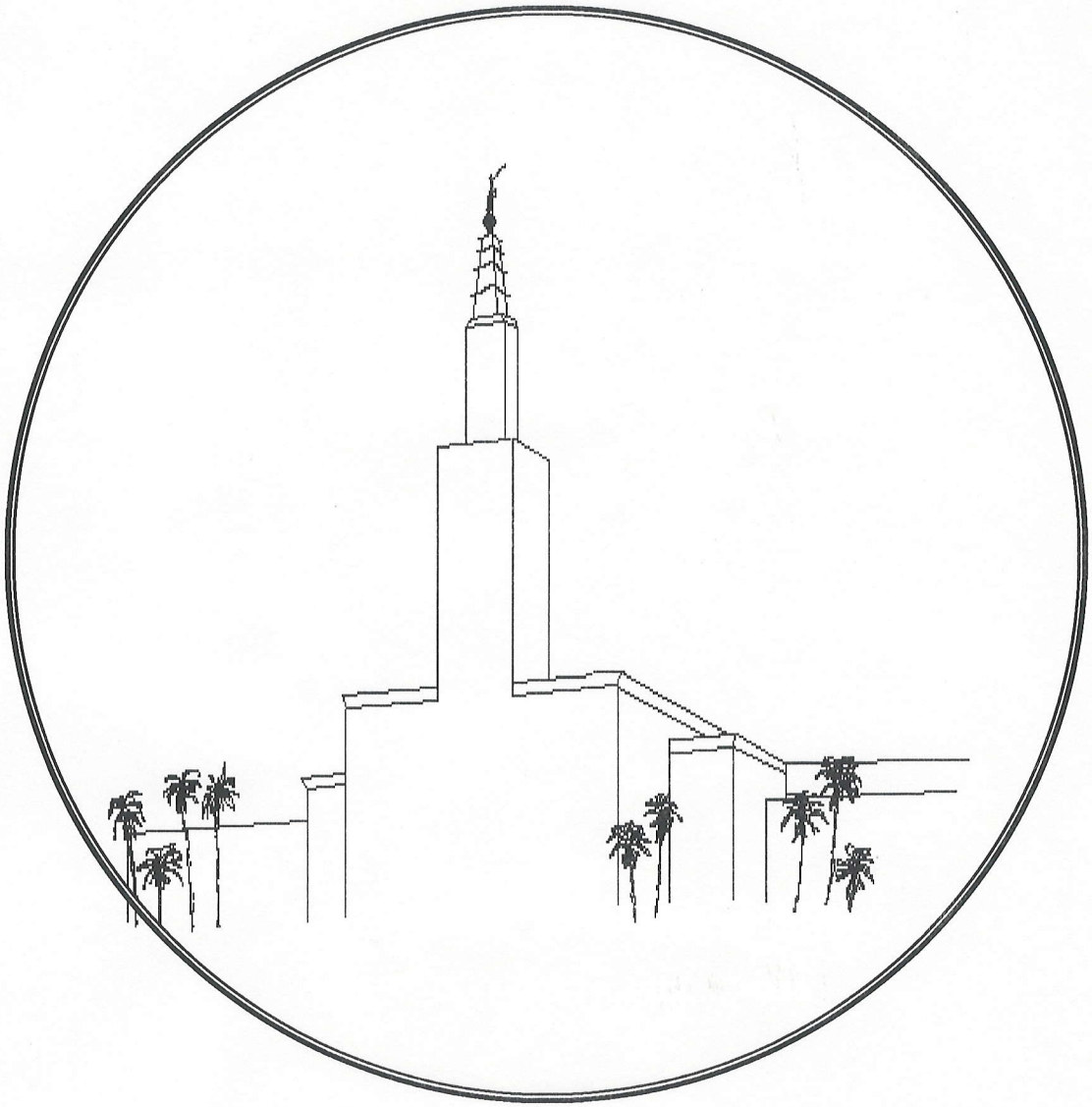
Nora praised Charles for having supported her so well in all of her callings. She didn't drive, so he would return home from working the night shift, at 8 a.m. take her to Relief Society before going home to sleep and then go back to get her. She always worked hard in Relief Society, mostly as quilting chairman. There is a cute picture of her dressed up as Santa's Elf for one of the Relief Society Bazaars.



6. In 1962 came the mission call to a full time mission in Georgia. While there, Charles served as a counselor in the Branch Presidency. Their mission will have a chapter of its own.

7. As Charles' health deteriorated, Church participation became impossible. The last reading he attempted was in the Book of Mormon. Donna got him a children's set of Book of Mormon Stories, but even that was beyond his ability to comprehend. It was so hard to watch.

In his writings Charles said: "I pray that someday I may become worthy of the Lord's consideration of my spirit." Of that we have no doubt and we feel certain he has been happily busy in God's service since entering Eternal Life on November 14, 1981.



Charles and Nora
sealed in Los Angeles Temple

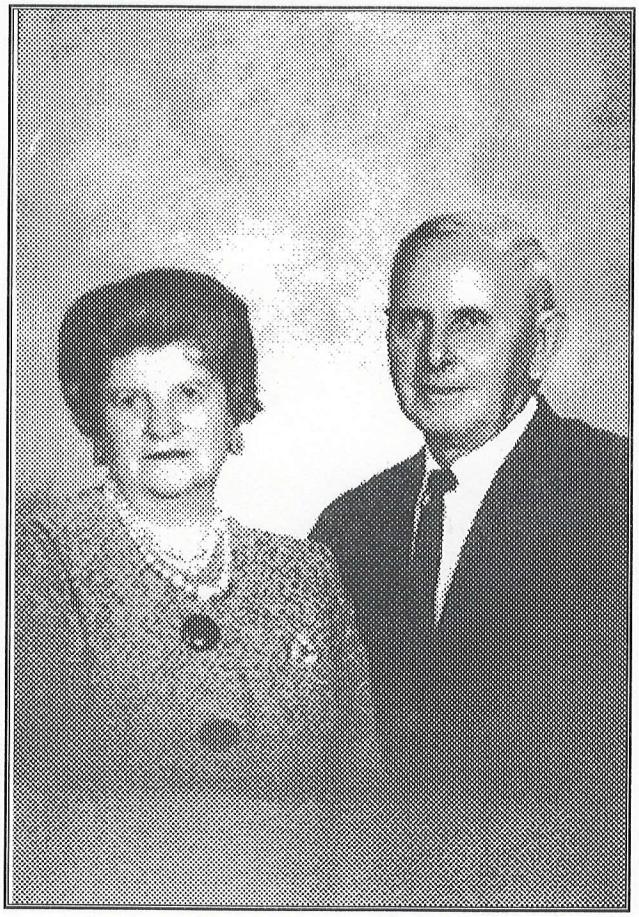
May 13, 1972

On a Clear Day You Can See Forever

Nora tells about their temple marriage in her life story:

> "All through the years Charles and I had longed to be sealed to each other. I'd always felt like a sister to Elverda and felt that this was her desire also. But we couldn't be sealed because I had been sealed by proxy to my first husband after he passed away."

Nora's first husband, Bill Ross, died during the 1918 Influenza. This had not been a Temple marriage but it was a good marriage. While a grieving widow, Nora went to the Temple and was sealed to him for time and eternity. Because of that, she could not be married to Charles in the Temple. This was a sadness that lingered for many years.



Nora and Charles about the time they were sealed.

"After much prayer and deliberation, we decided to look into the matter. After consulting with our bishops, past and present, a letter was sent to President Joseph Fielding Smith. Within two weeks the way was cleared to be sealed to Charles.

"On May 13, 1972 we were sealed in the Los Angeles Temple. It was the most clear, perfect day - like the song - 'On a Clear Day You Can See Forever.' As we looked in the mirrors in the sealing room, we felt we were seeing forever - together. How wonderful it is to have someone you truly love, knowing if you keep your covenants, you'll be together forever." Charles was 78 and Nora 73.

As far as the children were concerned, this was a necessary step for a complete family unit in the eternities. Nora completed the work Elverda had started, and raised her children up in righteousness. She experienced a feeling of sisterhood with Elverda that Charles and the children felt and took comfort in. Imagining their family without either of their mothers was not possible.



With Ilene, Merrill, Donna and Wilbur at the Los Angeles Temple. It was a day for rejoicing.

Full Time



CHARLES TYLER

NORA MOORE TYLER

SOUTHERN STATES MISSION

Mission

The Call

In August, 1962, Bishop Malquist spoke to Charles and Nora about serving a full time mission of six months or longer. They wanted to go, but requested a six month mission because of financial concerns, and of course, Sarah. Within three weeks they had their official call to the Southern States Mission (see following pages). It was then September 7th and they were asked to report to the Mission Home in Salt Lake City on September 28th.

It seemed impossible to be ready to leave that quickly, especially since they felt prompted to visit family in Idaho first. Somehow they managed to store their furniture, rent their house, move Sarah to Blisses, pack up and prepare in just two weeks. It was very difficult.

On September 16th the Ward held a Farewell for them. The building was filled with well wishers and they received cash contributions that were a big help to them. Charles' favorite hymn was sung in a vocal duet by Andrea and Sarah (change from printed program): "It May Not Be On The Mountain Height." Both Charles and Nora gave fine talks and Norma and Donna soaked their hankies.

Farewell Testimonial

Given in Honor of

CHARLES TYLER
NORA MOORE TYLER

prior to their departure for the

SOUTHERN STATES MISSION

□

to be held in the

LAKEWOOD II WARD CHAPEL
3824 Woodruff Ave., Long Beach, Cal.
Sunday, Sept. 16, 1962
6:30 p.m

— Voluntary Contributions —

Program

Organ Prelude . . Theodora Johnson
Conducting . . . . . .
. . . . Bishop Theodore P. Malquist
Opening Hymn, P. 62 .... Congregation
'High On The Mountain Top'
Invocation .... Ralph W. Manahan
Sacrament Hymn, P. 231 Congregation
'Before Thee, Lord, I Bow My Head'
Sacrament Service .. Aaronic Priesthood
Remarks..Bishop Theodore P. Malquist
Organ Solo .... Alice Malquist
'I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked'
Remarks .. President Lorin B. Daniels
Vocal Duet ..... Josephine Christensen
Marjorie Hetrick
'It May Not Be On The Mountain Height'
Response . . . . . Sister Nora Tyler
Response .... Elder Charles Tyler
Closing Hymn, P. 47 .... Congregation
'God Be With You'
Benediction .... Dallas M. Penrod

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
OFFICE OF THE FIRST PRESIDENCY
SALT LAKE CITY 11, UTAH

August 31, 1962

Elder Charles Tyler
4309 Iroquois Avenue
Lakewood, California

Dear Elder Tyler:

You are hereby called to be a missionary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to labor in the Southern States Mission.

Your presiding officers have recommended you as one worthy to represent the Church of our Lord as a Minister of the Gospel. It will be your duty to live righteously, to keep the commandments of the Lord, to honor the holy Priesthood which you bear, to increase your testimony of the divinity of the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ, to be an exemplar in your life of all the Christian virtues, and so to conduct yourself as a devoted servant of the Lord that you may be an effective advocate and messenger of the Truth. We repose in you our confidence and extend to you our prayers that the Lord will help you thus to meet your responsibilities.

The Lord will reward the goodness of your life, and greater blessings and more happiness than you have yet experienced await you as you serve Him humbly and prayerfully in this labor of love among His children.

We ask that you please send your written acceptance promptly, endorsed by your presiding officer in the ward or branch where you live.

Sincerely yours,

David O. McKay
(President)

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
OFFICE OF THE FIRST PRESIDENCY
SALT LAKE CITY 11, UTAH

August 31, 1962

Mrs. Nora Moore Tyler
4309 Iroquois Avenue
Lakewood, California

Dear Sister Tyler:

You are hereby called to be a missionary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to labor in the Southern States Mission.

Your presiding officers have recommended you as one worthy to render assistance to the Priesthood in the proclamation of the holy Gospel. As a missionary of the Church, it will be your duty to live righteously, to keep the commandments of the Lord, to increase your testimony of the divinity of the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ, to be an exemplar in your life of all the Christian virtues, and so to conduct yourself as a devoted handmaid of the Lord that you may be an effective advocate and messenger of the Truth. We repose in you our confidence and extend to you our prayers that the Lord will help you thus to meet your responsibilities.

The Lord will reward the goodness of your life, and greater blessings and more happiness than you have yet experienced await you as you serve Him humbly and prayerfully in this labor of love among His children.

We ask that you please send your written acceptance promptly, endorsed by your presiding officer in the ward or branch where you live.

Sincerely yours,

David O. McKay
(President)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

THE GLORY OF GOD IS INTELLIGENCE

No. 23455

This certifies that the bearer, Elder

Charles Tyler

who is in full faith and fellowship with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, is a duly ordained minister of the Gospel, and as such has authority to preach the principles of the Gospel and to administer the ordinances thereof.

We invite all people to give heed to his message.

David O. McKay
Henry D. Moyle
Hugh B. Brown
THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

Sept. 26 1962 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Charles Tyler
COUNTERSIGNED BY MISSIONARY

25 FP

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

THE GLORY OF GOD IS INTELLIGENCE

No. 3009

This certifies that the bearer, Sister

Nora Moore Tyler

who is in full faith and fellowship with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, has been duly called and set apart as a missionary of said Church, and as such has authority to preach the principles of the Gospel.

We invite all people to give heed to her message.

David O. McKay
Henry D. Moyle
Hugh B. Brown
THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

Sept 26 1962 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Nora Moore Tyler
COUNTERSIGNED BY MISSIONARY

25 FPA

In Charles' talk he told how his Patriarchal Blessing indicated he would serve a full time mission. He had always tried to be faithful and it had troubled him some that the opportunity hadn't been his. Finally, in his old age, his call had come, validating the blessing given him by his grandfather, Daniel Tyler, a Patriarch.

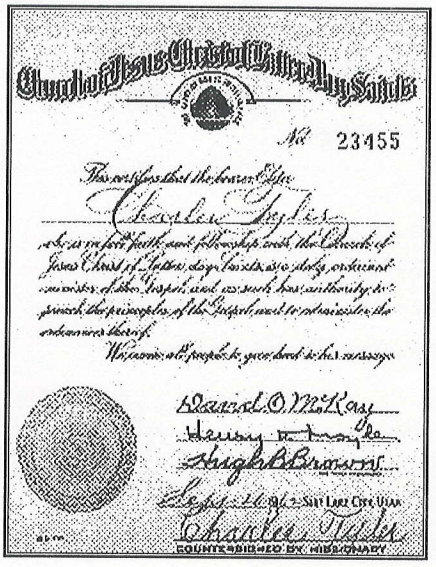
Bidding their family tearful goodbyes, they left for Idaho. It was the last time Charles would see his brother, John or Nora would see her brother, Ira. They both died while they were on their mission.

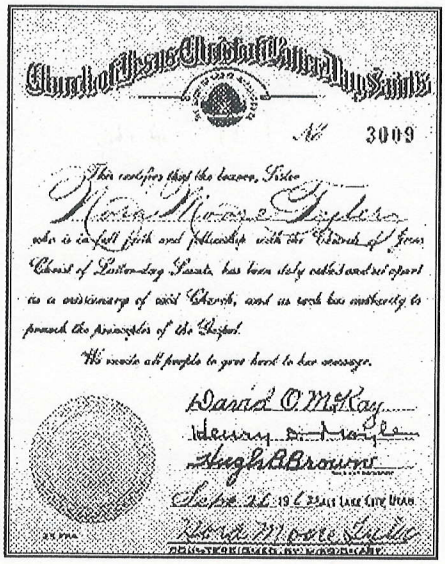
Information is given elsewhere about the car trouble they had along the way. Charles said:

> "Satan seemed determined that we were not to go; and caused us much trouble getting to Salt Lake City. Then Nora was sick from there to Georgia. But we were also determined, and did much praying."

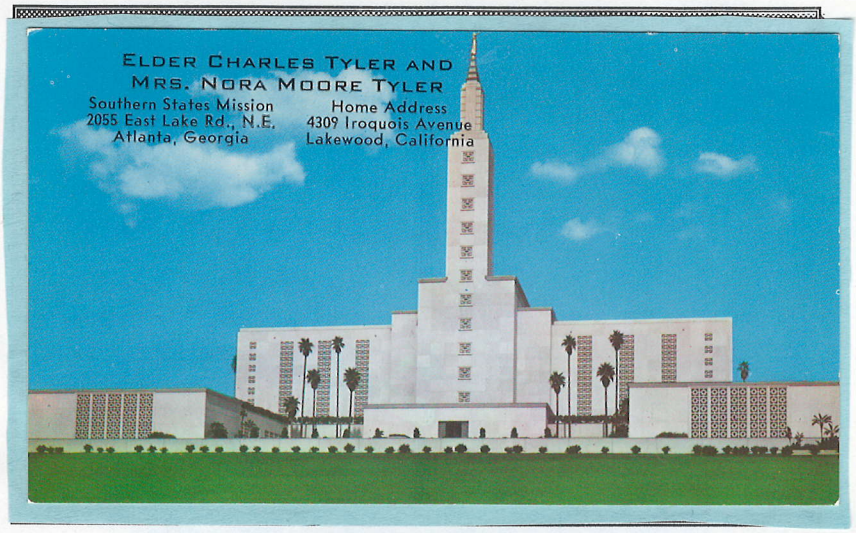
Salt Lake City

After a week in Salt Lake City, receiving instructions and counsel, they were set apart as full time missionaries by Spencer W. Kimball.





With these identifications, they were official.



The Trip to Georgia

On the 4th of October, they headed the car east. Nora was sick, a reaction she thought, from the vaccinations she had received more than a week earlier. She said:

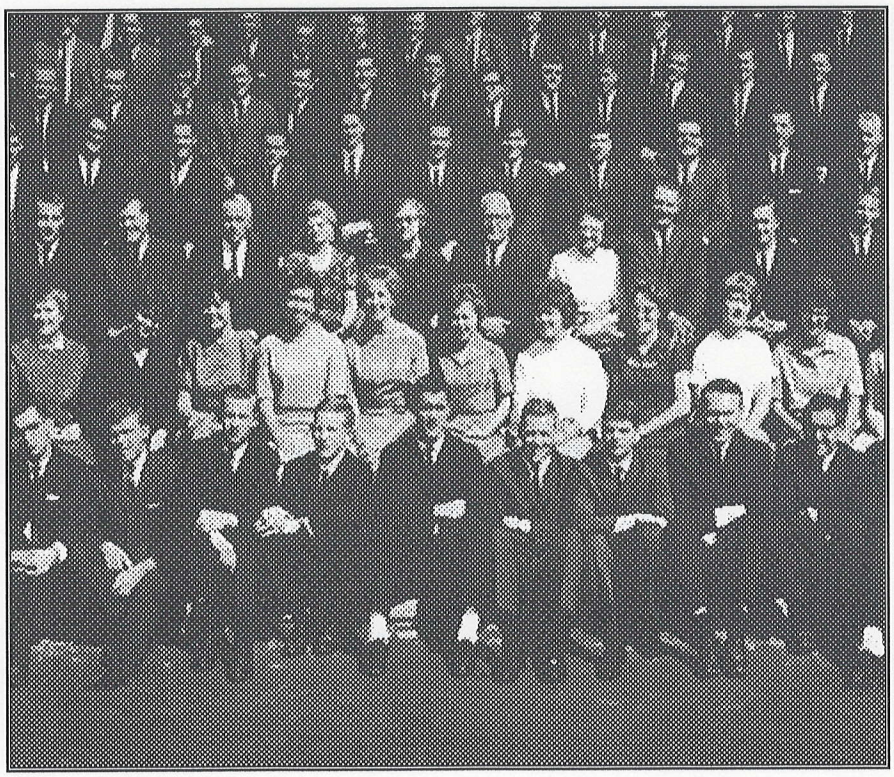
> "What a queer feeling that was to be sick and getting sicker and the distance becoming greater between me and my loved ones at home. I was sick all the way to Georgia."

Nora said they took Route 41 into Indiana and then branched off to go deeper into the south. The further south they got, she said, the more grits they were served.





They arrived, met President and Sister Ravston, and posed for a Mission Photograph. They are in the 3rd row back, just left of center.

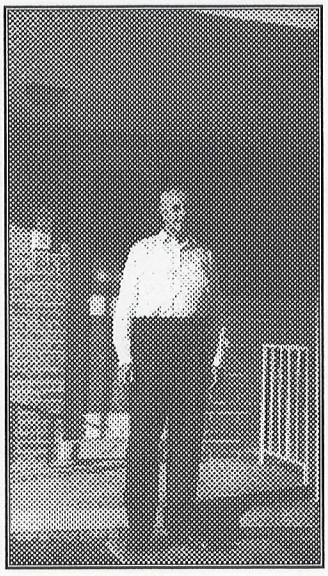


The Assignment

They were assigned to go to the little town of Alma to assist the Branch Presidency and proselyte. They found a nice little apartment and went to work.



Elder & Sister Tyler



Elder Tyler in front of Alma apartment





Elder Charles Tyler by apartment

The Work

Nora said they found a lot of problems in the little Alma Branch. Brothers and sisters were not speaking to each other and many formerly active members were not attending Church at all. The Relief Society was so unorganized that they were unable to help the poor or contribute in any way to help the needy.

Charles was set apart as a counselor in the Branch Presidency and Nora as Relief Society President. There was much to do. Charles was over the Primary and the Mutual and took seriously the responsibility of seeing that the children had transportation to their meetings. More often than not, they provided it.

The Relief Society was soon planning a bazaar and a Dime-a-Dip Social, taking in more than $100.00 of badly needed funds. Events of this type were new to the branch members and everyone was very pleased.



over apt. Alma Ga

Missionary work could not be neglected, no matter how much Branch work there was to be done. One day they knocked on 21 doors without ever getting into one home. Where was that southern hospitality that day? However, Charles said:

"We learned to love the people of the south and they proved their love for us."

Alma is 125 miles from Savannah where they went to attend Missionary meetings, Conferences, and Leadership meetings. During the six months there they made the trip ten times. It was an 85 mile drive just to do the Visiting Teaching each month, so they easily drove 1,000 miles a month in their Branch and Missionary duties.

Christmas and the Asian Flu

Many members were in dire need and Nora and Charles did their best to help them out, even giving of their own means, which were less than abundant. Once, Visiting Teaching in the cold of winter, they found out, Nora said, what destitute people really are. The house was so drafty she could see Charles' hair blowing in the breeze. That was probably where they were exposed to the flu.

Nora and Charles were both sick on Christmas - the loneliest one they everspent -- the first away from family. The Sivie Family insisted on having them over for dinner and served them a real southern dinner of grits, Chitlun dumplings, fried chicken, several kinds of salad and fruit cake, Everything, Nora said, was delightfully cooked and served.

Two days later the flu seemed to settle in Nora's left ear and she suffered excruciating pain. As a result she became completely deaf in that ear.

Illness had been a continuing problem throughout their mission and the young district and zone leaders always pressured them to do more knocking on doors, etc. regardless of their Branch responsibilities or health problems. It was pretty stressful (things for senior couples have changed now) and they were thankful when their six months were up. Though sorry to leave the people they had come to love so much, they knew they had done all they could and it was time to go home.

The Trip Home



Traveling heavy - Homeward bound

Some sightseeing was managed on the way home, but not as much as Nora would have liked. She'd done very little traveling in her life and this was a golden opportunity. But she said:

"When Charles got the blue Rambler with its nose pointed back to California, he hardly took time to stop and eat!."

They didn't go to Cypress Gardens as Nora would have liked, but these stops were memorable:

1. Daytona Beach, where they had all four wheels of the Rambler in the water -- "quite a thrill for us."

2. Sunrise Springs, Florida, where they took a glass bottom boat ride and saw many different formations, including the Devil's Kitchen.

3. Crossed many rivers: The Red River, the Green River, Colorado River, Ohio River, Tennessee River, Okefenoke River, Suwannee River and the Mississippi River. The Mississippi was disappointing and the Suwannee was the favorite. Nora said:

"The prettiest river we crossed was the Suwannee. It was such a darling river.... I just loved it."



"We crossed this bridge 9 a.m. Sat. 13 April"

But Nora continued on to say that none of the rivers were more beautiful or charming than "our own Snake River."

4. New Orleans. They took a sightseeing trip through the old Spanish town. Nora said:

> "That sure was interesting. You could almost see your self sitting on one of those high balconies, waiting for your hero to come home."

5. Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico.

> "What a sight! If any of you ever get that far please don't miss this wonderful place. It's just something you can't describe." (Charles)

6. Crossed Texas.



Nora said: "It took two and a half days to cross Texas.... Charles became a rock hound on this trip. Every crack and cranny in the car was filled with rocks of different kinds."

7. Through Arizona, into California, by the Salton Sea, and home!

8. Stopover with Wilbur and Donna while waiting for the renters to move out and get the home repaired. It took most of $1,000 to get it liveable again so maybe leaving it vacant would have been better.

During this pause, Charles wrote his life story. It's only 9 pages long but every word a treasure and it has been invaluable in this effort. Later, Donna helped Nora write her life story when they were living with Wilbur and Donna while Charles was being cared for. It was not realized then how much help it would be in the compiling of a more complete life story for Charles.

Mission Report

We failed to note the date that Charles and Nora gave their mission report in Sacrament Meeting, but as at their Farewell, the Family was there in full force. Needless to say, we were very proud of our parents and grandparents.

At their request, Sarah sang: "In the Garden of Tomorrow" and Andrea and Sarah together sang "My Grandmother's Garden." Once again, Charles' favorite hymn "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go" was sung, this time as a congregational hymn.

Nora's Talk

Nora told of the poverty of the people in the South and about her experiences as Relief Society president raising funds and trying to help those in need. She told how busy they were and how hard it was to do all they needed to do for both their Branch and Missionary responsibilities. She bore her testimony as to how much they had depended on the Lord and been helped by Him.

Charles' Talk

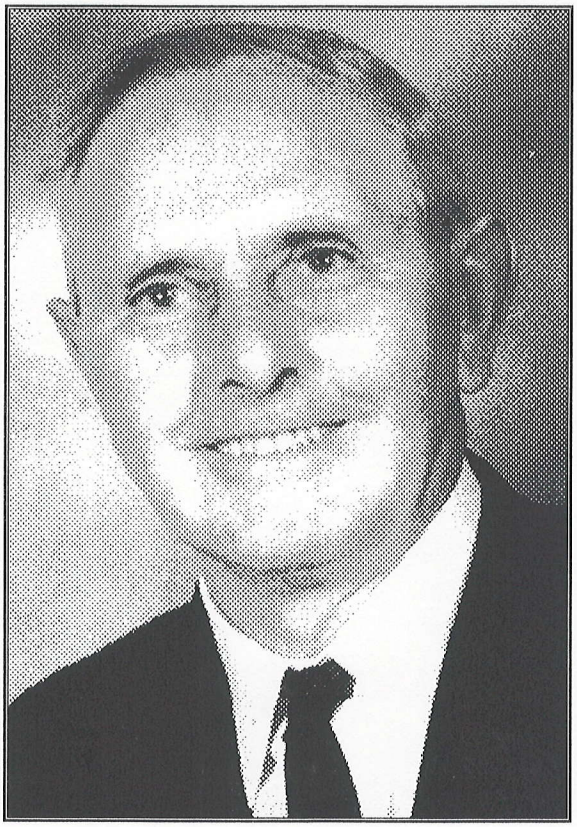
Charles spoke of Satan and the roadblocks he put in their way to prevent them from going on a mission. He told of Nora's illnesses and how God had sustained them. He told of troubles in the Branch and how the Adversary made it difficult to help and teach the people. One family of 13, where even the small boys used chewing tobacco. The nine year old said he couldn't quit. Elderly women dipped snuff and could spit accurately clear across the room.

He expressed his love for the people and desire to teach them a better way. Turning to the scriptures, he spoke of setting goals for Eternal progression. We haven't the details, but he spoke of the Council in Heaven, of Enoch and his people being translated, and of ancient Joseph predicting the mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith.

Charles bore his testimony that he knew the Church was true, that Joseph Smith was a true Prophet as have been all the prophets since. He said he knew that bishops are chosen and inspired -- that mission calls are inspired. He said he and Nora had been blessed by their mission and could report that "we have done our best."

He thanked the bishop and stake president -- and God -- for calling them on their mission.

A Record of the Posterity of



Charles Tyler

"...I shall endeavor to write some of these things upon this record, for the benefit of the posterity that shall come after me." Abraham 1:31

Descendants of Charles Tyler

The direct descendants of Charles Tyler, as of the summer of 1995 equals almost exactly 80. His firstborn, DeLoy, would have been 70 years old this year, so there have been 80 babies born in 70 years, averaging better than one a year. And, as the next generation gets started, we expect the birthrate to gain momentum.

As both Andrea and Veda pointed out in their funeral eulogies for Charles and Nora, they valued their descendants and participated in their lives at every opportunity. When able, they were in attendance at all the highlights of their lives. Baby Blessings, 8-year-old Baptisms, Mission Farewells and Reports, and of course, all Weddings. They wrote letters to missionary grandsons and offered their wisdom and insights to anyone of their descendants who asked. They always encouraged spirituality and obedience to the commandments and counsel of the prophets. They were happy to help with talk preparation and food storage, in which they set the example.

Charles and Nora also played with the children but unfortunately only the older grandchildren will remember that. As Charles' Alzheimer's Disease progressed, his personality changed and he became intolerant of youngsters and sometimes unreasonably cross. This was heartbreaking to Norma, Merrill, and Donna, who wanted their children to know Charles as he really was.

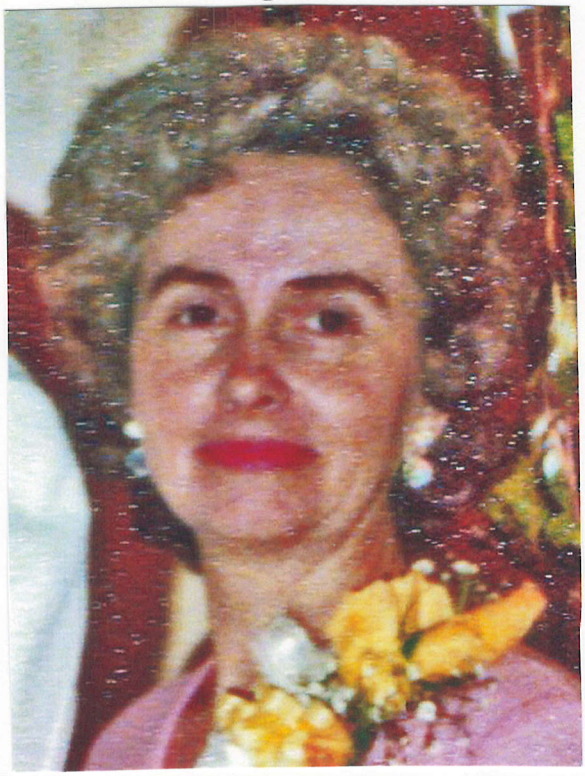
As Andrea reported: "We older ones have many wonderful memories of Grandpa and time spent at Grandma and Grandpa's. I used to delight in spending the night with them, sleeping in one of Grandpa's flannel, long-sleeved shirts. I must have looked funny with my cuffs dragging the floor.

"Grandpa gave us lots of rides around the yard in his wheelbarrow and tumbled us in a big, cardboard barrel. Grandpa would have loved the video games, just like his grandsons do. He was intelligent and quick minded and loved playing checkers. He taught my brother, Larry, to play and now Larry, like Grandpa, has trouble getting people to play with him. Like Grandpa, he always wins.

"Dennis remembers playing checkers with Grandpa and said he could never beat him until after his first stroke. It was a sad realization for us when Grandpa could no longer beat his grandsons at checkers. We realized that the Grandpa we knew was slipping away from us. It's sad that none of his 36 great grandchildren (1981 count) could know Grandpa well.

"But for some of them he has been very much a part of their lives. My brother's children have been with him a lot and until recently his eyes would follow them as they played in his room and 'assisted' with his care. Grandpa always loved children and the last word we heard him say clearly was 'Baby' in reference to Michelle, who is now six."

Thumbnail Sketch of Donna



Donna has brown eyes, light brown hair (now mostly white) and measures about 5 foot, 5 1/2 inches tall. She loves to read and write biographies, is good at detail work and loves music. She sang soprano solos in her youth but has neglected and lost that talent. Perhaps someday it can be regained in some Heavenly Choir.

She married Wilbur Lee Bliss and together they have raised four fine children, one daughter and three sons. Each is now a productive, successful adult and an excellent parent to their 20 grandchildren.

Always happy to be of service in God's Kingdom, Donna has served in many capacities: Primary teacher, chorister, secretary, counselor, president and stake president. Relief Society teacher, secretary, counselor and president. Together she and Wilbur have served many, many years in family history callings and have been stake records extraction coordinators. In Michigan she even taught seminary for over three years. There can be no doubt that family history is her favorite calling and pastime.

Shared Anniversary With Charles and Nora

July 16th was a shared wedding anniversary for Charles and Nora and Wilbur and Donna and whenever they could, they celebrated together. Usually this amounted to going out to dinner and maybe a movie together.

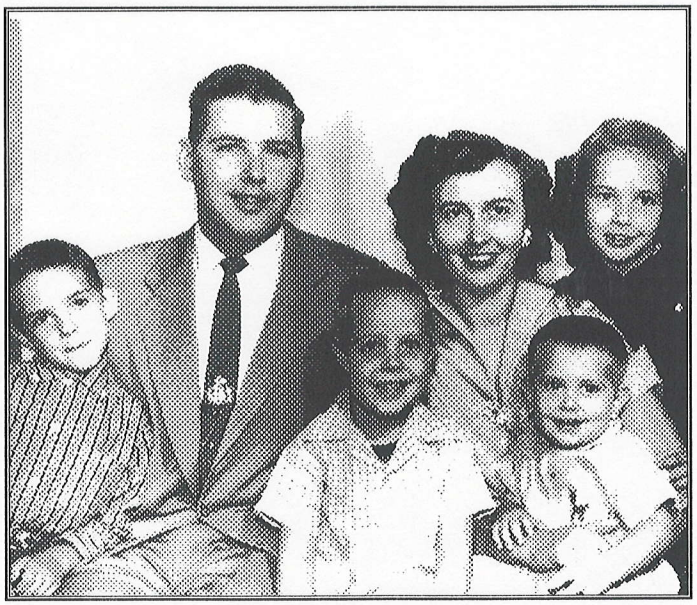
Pictures Through the Years



Wilbur and Donna about 1949



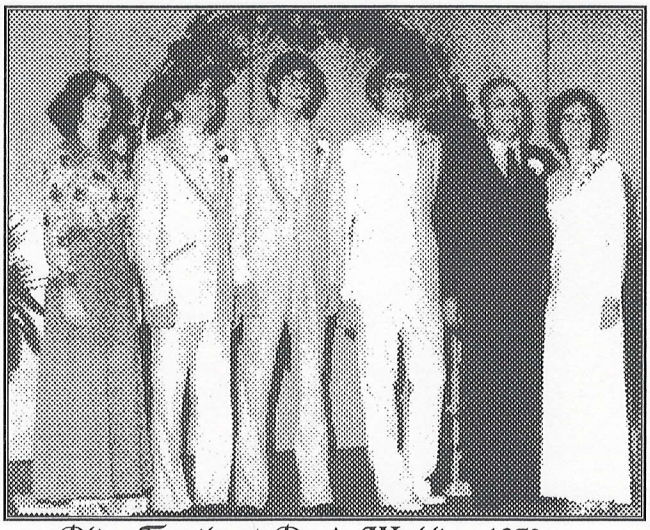
Donna with Andrea about 1950



The Bliss Family about 1957
Randy, Wilbur, Daniel, Donna, Larry, Andrea
(Donna made Andrea's little suit)



Wilbur and Donna about 1965

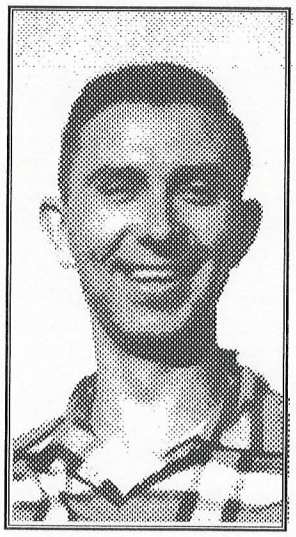


Bliss Family at Dan's Wedding 1978
Andrea, Randy, Larry, Dan,
Wilbur, Donna



Wilbur, Donna, Larry, Dan (back row)
Valerie, Michelle, Randy, Andrea, and
Ed Rombough about 1977

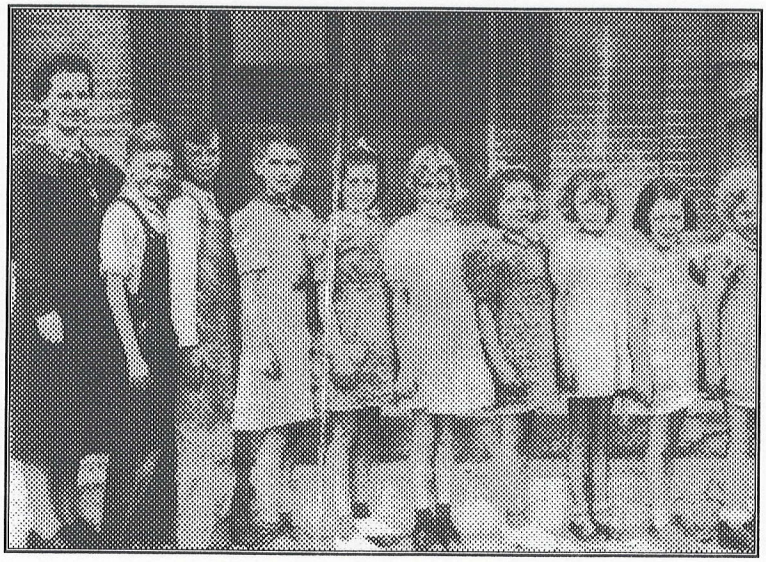
Thumbnail Sketch of Merrill



Merrill at about age 22

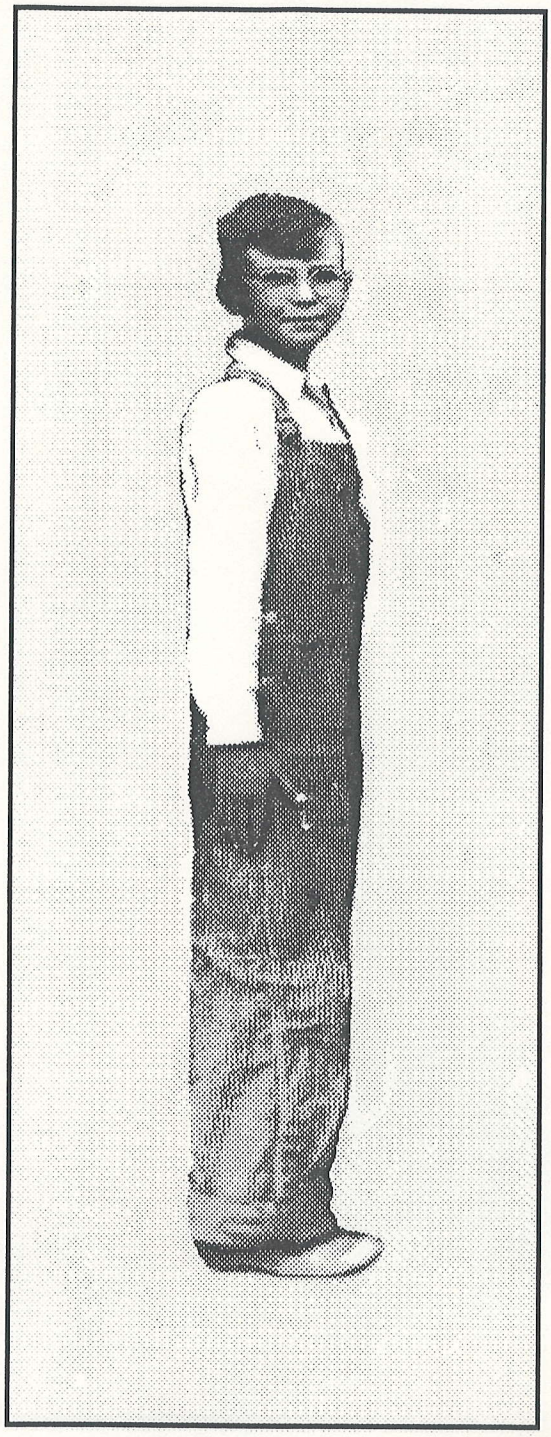
Merrill - our brown eyed, brown haired, six foot tall brother. He's everything a brother should be -- now how can I explain that so you can see why?

See this school picture of him? Only a little boy, but see how straight and tall he stands?



The "Little Room" in Shelton, Idaho

And that's how Merrill is today -- straight and tall, honest and upright in all he does. Charles was like that and Merrill is like that.



Merrill would do anything for us and any member of his family and Church family. We know, because he has.

Merrill was a good son to his parents, always respectful and kind. In their old age he sacrificed much to serve them.

Although he denied the sacrifice, we observed and we knew.

Merrill is a hard worker, having spent his life in the construction trades, mainly installing tile, owning his own successful business.

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Perris, CA. 92570

MERRILL TYLER
(909) 657-9898

Merrill serves the Lord energetically too, having served faithfully in Scouting callings, many Priesthood Quorum callings including Elder's Quorum President, and as a counselor in the Bishopric. Currently he is the Ward Mission Leader, once again following in Charles' footsteps.

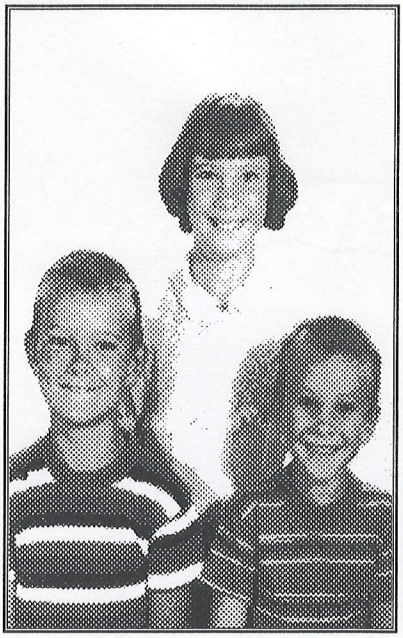
Merrill married Ilene Hughes and together they raised five children, a daughter and four sons, and several foster children. They divorced after 27 years and each has remarried, but they remain united in family concerns.

Merrill not only works hard, but he plays hard too, having retained and honed his wonderful sense of humor and teasing ways. He regularly played baseball and other athletic sports with his sons until they grew too old for it, so now they have all taken up golf instead and very much look forward to their golfing outings.

Merrill faithfully fulfilled his duties as a Home Teacher (naturally!) and that was how he found and fell in love with Marilyn Peel. They married and together are a wonderful team. M and M Forever!



Photographs of Merrill and Family



Dennis, Dixie Lee &
Stacy Tyler, about 1959



Merrill John Tyler
1962



Dixie Lee,
a pretty Mama
1975



Norma, Nora, Merrill
on Nora's 85th Birthday
1983



Thumbnail Sketch of Norma



Norma, the eldest of the three surviving Tyler children, tends to be somewhat quiet and introspective. She is extremely cautious in her every word and deed, seeking to give offense to no one and to give everyone acknowledgement and recognition. This thoughtfulness is appreciated by her family, who seek to follow her good example.

The strength of Norma's faith strengthens all those around her. Although faced with many trials, her faith in God's will and His goodness never wavers, seeking only to learn the lessons she was intended to learn. Her disposition remains cheerful and upbeat, no matter what.

A lover of good literature, Norma can lose herself in Agatha Christie mysteries, inspirational books, family histories, and scriptures. She was an excellent student in all subjects, probably enjoying most literature, mathematics and bookkeeping.

One of Norma's valuable skills is her attention to detail. She likes detail work and has found that beneficial in her Church callings, family record keeping, and earning a living. No church leader or business head could wish for a better record keeper than Norma.

Blue eyed like her mother, Norma has dark blond hair and stands about five feet, six inches tall. She once took violin lessons as a youngster and to this day thrills to the sounds of violin music. Like Donna's Heavenly Choir, perhaps she will one day play the violin in a Heavenly Orchestra.

Norma married Ralph Higley in 1947 and they raised five children, a daughter and four sons. Norma and Ralph had a happy and harmonious relationship. The Higley children's cousins loved to visit them because they always kept farm animals and raised a big garden. The baby goats were particularly enjoyed by all the cousins. The Higleys continue to be a close knit, spiritually minded family.

There were many serious health problems for Norma through the years -- problems with her lungs, her kidneys, and her joints, requiring several major surgeries. But all those have been easy for her to deal with compared to losing Ralph, who died in 1979. He is never far from her thoughts and she is often aware of his presence beside her, particularly in her times of greatest need.

An avid fan of tennis, Norma watches the telecast tournaments whenever possible. She is a doting grandmother who relishes time spent with her grandchildren. More often than not her Church callings have involved record keeping -- secretary to almost every organization and records never fail to be "worthy of all acceptance." Recently she, like Donna, has been involved in Records' Extraction and finds it very much to her liking. Attending the Temple brings her special joy.

Norma has taken most of the responsibility of maintaining contact with cousins on both the Andersen and Tyler lines. This effort is appreciated by Merrill and Donna, as they too realize the value of these relationships.

Pictures of Norma's Family



Norma & Ralph Higley
1961

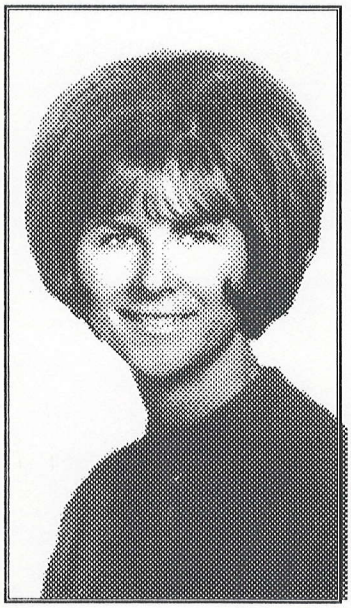


Veda Joy Higley
4-H exhibit 1961



Norma & Ralph Higley

July 1962



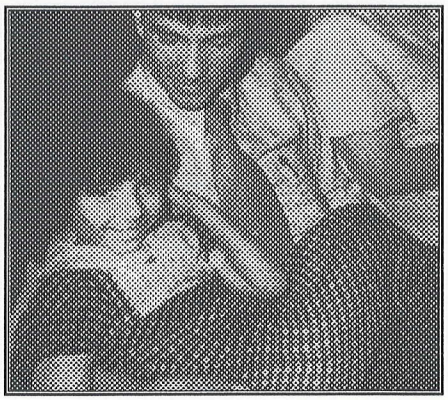
Veda's
High School
Graduation
Photo about 1967



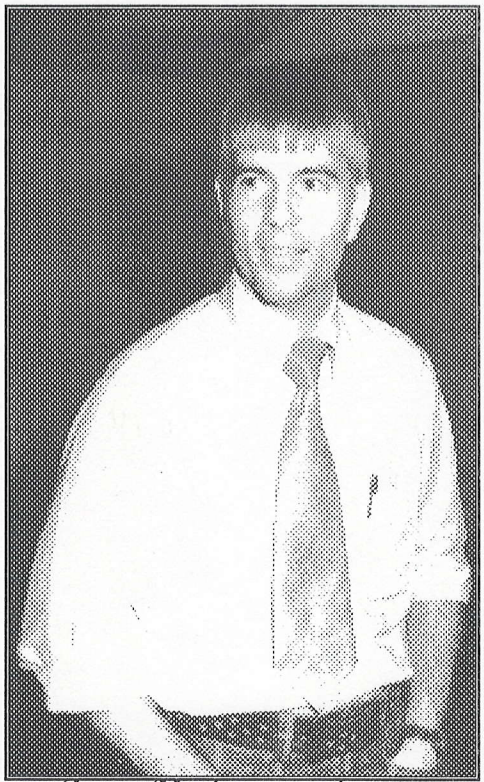
The Higley Family about 1969 - Back row: Clayne, Veda, Jerry
Front row: Kevin, Norma, Ralph, Dean



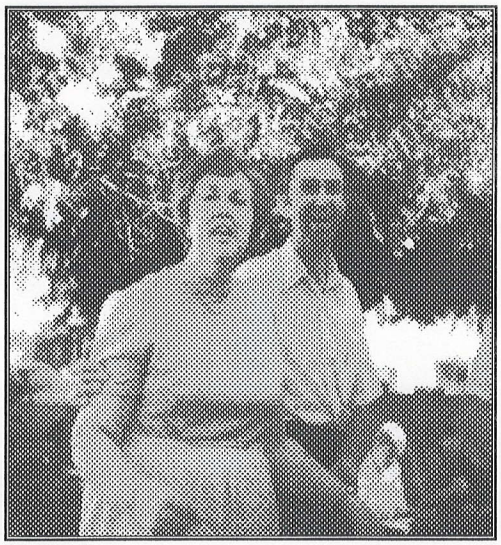
Veda and Norma



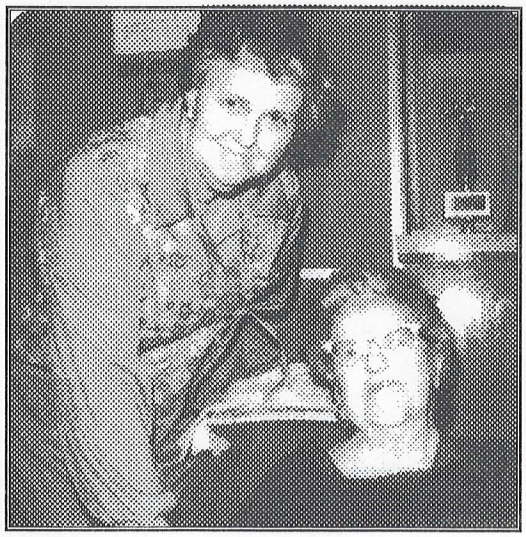
Jerry with niece, Cindy Esparza



Jerry Higley, just home
from his mission 1975



Sister & Brother 1971



Daughter & Mother 1983

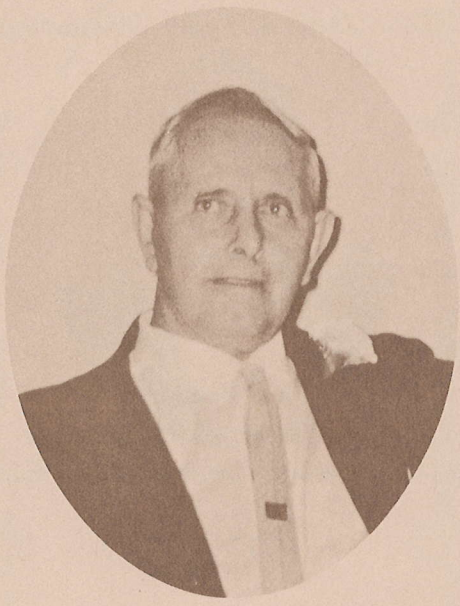


Sisters ~~1993~~ 2000

She passed away May 2002

Funeral

CHARLES TYLER



GOING HOME

Burial

In Loving Memory of
CHARLES TYLER
December 24, 1893 — November 14, 1982

Services at
Corona, Norco Ward's Chapel
Friday, November 19, 1982 — 1:00 P.M.
Elder Dennis Tyler Officiating

Family Prayer . . . . . Wilbur Bliss
(Son-in-Law)

Flower Bearers
Great Grandchildren

Pall Bearers
And Honorary Pall Bearers
(Grandsons and Grandsons-in-Law)

Jerry Higley	Merrill Tyler
Dan Bliss	Dean Higley
Billy Tyler	Larry Bliss
Kevin Higley	Brent Tyler

Rand Bliss, Ken Bernards, Stacey Tyler, Arthur Wescott, Charles Gardner, Antonio Esparza, Wally Lassiter.

Interment
Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, California

SERVICES

Meditation Music . . . . . Shauna Tyler

Conducting . . . . . Elder Dennis Tyler

Invocation . . . . . Veda Higley Esparza
(Granddaughter)

Life Sketch . . . . . Andrea Bliss Gardner
(Granddaughter)

Vocal Selection . . . . . "Somewhere My Love"
Shauna Tyler (Granddaughter-in-Law)

Talk . . . . . Chyne Higley
(Grandson)

Talk . . . . . Dennis Tyler
(Grandson)

Vocal Selection . . . . . "Going Home"
Shauna Tyler

Benediction . . . . . Dan Bliss
(Grandson)

DEDICATION OF GRAVE
Merrill Tyler
(Son)

O My Father
When I leave this frail existence,
When I lay this mortal by,
Father, Mother, May I meet you
In the royal courts on high?
Then at length when I've completed
All you sent me forth to do,
With your mutual approbation
Let me come and dwell with you.
Eliza R. Snow

We Who Love Charles
Rejoice in His Return to
His Heavenly Home

The Family Expresses gratitude for
Your Many Kindnesses Evidenced in
Thought and Deed.

GRIMES FUNERAL HOME
Corona, California

Excerpts from Charles' Eulogy

Given by Grand-daughter Andrea Bliss

"Grandpa began his life story by saying: 'I am Charles Tyler, the youngest of eleven children born to Daniel Moroni Tyler and Sarah Elzina Pulsipher Tyler. I say, as did Nephi, I was born of goodly parents.'

"Grandpa was proud of his heritage and made a conscious effort to be worthy of them. His ancestors on both sides joined the Church in its earliest days and endured valiantly the hypocrisy and persecution of those times. Charles felt blessed and grateful to come from such a fine line.... He was equally proud of his posterity: 4 children, 3 surviving; 25 grandchildren, and 36 great grandchildren. Eight of his grandsons have served missions for the Church all over the world. Several more are planning and preparing to go....

"Grandpa was so patient in his last long affliction. We can only guess how terrible it must have been for him because he couldn't tell us. But we took comfort to know that he was surrounded with our love. We suspect how eager he must have been to be released from his body and mind which would no longer do his bidding. We're thankful that he has at last been released.

"Grandpa Tyler was a romantic and he made the effort to keep the love alive in his marriage. Grandma has never quite gotten over their good fortune in finding each other. She has beautiful memories of their 45 years together. They were wonderful companions -- completely devoted to one another. My mother remembers Grandma and Grandpa singing together -- especially 'It's a Long Way to Tiperary' and 'There's a Long, Long Trail A Winding.'

"Tunes that Shauna played in the meditation music were meaningful to Grandpa: 'Come, Come Ye Saints,' because of his ancestry. 'O That Strawberry Roan' because he always loved horses. Aunt Norma remembers that it was a song he loved.

"And he loved the Church hymns. He told Mom his favorite was "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go." Sarah and I sang that at their Missionary Farewell, and it reflects the philosophy of his life.

"Grandma has found comfort the last few days in the words of a song that used to be in the Hymn Books called 'The Beautiful Isle of Somewhere." She almost felt Grandpa was beside her giving her the words to give her courage and consolation:

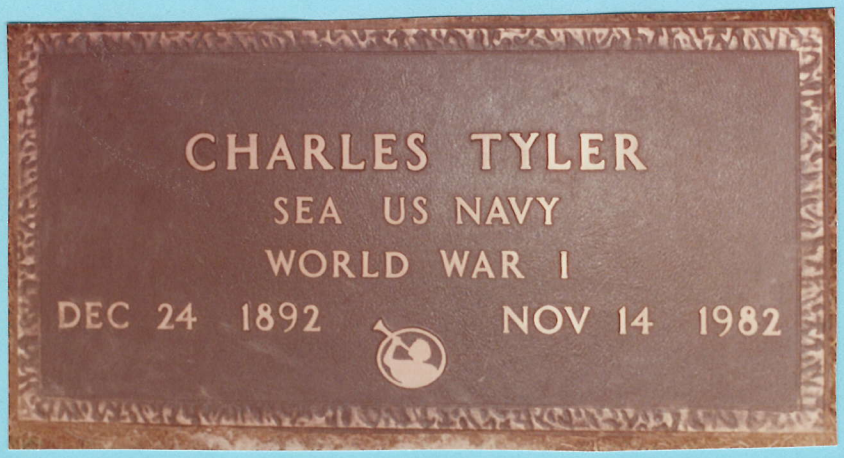
Somewhere the sun is shining,
Somewhere the songbirds dwell.
Hush then, thy sad repining,
God lives and all is well.

Somewhere, Somewhere,
Land of the true,
Beautiful Isle of Somewhere,
Where we live anew,
Beautiful Isle of Somewhere.

"One by one Grandpa's brothers and sisters returned to their Heavenly Home and Grandpa, the last to be born, was also the last to leave. The only two remaining of that large and wonderful family are Aunt Cleo, Uncle Marion's wife, and Grandma. We're happy that Aunt Cleo is here today to share with Grandma their sisterhood and love.

"When you come to the end of a perfect day" the song says. Grandpa's life was as perfect a day as one could hope to have in this life. He was loved by all who knew him.... We all feel confident that his Earthly Mission was a success and that he has been welcomed home with these words: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."


CHARLES TYLER
SEA US NAVY
WORLD WAR I
NOV 14 1982

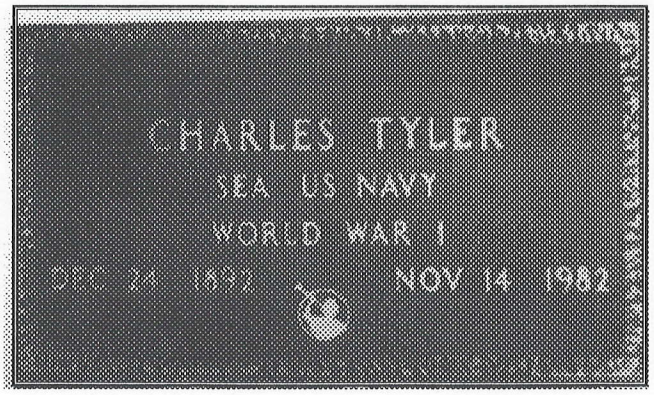

CHARLES TYLER
SEA US NAVY
WORLD WAR I
DEC 24 1892
NOV 14 1982



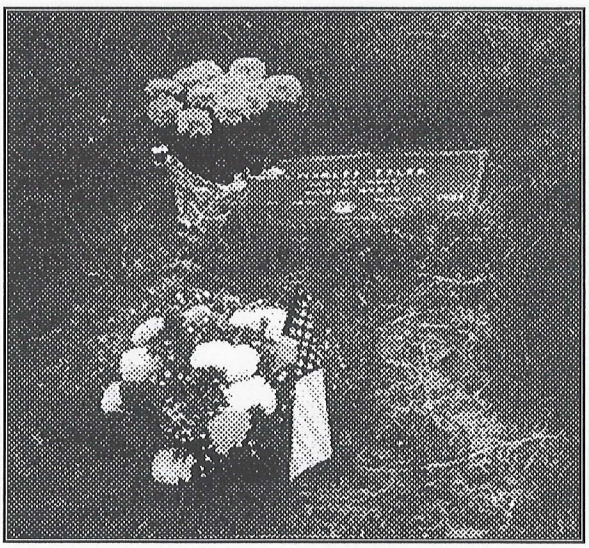



CHARLES TYLER
SEA US NAVY
WORLD WAR I
DEC 24 1892
NOV 14 1982

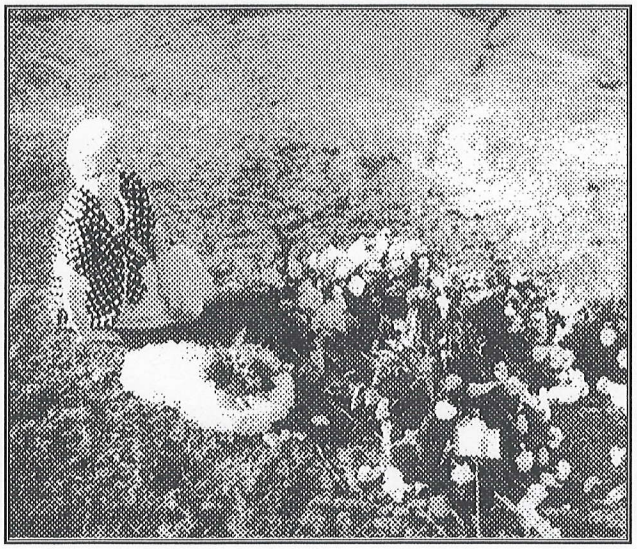

CHARLES TYLER
SEA US NAVY
WORLD WAR I
DEC 24 1892
NOV 14



Charles' Veteran's Marker has 1892 instead of 1893,
which is correct. Aside from that, it's beautiful.
The Angel Moroni insignia denotes L.D.S.
Nora's marker, also of bronze, is similar.



Charles' grave shortly after
the marker was placed.



The spray Nora bought for
Charles was a white heart
with the words she often used:
"My Darling."

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

STATE FILE NUMBER

LOCAL REGISTRATION DISTRICT AND CERTIFICATE NUMBER

DECEDENT PERSONAL DATA

1A. NAME OF DECEDENT—FIRST	1B. MIDDLE	1C. LAST	2A. DATE OF DEATH (MONTH, DAY, YEAR)	2B. HOUR
Charles	(NMI)	Tyler	Nov. 14, 1982	1315

3. SEX	4. RACE	5. ETHNICITY	6. DATE OF BIRTH	7. AGE (YEARS / IF UNDER 1 YEAR: MONTHS, DAYS / IF UNDER 24 HOURS: HOURS, MINUTES)
Male	Cauc.	not given	Dec. 24, 1893	88

8. BIRTHPLACE OF DECEDENT (STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY)	9. NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER	10. BIRTH NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER
UT	Daniel Moroni Tyler - UT	Sarah Elzina Pulsipher

11. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY	12. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	13. MARITAL STATUS	14. NAME OF SURVIVING SPOUSE (IF WIFE, ENTER BIRTH NAME)
U.S.A.	518-18-5474	married	Nora Moore

15. PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION	16. NUMBER OF YEARS THIS OCCUPATION	17. EMPLOYER (IF SELF-EMPLOYED, SO STATE)	18. KIND OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS
landscape gardener	25	self employed	landscaping

USUAL RESIDENCE

19A. USUAL RESIDENCE—STREET ADDRESS (STREET AND NUMBER OR LOCATION)	19B.	19C. CITY OR TOWN
11909 E. Cheshire		Norwalk

19D. COUNTY	19E. STATE	20. NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT—RELATIONSHIP
Los Angeles	CA	Norma Higley - daughter 1748 Via Santiago Corona, CA 91720

PLACE OF DEATH

21A. PLACE OF DEATH	21B. COUNTY
Orangetree Conv. Hosp.	Riverside

21C. STREET ADDRESS (STREET AND NUMBER OR LOCATION)	21D. CITY OR TOWN
4000 Harrison Street	Riverside

CAUSE OF DEATH

22. DEATH WAS CAUSED BY: (ENTER ONLY ONE CAUSE PER LINE FOR A, B, AND C)

IMMEDIATE CAUSE — (A) Acute Respiratory Failure

CONDITIONS, IF ANY, WHICH GAVE RISE TO THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE, STATING THE UNDERLYING CAUSE LAST.

DUE TO, OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF — (B) Pneumonia

DUE TO, OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF — (C)

APPROXIMATE INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH: minutes / day

24. WAS DEATH REPORTED TO CORONER? NO

25. WAS BIOPSY PERFORMED? NO

26. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED? NO

23. OTHER CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING BUT NOT RELATED TO THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF DEATH: Generalized arteriosclerosis - Cerebrovascular accident

27. WAS OPERATION PERFORMED FOR ANY CONDITION IN ITEMS 22 OR 23? TYPE OF OPERATION: NO — DATE

PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATION

28A. I CERTIFY THAT DEATH OCCURRED AT THE HOUR, DATE AND PLACE STATED FROM THE CAUSES STATED.

I ATTENDED DECEDENT SINCE (ENTER MO. DA. YR.)	I LAST SAW DECEDENT ALIVE (ENTER MO. DA. YR.)
9-16-82	11-5-82

28B. PHYSICIAN—SIGNATURE AND DEGREE OR TITLE: William P. Thompson MD

28C. DATE SIGNED: 11-15-82

28D. PHYSICIAN'S LICENSE NUMBER: C022011

28E. TYPE PHYSICIAN'S NAME AND ADDRESS: William P. Thompson, M.D.
11490 Poplar St., Loma Linda, CA 92354

INJURY INFORMATION

29. SPECIFY ACCIDENT, SUICIDE, ETC.	30. PLACE OF INJURY	31. INJURY AT WORK	32A. DATE OF INJURY—MONTH, DAY, YEAR	32B. HOUR

33. LOCATION (STREET AND NUMBER OR LOCATION AND CITY OR TOWN)

34. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED (EVENTS WHICH RESULTED IN INJURY)

CORONER'S USE ONLY

35A. I CERTIFY THAT DEATH OCURRED AT THE HOUR, DATE AND PLACE STATED FROM THE CAUSES STATED. AS REQUIRED BY LAW I HAVE HELD AN (INQUEST-INVESTIGATION)

35B. CORONER—SIGNATURE AND DEGREE OR TITLE

35C. DATE SIGNED

36. DISPOSITION	37. DATE—MONTH, DAY, YEAR	38. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY	39. EMBALMER'S LICENSE NUMBER AND SIGNATURE
burial	11-19-82	Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier CA	Robert K. Grimes 35

40. NAME OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR (OR PERSON ACTING AS SUCH)	41. LOCAL REGISTRAR—SIGNATURE	42. DATE ACCEPTED BY LOCAL REGISTRAR
Grimes Funeral Home 818	Allyn G. Bridge MD	NOV 17 1982

STATE REGISTRAR

A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.
* * * * * * *	* * * * * * *	This must be in red to be a "CERTIFIED COPY"	* * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * * *

VS-11 (10-78)

RIVERSIDE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATION

NOV 22 1982

Date of Amendments, if any _____

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of a certificate on file in the Riverside County Health Department, if the certification is in red.

Allyn G. Bridge MD

Allyn G. Bridge, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Health & Local Registrar

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ★ REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS ★ COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, CAL.

DOH-VS-004 (Rev. 2/82)

321.

Funeral

NORA MOORE TYLER



GOING HOME

And Burial



Her spray of flowers to him said
"My Darling"



In Loving Memory of
NORA MOORE TYLER
September 5, 1898 — August 26, 1984

Services at
Corona, Norco, Wards' Chapel
Thursday, August 30, 1984 — 11:30 A.M.
Bishop Wilbur L. Bliss Officiating

Family Prayer ..... Rand L. Bliss
(Grandson)

Flower Bearers
Great Grandchildren

Pall Bearers
And Honorary Pall Bearers
(Grandsons and Grandsons-in-Law)

Dennis Tyler	Jerry Higley
Daniel Bliss	Larry Bliss
Dean Higley	Kevin Higley
Stacy Tyler	Brent Tyler

Kenneth Bernards, Antonio Esparza, Wally Lassiter, Charles Gardner, Billy Tyler.

Interment
Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, California

SERVICES

Meditation Music ..... Shauna Tyler

Conducting ..... Bishop Wilbur L. Bliss

Invocation ..... Clayne Higley
(Grandson)

Memories ..... Veda Higley Esparza
(Granddaughter)

Vocal Selection ..... "Somewhere My Love"
Shauna Tyler (Granddaughter-in-Law)

Life Sketch ..... Andrea Bliss Gardner
(Granddaughter)

Vocal Selection ..... "I am a Child of God"
(Great-Grandchildren)

Talk ..... Wilbur Bliss
(Son-in-Law)

Vocal Selection ..... "Going Home"
Shauna Tyler

Benediction ..... Merrill D. Tyler
(Grandson)

DEDICATION OF GRAVE
Merrill Tyler
(Son)

O My Father
When I leave this frail existence,
When I lay this mortal by,
Father, Mother, May I meet you
In the royal courts on high?
Then at length when I've completed
All you sent me forth to do,
With your mutual approbation
Let me come and dwell with you.
Eliza R. Snow

We Who Love Nora
Rejoice in Her Return to
Her Heavenly Home

The Family Expresses gratitude for Your Many Kindnesses Evidenced in Thought and Deed.

GRIMES FUNERAL HOME
Corona, California

"Memories"

Talk given by Veda Higley Esparza at Nora's Funeral

All of us hold dear so many warm and good memories of our Grandmother, Nora Tyler.

She came to the Charles Tyler family in a time of great need for them. Charles' wife, Elverda, died in November of 1936, leaving him and three young children: Norma, age 9, Merrill, age 6, and Donna, age 4, alone. Grandpa and his young family were going through a rough time. My mother, Norma, said she sometimes wondered if they would ever be happy again. In January of 1937, Grandpa wrote to Nora Moore asking her to housekeep and tend his children. In a short time she won their hearts and brought joy, laughter, and happiness back into their lives. My mother remembers such joy in seeing their precious father smile again.

Grandma fit right in. Donna wanted to call her "Mama" right away. Norma and Merrill were soon doing the same. The second day Nora was there, Norma and Merrill reluctantly went to school. Donna was too young for school and stuck close to Nora. Norma and Merrill were supposed to ride home in a horse-drawn sleigh that served as a school bus. But they were anxious to get home and walked over a mile in deep snow. Merrill's first words were, "Is she still here?" Grandma was to be there for the rest of her life when they needed her.

Charles and Nora were married in July of 1937. They had told the children that Charles was going to Logan to bring them back a new mother. They didn't want a new mother; they wanted the one that was already with them. But all was well when they figured out Grandpa was teasing.

That first summer, as a complete family, they had picnics in lovely places along the Snake River. They took a trip to Yellowstone Park with some of Charles' brothers and sisters where Grandma had some real challenges, as a new mother, keeping little Donna and curious Merrill out geysers and bubbling mud pots, and just barely keeping Merrill from falling down a steep cliff into Yellowstone River. On that same trip a big bear walked into their tent one night, just about giving Charles and Nora heart failure!

They didn't have a lot of money, but they had lots of love and fun together as a family.

Mother remembers Grandma's parents and brothers and sisters with love and appreciation. They were a large family and took Charles and his three children in and made them feel so loved.

It was soon fall and time for school to start again. Times were hard. The Depression was so bad and they barely made a living on their farm. There was no money for material for a new dress for Norma to start school. So Grandma took two of her pretty dresses, cut them down and made lovely dresses for my Mom. Her nine-year-old heart was so touched. How could she help but love this dear new mother who was so willing to give and to share.

This willingness to share a loving heart was evident Grandma's whole life. She was next to the youngest of her family. She was very close to her parents. When they started having health problems, it was to Nora's home they came, and Grandma nursed both of them until they died.

It was Grandma who taught Mom, Aunt Donna, and Uncle Merrill to cook, bake, can, and so many things that Mom said made it easier for her when she married.

It was Grandma who taught Mom to care for her first-born baby, me, when she came home from the hospital so scared she'd do something wrong. I'm told that Grandma was delighted with her first granddaughter, and then again and again, as more and more grandchildren came into the family. Each baby was a special joy to Grandma. She remembered all of our names, children's names, who belonged to who, and even birthdays!

She always took pride in hearing about each of us and what our families were doing. Through the years and the raising of our ever expanding families, Grandma rejoiced with us in our good times, and worried with us in times of anxiety. We will miss her sense of humor and her wisdom.

When I was young I loved to spend the night at Grandpa's and Grandma's, as did my cousins. Grandma was always baking and had such good food and plenty of time to talk and play.

I remember when Sarah came into the family. Grandpa and Grandma had raised three children and were kept busy with grandchildren, but still had room in their hearts for one more. She kept them young and gave them special joy.

Grandma and Grandpa took great delight in their family. Grandma thought there was nothing better than a loving family. We often had family get-togethers on Sunday after Church. For many years we got together at Christmas and celebrated Grandpa's birthday and exchanged Christmas presents.

It seems that Grandma was there whenever we needed her love, strength and helping hands. When I was 16, Mom was finishing up a prom dress for me to wear that same evening. Kevin, my youngest brother was ready to come into the world and would not wait much longer. Mom called Grandma and said, "Help, we need you." She and Grandpa left a fruit cake in the oven and rushed over. Grandma made my slip, and helped finish my dress. I selfishly went on my way to the Prom, and Grandma, Grandpa, and my Dad rushed Mom to the hospital where Kevin was born that same evening, December 18th. Oh, the fruit cake was burned, but Grandma said they ate it anyway.

Grandma had a strong testimony of the truthfulness of the Gospel and love of God. She shared this testimony and love with her family. There is a scripture in Romans 8:38-39 where Paul is talking and it brings Grandma's strong faith to mind. I'll paraphrase it a little: "For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor things present, nor things to come, shall be able to separate us from the love of God."

She was always active in Church and had many callings until her health did not permit. Even then her faith was strong and she truly "endured to the end."

Grandma had a philosophy of life to live today to better tomorrow. She endured many hardships in her life. They made her more aware of other people's feelings and problems. She was always prayerful, having a strong belief in the power of daily prayer. Mom said she often found Grandma in prayer at the nursing home.

She endured everything with courage and dignity: the loss of most of her hearing, eyesight, and even her speech near the last. She met the challenge of the nursing home with courage and everyone loved her. Several nurses and nursing aids told Mom they had never heard her complain and she always thanked them for anything they did for her. We were touched by the loving care she received during the last while.

Grandma gave Grandpa many years of happiness. They were devoted to each other, and were a very romantic couple always. They were a loving example to each of us.

The song that Shauna will sing, "Somewhere My Love," was one of their favorites.

Grandma will be greatly missed by all of us, but we will have our warm memories forever.

Words to Funeral Songs

The words to the songs sung at their funerals were meaningful to Charles and Nora and it seems fitting to print them here. Shauna, married to their grandson, Dennis Tyler, sang them so very beautifully.

"Somewhere My Love:

Somewhere, my Love,
There will be songs to sing,
Although the snow
Covers the hope of spring.

Somewhere a hill
Blossoms in green and gold,
And there are dreams
All that your heart can hold.

Someday,
We'll meet again, my Love,
Someday,
Whenever the spring breaks through.

You'll come to me,
Out of the long ago,
Warm as the wind,
Soft as the kiss of snow.

Til then, my own,
Think of me now and then,
God speed, my love,
Til you are mine, again.

Going Home

Goin' home, goin' home,
I'm a goin' home,
Quite like, some still day,
I'm jus' goin' home.
It's not far, jus' close by,
Through an open door,
Work all done, care laid by,
Goin' to fear no more.

Mother's there, expecting me,
Father's waitin' too.
Lots of folks gathered there,
All the friends I knew,
All the friends I knew,
Home, home, I'm goin' home.

Nothings lost, all's gain,
No more fret nor pain.
No more stumbling on the way,
No more longing for the day
Going to roam no more.

Morning star, lights the way
Restless dream all done.
Shadows gone, break of day
Real life just begun.
There's no break, there's no end,
Jes a livin' on,
Wide awake, with a smile,
Goin' on and on.

Goin' home, goin' home,
I'm jes goin' home.
It's not far, jes close by,
Through an open door.
I'm jes goin' home,
Goin' home.

"I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go"

It may not be on the mountain height
Or over the stormy sea,
It may not be at the battle's front
My Lord will have need of me.
But if, by a still, small voice he calls
To paths that I do not know,
I'll answer, dear Lord, with my hand in thine:
I'll go where you want me to go.

Perhaps today there are loving words
Which Jesus would have me speak;
There may be now in the paths of sin
Some wand'rer whom I should seek.
O Savior, if thou wilt be my guide,
Tho dark and rugged the way,
My voice shall echo the message sweet:
I'll say what you want me to say.

There's surely somewhere a lowly place
In earth's harvest fields so wide
Where I may labor through life's short day
For Jesus, the Crucified.
So trusting my all to thy tender care,
And knowing thou lovest me,
I'll do thy will with a hearth sincere:
I'll be what you want me to be.

Chorus: I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord,
Over mountain or plain or sea;
I'll say what you want me to say, dear Lord;
I'll be what you want me to be.

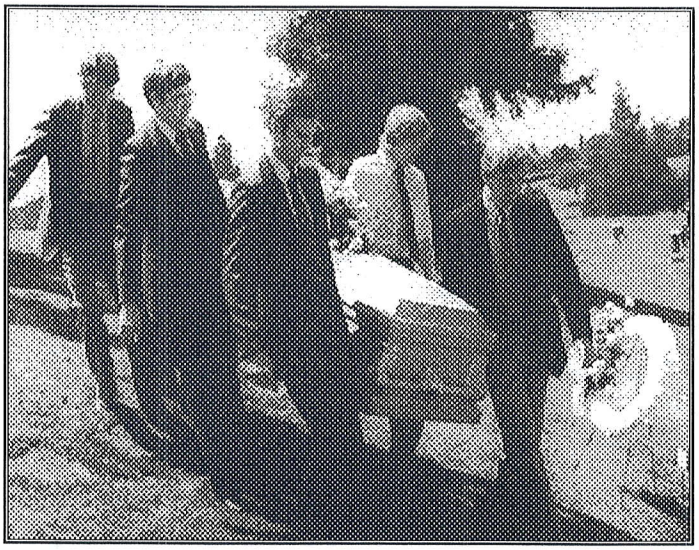
Pictures From Nora's Funeral



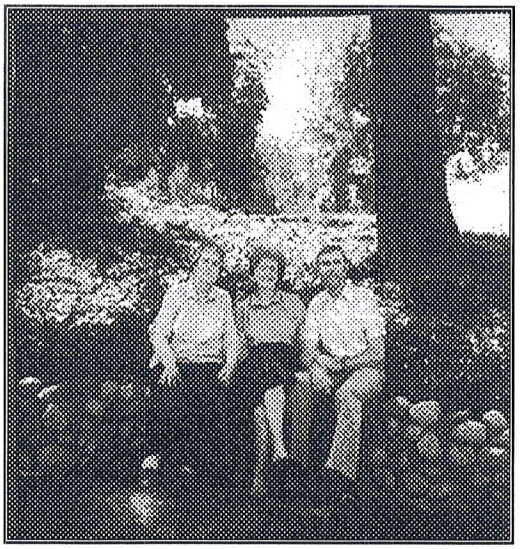
Donna, Merrill, & Norma
beside Nora's casket



Marilyn, Norma, & Donna
at Cemetery



Larry, Dan, Dennis, Kevin and
Jerry carrying casket.



Norma, Donna and Merrill
visiting the Cemetery
together at a later date.

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

STATE FILE NUMBER

LOCAL REGISTRATION DISTRICT AND CERTIFICATE NUMBER

DECEDENT PERSONAL DATA

1A. NAME OF DECEDENT—FIRST	1B. MIDDLE	1C. LAST	2A. DATE OF DEATH (MONTH, DAY, YEAR)	2B. HOUR
Nora	Moore	Tyler	August 26, 1984	0907

3. SEX	4. RACE/ETHNICITY	5. SPANISH/HISPANIC	6. DATE OF BIRTH	7. AGE	IF UNDER 1 YEAR: MONTHS	DAYS	IF UNDER 24 HOURS: HOURS	MINUTES
Female	Cauc.	NO ☒	Sept. 5, 1898	85 YEARS				

8. BIRTHPLACE OF DECEDENT (STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY)	9. NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER	10. BIRTH NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER
ID	Willard C. Moore - UT	Annie L. Morgan - UT

11. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY	12. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	13. MARITAL STATUS	14. NAME OF SURVIVING SPOUSE (IF WIFE, ENTER BIRTH NAME)
U.S.A.	548-56-5195	Widowed	----------

15. PRIMARY OCCUPATION	16. NUMBER OF YEARS THIS OCCUPATION	17. EMPLOYER (IF SELF-EMPLOYED, SO STATE)	18. KIND OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS
Homemaker	56	Self-Employed	Own Home

USUAL RESIDENCE

19A. USUAL RESIDENCE—STREET ADDRESS (STREET AND NUMBER OR LOCATION)	19B.	19C. CITY OR TOWN
4000 Harrison Street		Riverside

19D. COUNTY	19E. STATE
Riverside	CA

PLACE OF DEATH

21A. PLACE OF DEATH	21B. COUNTY
Orangetree Conv. Hospital	Riverside

21C. STREET ADDRESS (STREET AND NUMBER OR LOCATION)	21D. CITY OR TOWN
4000 Harrison	Riverside

20. NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT—RELATIONSHIP

Norma Higley - Daughter
1748 Via Santiago
Corona, Ca. 91720

CAUSE OF DEATH

22. DEATH WAS CAUSED BY: (ENTER ONLY ONE CAUSE PER LINE FOR A, B, AND C)

IMMEDIATE CAUSE

CONDITIONS, IF ANY, WHICH GAVE RISE TO THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE, STATING THE UNDERLYING CAUSE LAST.

(A) Pneumonia

DUE TO, OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF

(B) Cerebral Vascular Accident

DUE TO, OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF

(C) Athrosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease

APPROXIMATE INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH

24. WAS DEATH REPORTED TO CORONER? Yes

25. WAS BIOPSY PERFORMED? No

26. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED? No

23. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS—CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO CAUSE GIVEN IN 22A

27. WAS OPERATION PERFORMED FOR ANY CONDITION IN ITEMS 22 OR 23? TYPE OF OPERATION: No — DATE:

PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATION

28A. I CERTIFY THAT DEATH OCCURRED AT THE HOUR, DATE AND PLACE STATED FROM THE CAUSES STATED.

I ATTENDED DECEDENT SINCE (ENTER MO. DA. YR.)

I LAST SAW DECEDENT ALIVE (ENTER MO. DA. YR.)

28B. PHYSICIAN—SIGNATURE AND DEGREE OR TITLE

28C. DATE SIGNED

28D. PHYSICIAN'S LICENSE NUMBER

28E. TYPE PHYSICIAN'S NAME AND ADDRESS

JURY INFORMATION

29. SPECIFY ACCIDENT, SUICIDE, ETC.	30. PLACE OF INJURY	31. INJURY AT WORK	32A. DATE OF INJURY—MONTH, DAY, YEAR	32B. HOUR

33. LOCATION (STREET AND NUMBER OR LOCATION AND CITY OR TOWN)

34. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED (EVENTS WHICH RESULTED IN INJURY)

CORONER'S USE ONLY

35A. I CERTIFY THAT DEATH OCCURRED AT THE HOUR, DATE AND PLACE STATED FROM THE CAUSES STATED. AS REQUIRED BY LAW I HAVE HELD AN (INQUEST-INVESTIGATION) Investigation

35B. CORONER—SIGNATURE AND DEGREE OR TITLE: William J Dykes, Coroner By: [signature] Deputy

35C. DATE SIGNED: 8-27-84

36. DISPOSITION	37. DATE—MONTH, DAY, YEAR	38. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY	39. EMBALMER'S LICENSE NUMBER AND SIGNATURE
Burial	8-30-84	Rose Hills Memorial Park-Whitter, Ca.	3513 Robert K. Grimes

40A. NAME OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR (OR PERSON ACTING AS SUCH)	40B. LICENSE NO.	41. LOCAL REGISTRAR—SIGNATURE	42. DATE ACCEPTED BY LOCAL REGISTRAR
Grimes Funeral Home	818	Edward J Gallagher, MD, MPH	AUG 28 1984 VS

STATE REGISTRAR

A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.

VS-11 (7-83)

87604-449 8-83 400M DUP ⓘ OSP

* This must be in red to be a *
"CERTIFIED COPY"

AUG 30 1984

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CERTIFICATION

Date Of Amendments, if any _____

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of a certificate on file in the County of Riverside, Department of Health, if the certification is in red.

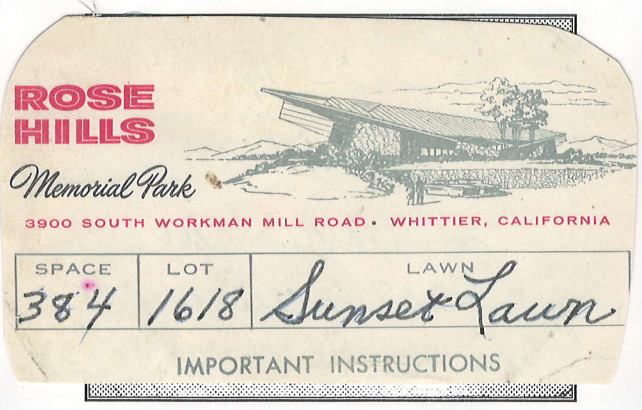
Edward J Gallagher, MD, MPH.
Edward J. Gallagher, M.D., M.P.H.
Local Registrar

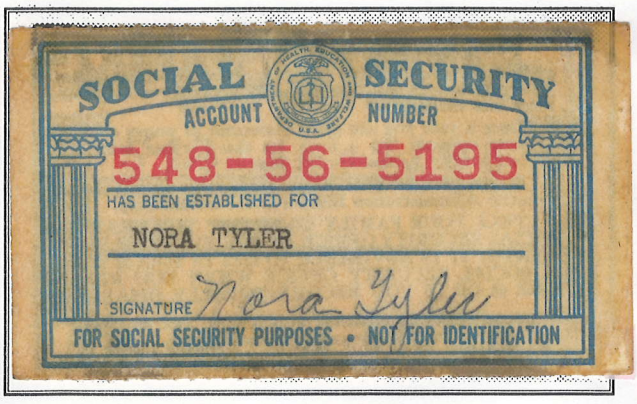
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ★ REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS ★ COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, CAL.

DOH-VS-004(REV 4/84)



Beautiful Sunset Lawn in Rose Hills Where
Charles and Nora Rest





Certificate of OWNERSHIP

No. B7416

Rose Hills Memorial Park Association

WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA

This is to Certify: That - - - - - CHARLES TYLER and/or NORA M. TYLER - - - - -

31410

Rose Hills Memorial Park Association

4826 South Workman Mill Road
P. O. Box 110, Whittier, California

Date FEB. 29, 1956

This is to certify that:

CHARLES TYLER, the Purchaser, is included in the Purchaser's Protective Plan of Rose Hills Memorial Park Association as underwritten in its group Creditor-Debtor life insurance policy with the Constitution Life Insurance Company for the purchase of GRAVES 3-4, LOT 1618 SUNSET LAWN when 10% or more of the purchase price of the interment property listed above (including the deposit for the Endowment Care Fund) has been received by the seller; subject to the Terms and Conditions contained herein and made a part hereof.

ROSE HILLS MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION

By D. Roberts
Assistant Secretary

CHARLES TYLER
NORA M. TYLER
3701 FILLMORE
RIVERSIDE, CA. 92505

S 009461

No. 442

8-2 1969

90-545
1222

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Rose Hills Memorial Park $ 8.50

Eight & 50/100 DOLLARS

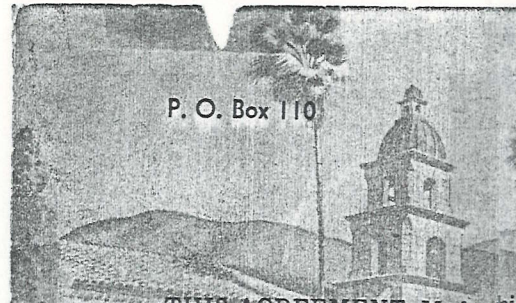
SECURITY PACIFIC NATIONAL BANK
Arlington Branch
9380 Magnolia Ave., Riverside, Calif. 92503

Charles Tyler

⑈122205451⑈303⑈024 547⑈ ⑈0000008 50⑈

1067

BEFORE-NEED PURCHASE AGREEMENT



P. O. Box 110

Rose Hills Memorial Park

4826 So. Workman Mill Road
WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA

This is an "Endowment" Care Interment Property

Phones OXford 9-0921
RAymond 3-5391

THIS AGREEMENT, Made this 29th day of February, 1956 between ROSE HILLS MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION, a California Corporation, the SELLER and Charles Tyler, the PURCHASER (Joint Tenants)

WITNESSETH: That purchaser agrees to make a deposit to the "Endowment Care Fund" as herein provided and to purchase for interment purposes only, space in Rose Hills Memorial Park as per plat on file in the office of seller described as follows:

Grave 3-4	Sec.	Lot 1618	Lawn Sunset Lawn			$ 260.00
Grave	Sec.	Lot	Lawn			$
Crypt	Tier	Corridor		Maus.		$
Niche	Sanct.	Colum.		Maus.		$
						$
Deposit by purchaser for "Endowment Care Fund"						$ 30.00
					Total	$ 290.00

and agrees to pay the Seller therefor the sum of Two hundred ninety and no/100 dollars ($290.00) Dollars in lawful money as follows, to wit: $6.00 upon signing of this agreement by the Purchaser, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged and $ on or before and the remainder in installments of $5.75 or more, on the 30th day of each month hereafter (starting in March, 1956) until the entire balance has been paid. (No interest will be charged for the first 36 months from the date hereof if consequently are not ready for

It is agreed that this burial space is purchased for cemetery purposes only, not for speculation, and that neither the Seller, its agents or salesmen in any way represent or guarantee a resale thereof.

This agreement not valid until accepted by the Seller.

J.T.R.S

CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP shall be issued as follows:

CHARLES and/or NORA M. TYLER

M. G. Burkett
(Sales Representative)

Accepted MAR 26 1956, 19
ROSE HILLS MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION

By D. M. Roberts
~~Vice President~~ Ass't. Secretary

Purchaser Charles Tyler
Street 5026 Walnut Ave
City Long Beach
Phone Number Garfield 3-4435

Contract No. 31410

Cert. No.

PLEASE READ THIS AGREEMENT

Source 1 MAR 2 1956

CENT OR A REQUEST COPY OF YOUR CHECKED OF THE

Nora Moore Tyler

Charles Tyler



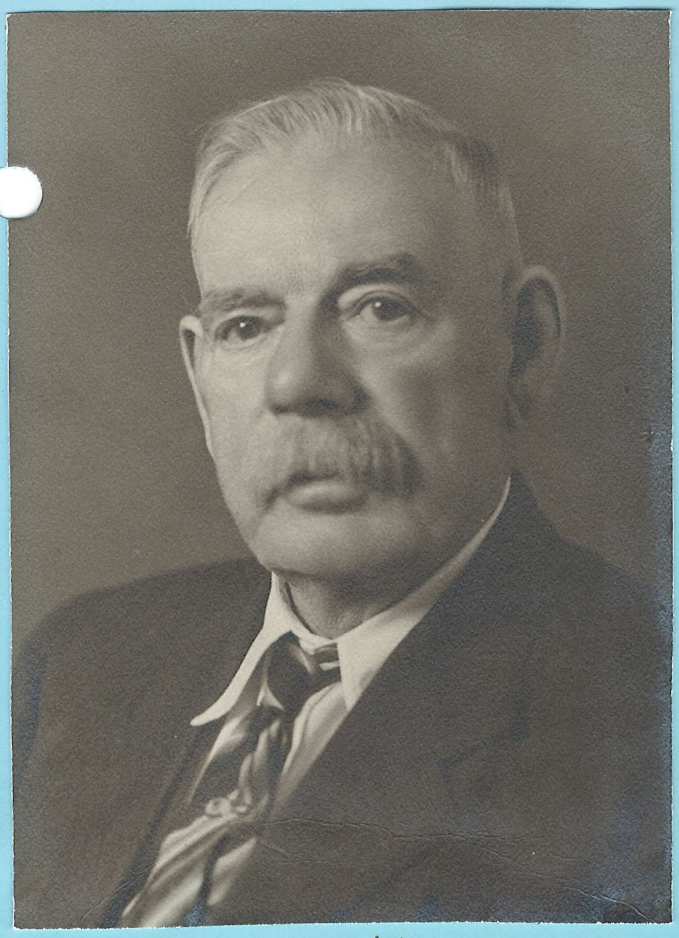








Nora Moore Tyler



Willard Moore



Annie Morgan Moore



Gay Kelsey,
Nora's Niece



Nora



Nora

Nora Moore Tyler

In The Beginning: They tell me that along about 2 P.M., September 5, 1898, a long legged bird alled the stork, started flying over the home of **Willard Cook Moore** and **Annie Lydia Morgan Moore,** my wonderful parents. The threshers had just eaten and returned to their work and there had to be some changes made in that home before the evening meal could be prepared and served. So tables, chairs, dishes and food had to be moved to my Aunt Prescilla's, nearby. This was necessary in order for the men to eat and give room at the Moore home for the stork to deliver his package.

The Work Must Go On. My mother, the lovely person that she was, never let my father know until the threshing machine stopped that evening. He drove the horses on the horse powered machine and she felt it important not to disrupt the work. I know most of you have never seen and will never see a horse powered threshing machine. The horses were hitched to what they called "sweeps" and went around in circles. Father stood in the center and kept the horses going evenly to give power to the separator of that machine. Well, I've told you about it, so on with my story.

Get the Midwife. When Father, tired as he was, knew his duty and did as he had done eight times before. He got his buggy ready and went heck bent for Sarah Howard, the local midwife. She was just starting her practice and later said that when she arrived and saw Mother sitting in that rocking chair, if someone had given her two cents, she would have gone back home. The reason will soon be told in this story.

The Twin Girl Surprise. At 10:30 that evening, a little girl made her appearance at this home. Mrs. Howard said: "There is still another." And just 15 minutes later, another girl arrived and this one turned out to be me. Am I glad? I sure am. Both had dark eyes and dark hair. We couldn't have been a happier family. I thank my Heavenly Father for sending me to this home where there was so much love and affection for one another. The next morning the crew of threshers came in to see us, as we were the first twins born anywhere near. They all thought my parents had done a very good job to present themselves with twin girls, **Cora** and **Nora.**

So Sweet - My mother was so proud of her two little girls. She often told me about it. She said her bed was where the moon shone in and she often would awaken and look, and there were four bright eyes, wide awake, one on each side, lying just so still, as if not to awaken her.

That Joy So Brief - But their happiness was short, for we soon became ill. First with pneumonia, each having it three times. Then abscesses started forming on our necks. As soon as they would heal, they would form again. At the age of 8 months, some of the abscesses broke on the inside and strangled Cora. My darling twin left us. My father wore out the soles of a new pair of shoes walking the floor with us while we were so sick. The great love that my parents showed at that time, I will never be able to repay.

Something Missing - I well remember, while yet real small, when I played I always had to have two of everything. I guess, being so near before and after we were born, I just couldn't adjust myself, until older, to her loss. I think there is a nearer feeling for a twin than for other sisters. In my complete lifetime there has been a longing for my twin. I do pray I have lived well enough to be with her when I am called Home.

My Childhood - My childhood was just an ordinary childhood, herding pigs, cows, and anything they could turn loose on a farm. I recall a great disappointment when I was about 10 years old. Money was hard to get and my oldest brother told me if I would weed potatoes for him, he would give me 10 cents a row. Oh, how I worked! I thought I would have enough money for the 4th of July. But when that time came, he had his weeding done, but I had only the memory of the weeds, and sore hands.

My Playhouse – A little earlier than this, on the ranch, there was some ground that was not plowed yet for farming. There was large sage brush there and that was where we girls had our playhouse. We had beds made of the large sage brush, crushed down, and chairs of the same. Our dishes were broken pieces of dishes that had been broken at home. How we would hunt for the prettiest colored ones. I remember our mother helping us carry boxes and other things to our playhouse. And when it rained, she ran just as fast as we did to get our boxes and things that the rain would harm. God bless her.

Baptism – When 9 years old, I was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. I would have been baptized a year sooner but wanted to wait for my cousin to come home from his mission in the Southern States. His name was Joseph Thomas Moore. He baptized me and I was confirmed the next day by Bishop John Shelton Howard who was bishop of Shelton Ward for 37 years. I went to Church regularly, and as I got older, took an active part in Primary, Religion Class, Sunday School and Mutual.

The Orchard – Oh, I must tell you about the old orchard, with trees of many kinds, apples, plums, pears, currants, gooseberries, raspberries. Oh, just many good things to eat when ripe. In the orchard there were large shade trees because in the early days of the Church we were told by our leaders to plant many trees for shelter. Also, in many cases, they could be used for firewood during the severe winters we endured.

We children had a special one, a Box Elder tree. It had grown with three large branches going in opposite directions. In that beloved tree we had a playhouse. My, what fun it was to be up in that tree and play with our rag dolls. Sometimes they would fall down and we pretended to cry for them. The other trees grew tall and what fun to climb to the top and let the wind sway you back and forth until sometimes you felt like you could almost touch Heaven.

My Family and Home

Parents – Our home was a very happy home. Both my parents thought their children came first. We always had a nice clean bed to sleep in each night and plenty to eat. Not fancy, but good. We always had warm clothes to wear. My parents were very strict about our dresses so sometimes we were not dressed just like the other children. This caused us to feel self conscious and embarrassed, but we lived through it.

Emma Fainted – My older sister, Emma, was easily frightened and we took advantage of this many times, for which I'm ashamed and sorry now. But our family was always playing tricks on one another. I recall that on the farm we had large stacks of hay.
The derrick would only swing so far, so in order to get the hay in one large stack, we would have to move the derrick several times. Each one of these piles that was started, was called a "butt." They were placed close together and sometimes the stock would find it easy eating at those parts. This time the pigs had done the damage, making a large hole back into the stack. Some hens went back in there and laid their eggs.

My brothers and I decided to scare Emma when she went back in there to gather eggs. Ira, my brother, put on Father's old, long-haired overcoat and crawled back into this hole in the haystack. I coaxed Emma to go in that night for the eggs. Of course it was dark and when she reached for the eggs, she found the overcoat, with someone in it. It frightened her so badly, she fainted. We were severely punished for this. I shall never forget.

Tag- Along – I guess I must have been quite a tag-a-long, for my brothers told of a time they tried to hide from me by crawling into the manger in the horse barn. I came to the door and opened it, and there stood a white calf of my father's. I was real young and I said: "I see dat calf, I never forgot." They got to laughing so hard, I heard them, and I guess I just went tagging along.

School Days

One Room School – Now, about my school days. My first teacher was Peter Nelson. He lived in Milo, 5 or 6 miles west of Shelton, where I went to school. He taught all 8 grades in one large room with a large stove in the center of it. Those who sat near the stove almost roasted and those who were at either end of the room froze. I well remember writing with my gloves on in the winter time. We set our lunch pails in the window and when we ate lunch, our fruit and milk would be frozen.

Deep Snow – We had to walk almost a mile to school and the winters were severe in Idaho at that time. The snow was deep and when we arrived at school, the bottoms of our dresses would be wet and frozen. Many times they would never get dry all day. So, Children and Grandchildren, our education wasn't easily gotten in those days. Now we are paying for it with arthritis, bursitis, and rheumatism. But they were happy days, just the same.

Recess Games – When we could get out in the snow, we played Fox and Geese and many other winter games. I sure was a marble player. I could take the marbles away from many of the boys at school. At one time I had a five pound salt sack full, and by that time, nobody would play marbles with me and I had to quit.

We Had To Mind – Oh, I was sometimes disobedient, like the rest, but we never could get away with it. We had to mind our parents, even after we were married and had homes of our own. But I thank my parents for their strict discipline. They wanted us to become honorable men and women. I can truthfully say that I never told my parents to "wait a minute" or I didn't want to do some thing they asked me to do. Now they are both gone, it is a great consolation to me to know I was obedient in this respect.

More Family Life

Chores – By this time I was getting older and had to take on more responsibilities, which consisted of herding more pigs and cows and also ride the derrick horse. I often did these at the same time and in between loads of hay I chased pigs and cows back out of the other crops. At noon time, when the rest of the hay crew went to the house for a nice dinner, which in those days was the noon meal, I had to stay and herd the critters and eat a cold lunch. I didn't complain, which shows you how much times have changed.

Jobs – When I was 14 I started working for other people. My first job was in Idaho Falls, working for Mrs. Frank Bennett, who had two small children and was expecting another. I did the washing, ironing, scrubbing, and everything that goes with keeping as family going. I sure got homesick but stuck it out and from then on it was work and more work. Sometimes I worked for families with 6 or 7 children, and most of the time doing the washing on a scrubbing board. Oh what fun (nix)! I many times worked for $1.50 a week and shall never forget when I first received $5.00 a week. I took it and bought me a silk dress and a new pair of shoes.

Boys – When I was about 15 I started to notice that boys had also been born, and they looked real good. Also, they seemed to realize that I was around. We seemed to get along just fine. But maybe before I get into that aspect of my life, I should tell you a little something about each of my brothers and sisters. They are as follows:

Joseph Edward was a beautiful blue eyed boy. When he was two weeks old my parents decided to go visit Grandpa and Grandma Morgan who lived about a mile away. It was snowing, and they were walking. Dad carried the baby and he let it snow right in the baby's face. Mother was upset as she was afraid he would catch cold. But he was a husky little fellow and it didn't hurt him a bit. He was sure treasured by his parents but when he was 16 months old, he caught Diphtheria and passed away.

Willard C. was born next; another blue eyed boy. He was called Wit and witty he was. And he was very good in dramatics. He was always chosen for the comic parts. He was very mild tempered, a wonderful husband and father – and brother.

Annie Elizabeth was a lovely dark haired and dark eyed girl. She was her daddy's pride and joy; always sweet and mild, a small lady in every way. When lacking just two days of her second birthday she was called back to Him who gave her – that lovely spirit leaving my parents again with only one child.

Ezra was then born, another boy with curly hair and dark eyes. He was more spirited and not so even tempered. But a lovely boy and a great playmate for Wit. He was mechanically inclined and it seemed he could fix anything.

Ira came along, another witty one. Such a kind and loveable boy. He was one to make everyone around him smile and make the sun shine when hidden with clouds. Such a wonderful husband and father. You would search the world over and never find a more loving and kind father. He was also very good at dramatics and played many roles in the home troupe in the ward.

John came to make a very short stay here on earth; just one month. But he left a place in the home that was always vacant and a smile that was never forgotten.

Sarah Emma, named after both her grandmothers, had a very loveable disposition and was very humorous also. She had medium brown hair and grey eyes. She was very good on the stage also and took part in many plays in the ward. She was a very kind and loveable sister, a wonderful wife and mother.

Cora and Nora, the twins, then came along to make things more interesting for our parents. We were ill almost all the time until my sister passed away at 8 months, as related earlier.

Jeanette Isabelle – such a darling baby and such a sweet sister. We were so close together throughout our lives. Of course she was much younger than me and I can remember her as she grew up. We played together a lot. She was such an ambitious person throughout her life. Well, words can't explain what she meant to me throughout my life until she passed away. I still miss her so much, as I do all my brothers and sisters, all of whom have preceded me in death.

Marriage

Ross Family – When we twins were born, there was a family by the name of Ross who lived nearby. They had a son, Bill, and he used to come and walk the floor with me. He could whistle real good and charmed me with his whistling while walking the floor. When I was 16 he came again into my life when he came to work on the farm for my brothers. We soon became very close and were engaged to be married. We waited until I was 18 and then were married on the 14th of December, 1916. We lived with his parents until spring and then made a home for ourselves.

1918 Influenza – That winter we went to Sevier, Utah to live. The next spring he got work at Alunito and we moved there and stayed until the next spring. His brother entered the service and we went back to Sevier, up in the canyon, to help his father on the ranch. It was 1918, the year of the big influenza epidemic.

Death of Husband, Bill Ross – On January 25, 1919, my darling Bill also died of influenza, leaving me alone in Utah. My father came down and after the funeral I returned home with him. I hadn't gotten over the flu myself so the trip was a trial on me. I thank my Father in Heaven I had such wonderful parents to love me and to return home to.

About Bill – I must write about my husband. He was one of the kindest persons that ever was. He had auburn hair, blue eyes, and was a fine musician. He could play any kind of instrument that was handed him. He and my brother, Ira, played many dances and also sang together, both having lovely voices. He was a natural tenor. On June 30, 1920, I went to the Salt Lake Temple and was sealed to him by proxy.

Lived With Parents – After Bill's death I stayed with my parents until my health improved and then went to work out in the fields for my brothers Ira and Wit, riding the mowing machine, piling hay and shocking grain. I did just about everything that was to be done on the farm.

A Second Marriage – Three years later, I met **Jack Windsor** and we were married. We made our home for three years at Ririe, and then moved to a dry farm at Guyatt. There I'd spent the loneliest time of my life, never knowing when or if he would come home. He left me with 25 head of cows to milk, calves and pigs to feed, and work in the fields besides. The least said about this marriage the better. May the Lord bless me that I may forget the hours and days of tears this marriage gave me.

And A Divorce – We were divorced and I went back to being a widow again. But the hours were happier without him. I went to work again to earn my own living. My mother's health was not good so I made my home with my parents, working near so I could help at home. I am going to skip two years of my writings here as there wasn't much happened that is worth writing about except that I milked cows to make my way.

A New Life and Family

The Letter – January 20th, 1937, a letter came, addressed to my father for me by the name of Nora Windsor. It was from **Charles Tyler**. Thinking back, I remembered Murray Tyler, the man who hauled milk, telling me about his uncle's wife passing away in November. I said to my father: "That is Murray Tyler's uncle that lost his wife. If he wants a housekeeper, you can sell the cows."

The Answer – I answered his letter and received an answer. He did want a housekeeper. He had three small children, Norma 9, Merrill 6, and Donna 4. I called his sister-in-law, Murray's mother, and talked with her. After talking with her, and she telling me how badly he needed a woman to take care of the children, I decided I had better go and help him out for a spell. Helen said she would send word to him and he could come and see me, saying he could ride with Murray on the milk truck. The snow was so deep we had to haul the milk a quarter of a mile to the main highway.

Visit From Charles – Helen called and said he was coming so I put on my best bib and tucker and proceeded to wait for him. It was Sunday – and it was love at first sight. Some people say this can't be, but it surely was in our case. Maybe it was because we needed each other so badly.

The Children – In talking about my coming to work, he said his wife was a good cook. Well, he just about lost me right there. But being so tired of milking cows, and so lonely, I decided to try it. He said "You will get along with the two older ones, but Donna is her Daddy's girl since her mother died. She may not be so easy to get to cooperate with you." I worried some about this, but I had always been real good around children and they seemed to enjoy being with me. I felt I could win her over.

A Delay – I had, at that time, made arrangements to go to Sevier, Utah to visit my mother-in-law. I had not been back since leaving at the time of Bill's death. Charles told me to go ahead, so I did. I had planned on being gone two weeks, but stayed only one. When I got home he had already called to see if I had got back. Julie, my sister-in-law, told him that Father and Mother had gone to Idaho Falls that very day to pick me up. That was Saturday. Sunday he called again, asking "Are you ready to start work?" I told him the sooner the better. He said he would be after me the next day. What a long night!

They Came For Me – I packed my suit case and sat down to wait. About 2:30 he arrived, bringing only Donna with him as the other two were in school. He let her knock on the door. I went to the door and she just put her little arms around me. I even had to put her down while I put on my coat. I guess I fooled him!

My Secret Smile – We started back to my new home, Donna sitting on my lap. Charles said, "Let her sit down on the seat" and Donna said "I don't want to." That just pleased me so very much.

I Felt Needed and Appreciated – The snow was so deep we had to go the long way through Rigby to get to Garfield, where they were living. I shall never forget meeting the other children. How happy I was to be part of the family. It seemed like I had always been with them.

The children all wanted to sleep with me that night. Donna won out (a privilege of the youngest). Norma and Merrill, the next morning, were reluctant to go to school. **It was wonderful to see the worries leave Charles' face.** Now he could get his chores done without returning to see if Donna was alright.

That morning I went out to a shed to take something. Donna came to the door and called, "Lady, where are you?" The night before, the children wanted to know what to call me and we had decided on "Nora." But that didn't last long, as we will find out soon.

I Played – I tried to break down the newness of having someone new around. We had a chair with the back broken off. I turned it upside down and told Donna we would play we were going across the ocean and that was the boat. So while I washed dishes, she got in the 'boat' and sailed. Oh what a time we had.

I Promised Merrill – As it came time for the older children to arrive home in the horse drawn sleigh that served as a school bus. But they had become too anxious to get home and they walked all the way through that deep snow. They just opened the door and were so tired. Merrill's overshoes were too large and hindered his hurrying, so he was completely give out. His first words were: "Is she still here?" I could not hold back the tears and I said: "Merrill, I'll always be here when you get home from school." And I always was.

I Promised God – How happy I was to realize at last I had a family to care for. I promised my Father in Heaven that if it was possible for me to care for a family, I would devote my whole time and love to them. I can truthfully say my family has been my first responsibility all these years.

"Mother" – I had been there three days and Donna asked if she could call me Mama. I told her she would have to ask her daddy. She waited until he came in from doing the chores. She asked him and he replied that she should ask her. She stomped he foot and said, "I did." So she started calling me Mama and in two days all three were calling me that and always have since.

To Comfort When Sick – I remember when we all had bad sore throats. Merrill was so sick and I put him in bed with me. In the morning he said: "It is sure nice to have a mother in bed with you when you are sick, even if she isn't your own mother."

Love Came to Stay

Happiness – The love between Charles and me became more real as the days went by. But we wanted to be sure and we considered the children's point of view in the great decision. I realized the great responsibility that would be mine in raising someone else's family. But knowing my love for them and the wonderful children they were I knew that with the help of our Father in Heaven we would be able to raise them in the way their mother could be proud of them.

Marriage – About the middle of June, we decided to get married. Charles told the children he was going to Logan and bring them back a new mother. You should have heard the uproar. They wanted the mother that was with them and why did he want another one? But all was calm when they were told I was the mother he was talking about.

July 16th, 1937 – On the afternoon of July 15th, we took the children over to Grandma Andersen's and they stayed there while we went to Logan, a trip we had both been looking forward to. We left Garfield at 4:30 in the morning and arrived at Logan, Utah at 9:45 A.M. We went to the courthouse to get the piece of paper saying we could get married. We then went to Brother Carlson's office, he being president of the stake. He tied the knot and there we were, man and wife, the happiest couple on earth. We spent our first night in Logan. It was so hot in the room that we crawled out on the roof of the building next door to sleep.

My Family Around me

Mrs. Charles Tyler – We got home the next evening around 10 P.M. We went to Church the next morning and then gathered our lovely family in our arms and went home as a real family. What a wonderful feeling to realize you have a home of your own at last.

Yellowstone Park – About a week later, we and some of Charles' brothers and sisters went to Yellowstone Park. What an experience for a new mother with three small children. Merrill got excited and started to run and almost fell over a deep hill next to the river. My heart almost stopped. But we sure enjoyed the trip.

That Trip For Wood – The farm we were renting was a solid rock pile and our crop was not very good. We knew our money would be very scarce, so Charles and I decided we would take a wagon and team and go to Island Park and haul enough wood to do us through the winter. We planned to leave early in the morning and get home late the same night. The winter was long and we chopped that wood all winter to keep warm and were so glad to have it.

That Coffee Story – (Note from Donna, the typist: "This amused Mother her whole life so I am including it although I would rather not, because it embarrasses me that my parents were still drinking coffee at this stage of their lives. The habit was abandoned not long after.") I must tell you one thing that happened that amused us. It was late fall and the weather was getting cold. At noon we built a fire and made coffee. The other children were in school, but Donna was with us. As we were eating lunch, Donna said: "I am choking to death." I told her there was some water. She said, "I am not choking for water; I am choking for coffee."

First Christmas – My dear father and mother spent that first Christmas with us. We built a fire in the dining room for that day and were so snug and warm. We had a nice dinner. It was so nice to have Mother and Father with us for the day. How I wish I could have them in my home today.

67th Birthday (1965) – As I write this part of my story, I'm going to break in just long enough to say I'm 67 years old today. We had such a lovely dinner with Norma and family and went to Sunday School and Fast Meeting. What a birthday for me.

After a Long Pause

Orphaned – Over nine years have passed since I last worked on my life story. In many ways they have been very difficult years. At the request of my nieces and with the help of Donna, I have just completed a history of my parents' lives and feel it is time to bring my own up to date. It is November of 1977 and I am 79 years old. I am the only child of my parent's 10 children still living and even all of my brothers and sisters-in-law have died.

Less Snow – Picking up where I left off. The snow wasn't as deep that winter as it had been the previous year and the children didn't have such difficulty getting to school and back home. The children and I had really gotten acquainted and loved one another. We were a happy family. I had been asked to work in the Primary, which seemed so good. I was happy to be back doing Heavenly Father's work.

Move to Shelton – Spring came and we moved to Shelton. Charles was going to run Father's ranch that summer. We moved into the 2 room log house just below the cemetery. The children often pulled up wild flowers out of the sage brush and placed them on the graves that they knew were relatives. The cemetery was on ground that Father donated for that purpose.

So Happy – Charles and I slept in the orchard under the fruit trees in a tent that summer to give more room for the children. Oh, we were so happy. The crops looked good – we had planted beets and potatoes. It was hard work, but we worked together

Lost Crop – Fall approached. We'd just gotten the beets harvested. It had been raining, as usual at beet harvesting time. The next day we were going to start harvesting the potatoes. It froze that night and froze the potatoes. They were so badly frozen that we couldn't harvest them. That left us with barely enough money to pay our bills.

Christmas

No Money – Christmas was coming along and it was a heartache as we had no money to buy Christmas toys for the children. Finally we sold a pig and went to Idaho Falls with the few dollars from it and proceeded to buy a few Christmas presents. I made clothes for Norma to wear to school. Donna, of course, saw me doing the sewing but I told her we would put them outside for Santa Claus to pick up. After they went to bed I rescued them and brought them back in the house.

Donna's Doll – We bought Donna a doll which had a leg and an arm broken off. Charles and I glued it back together and polished it with finger nail polish. I had some yellow organdy scraps and made a dress, slip and bonnet for the doll. It looked beautiful and had cost only 50 cents.

Tinker Toys – We bought Merrill Tinker Toys. Christmas morning the children were so happy with what they had gotten. I had told Donna to ask Santa for clothes for her old doll, which she did, and then, of course, I made it some clothes.

That morning she found the clothes and dressed her old doll, not noticing the new doll, which was sitting on top of the refrigerator. She finally noticed it while we were eating breakfast. Was there ever a tickled little girl. She didn't know until years afterward that she had received a doll with a broken arm and a broken leg. (*I noticed the cracks where she had been mended, but thought nothing of it. DB.)* She has often said it was her most beautiful and favorite doll.

Last Years in Shelton

Broken Shoulder – The first winter we borrowed a sheep camp for Charles and me to sleep in. In case you don't know, a sheep camp was like a covered wagon, with bed, stove, table etc. that sheep herders lived in while they herded sheep. Just like a modern RV without an engine. As I was getting out of it one morning, the box we used for a step tipped and I fell and broke my shoulder. I was really laid up.

Basement House – That fall my father asked me if I'd like to buy the north field, which was 27 acres, and he would take it out of my inheritance. I was only too glad to accept. Now I'd have a home for my little family. We built a basement house on it and started living underground. There were two bedrooms, a living room and a kitchen. The farm wasn't large enough to provide a living for the family so Charles worked away from home for different farmers. I did my part, irrigating potatoes, corn, alfalfa – even losing my shoes in the corn patch and being unable to find them. Leaving me barefooted, just like when I was a kid at home.

Move to Idaho Falls

Basement Apartment – That fall Charles got work at the Blind Bull coal yard in Idaho Falls, which was a 16 mile drive both ways. We decided to rent a house in Idaho Falls and move there since he had work. At first we rented a basement apartment on J Street and in the spring we moved to a larger rental house on 3rd Street, across the tracks.

My Parents Came To Stay – While we were living on 3rd Street, Mother's health became real bad and she and Father came to live with us. Father thought they were just visiting that first day, but Mother refused to go home with him and he wasn't about to be separated from her, so that was that. She knew she needed to be with me.

Idaho Ave Home – I got a chance to trade my little farm for a home at 1585 Idaho Avenue. There we got still more room and things were more comfortable for all of us. Now we really had a nice homed. How happy we all were to have Mother and Father with us.

Charles' Work – Charles worked for the Blind Bull until the middle of March and then was out of work for one day and went to work for Mr. Epstein as a beekeeper. He worked there all summer and then went to work for the City of Idaho Falls. That lasted a short while and then he went to work for the Pacific Fruit Express (PFE) where he worked for quite a while. He also worked for a potato dehydrating plant for a while.

Mother Died – Mother was bedfast all summer and began to get more desperately sick as the fall wore on. On the 6th day of January, 1943, she passed away in our home. She was taken out to the old home in Shelton to be buried in the cemetery close to the home she lived in and loved for so many years. Father remained with us, having promised Mother that he would. His sorrow soon showed on him.

Norma – Norma was a high school graduate by this time and soon began looking for work. First she worked for Hart's Bakery but soon got a better paying job with Dr. Hatch, who was our doctor and also our stake president. It was much harder work but better paying and good experience. She put in a application for a government job and was able to work in the state capital in Boise for a while. The war was soon over and some of the government offices were closing down. Hers was one of them. She then got a job in a lawyer's office there in Boise.

Norma's Marriage – During Thanksgiving in 1946, Norma came home. Her friend introduced her to a young man by the name of Ralph Higley. It wasn't long before the marriage bug got in her bonnet. They were married February 21st, 1947, in our home.

Father Died – Dad's health had become serious in 1946. We tried to take care of him at home but his illness became too critical. We took him to the L.D.S. Hospital in Idaho Falls, where he died the 6th of April, 1946. If anybody ever felt like an orphan , I did, with both my dad and mother gone. If it hadn't been for my darling husband, I don't know if I could have taken the loss. But with his lovely disposition and kind words, he made it possible for me to bear the separation and understand the reasons.

Good Times – Times became a little better for us. We weren't as short of money as we'd always been. Charles and I were able to have dinner out and go to a movie once a week and enjoy a few other luxuries we'd missed before. At Christmas he bought me a set of rings and I also bought him a nice ring.

Not So Good Times

Broken Ankle – By Jove, I believe I'd better tell you about breaking my ankle. I'd been to Relief Society and Primary that winter day, came home and milked the cow (which we kept ½ mile from our home), washed my hands and face, loaded my arms with books and started to walk over to the church for Mutual. There was an icy place about a foot square on the sidewalk. Of course with these big feet of mine (size 5 ½), I slipped and fell, breaking my ankle. It was a compound fracture with the bone protruding through the flesh.

Ouch! A man came down the sidewalk. He had seen me fall and said, "Did you hurt yourself?" "No, I just broke my ankle." He never offered to help me up. I yelled at Norma and Merrill to come and help me. It was kind of laughable (looking back), but they managed to get me into the house. My dad looked at it and said "It's just a sprain."

OUCH, OUCH, OUCH! ! We called Dr. Soderquist who lived about 4 blocks from our house. He looked at it and said I had to go to the hospital to get it set. He called a taxi and I called Charles to come home from work (he walked to work and we owned no car).
We waited for the taxi and when it got there the driver insisted he had to go to Duttinville to drop a woman off before he could take me to the hospital. When we finally got to the hospital they said it had to be X-rayed and we had to wait for the S-ray girl to be called in. All this took a lot of time and the pain was mounting. My leg and hip were rapidly turning black and blue and my ankle was so swollen they couldn't set it. I had to stay in the hospital 10 days before they could set the bone. They put sandbags on both sides of my leg to keep me from moving it.

10 days plus – After the 10 days, I was taken to the operating room and the bone was set and the cast put on. I was able to go home then. I was taking care of a little girl, Kay Holmes, at the time; just a toddler. With a cast on, it was hard to keep up with her. I had the cast on for 3 months and still had to be on crutches for three more months. While on crutches, I learned many a fancy trick you could do and still be on crutches.

A Nice Trip – In June of 1946, Charles and I took a trip to Salt Lake City, using the passes he got working for the P.F.E. It was Primary conference and since I was in the Primary presidency, I thought I'd like to go and see what it was all about. We had a very enjoyable trip, visiting with Madge and Max, Charles' niece and nephew. We came back and during a lull at the PFE, Charles worked for the dehydrating mill. If you haven't seen the first dehydrated potatoes, you haven't seen anything. It was a new industry then.

I Won $300.00! – Late that fall he went back to work for the P.F.E. I think it was along in October the Arlie Markowskie and Bernice Hudman and I went to the movies together. During the intermission they had a drawing and I heard my name read. Arlie nudged me and said "That's you, you fool." I went up and got my slip telling me that I had won $300.00. We had to go over to the Paramount Theater to get my money (we were at the Gem theater). I was so delighted. The first thing I did was pay my tithing on it. Then I bought enough hay for the cow all winter, enough coal to heat the house all winter, a dining room set and a rug to go on the floor. Was I happy to be able to contribute that much to our home. I paid $5.00 a ton for the coal and $7.00 a ton for the hay. Those were the days!

Keeping Busy – All through the years – all through my married life – I did a lot of canning and sewing and always raised a big garden. I managed to keep busy. The Idaho winters seemed to be having a bearing on my health. One time I fainted dead away, going stiff and falling from a standing position (years later tests showed that at some point I'd had a heart attack – maybe then?).

The Trip That Changed Everything

The Decision – In the spring of 1947 Charles and I decided we'd make a trip to California. His brother, Marion, lived in Long Beach, and we visited them. While there, we decided to make the move. So we put a down payment on a house, returned home to Idaho Falls and put our house up for sale. We got a buyer for our home and started for California, Charles, Donna and me. Merrill was to come later as he had a job in West Yellowstone for the summer.

The Move – That was one heck of a trip. One thing that made it worse was that we had a bawl baby on our hands. Donna didn't think she'd ever have another friend or feel at home again. We had to change trains in Salt Lake. We didn't even have time to get breakfast before the one for California pulled out. We got on the "Pony Express," a dirtier, smokier, hotter train was never on the rails. Donna was sure a sorry sight when we got into Long Beach. What with her crying and the heat and the soot, she looked like a striped quadroon. We had bought a furnished house and only brought with us what we cold pack in suit cases so there was not much familiar.

No Job – Charles had never had any problem keeping employment so we were not prepared when he couldn't find a job in Long Beach. One neighbor gave us half a banana squash and the lady on the west said her husband was going fishing and he would bring us home a fish. Me, not knowing about ocean fish, wondered what good one fish would do for three people. When she brought it over, it was a huge fish, a good 3 feet long. So we lived on fish and squash for a few days.

Creating a Job – Charles' first job was digging out a tree, for which Mr. Conrad, a landscape gardener neighbor, gave him $20.00. It was only a few days until Mr. Conrad turned over some of his gardening jobs to him. We didn't have a car and so had to buy one. We bought a used yellow four-door Oldsmobile. He got a little trailer and used this to haul his equipment around to his gardening jobs. He was not inexperienced as a gardener because he had worked several summers doing gardening at the Fielding Memorial Cemetery in Idaho Falls, and had done a lot of studying on gardening. The people he worked for liked him real well and recommended him to other people. He made a good living for us for quite a while that way.

Church – We belonged to the Long Beach First Ward. It was only a few months until we were asked to finish out our stake missions that we had left unfinished in Idaho. When our two years were up we were asked to go on another stake mission.

Brother Willard Died – On the third of September, 1947, just a few months after we arrived in California, my oldest brother, Willard (Wit) passed away. I went back to Idaho to his funeral. There I found Merrill ready to return home with me. He had picked out huge baking potatoes and put them in a suitcase, lined up like shoes. By the time we got to Long Beach, there were potatoes sticking out of every corner.

Norma and Ralph Arrived

Boarders – In order to help out with expenses, I took in boarders. We had bought a large house with a building in back that contained the garage and 2 rooms upstairs and 2 rooms upstairs. The first fall we were there, Norma and Ralph arrived from Idaho. They stayed with us a short time and then bought a trailer home. There was a trailer park nearby and they got a space there and were within walking distance of us.

The Beach – We went to the beach one Saturday and did I get sunburned! Not realizing, I laid in the sun and burned my back badly. No more beach for me.

The Youth Group – About this time the love bug hit Donna with a boy, Wilbur L. Bliss, who lived on Golden Avenue, not far from us. We all attended Church at the same ward and they sang together in the youth choir.

Donna Married

Another Home Wedding – On July 16th, 1948 (our 11th anniversary), Donna and Wilbur were married, both being awfully young. They were married in our home by Bishop William Appleberry. They made their first home in our garage apartment. Soon they too bought a trailer home and lived near Norma and Ralph.

Grandparents

Veda Joy – That fall, October 11th, our first grandchild, Veda Joy, was born to Norma and Ralph. We were very proud to be called grandparents. Norma came home from the hospital and they stayed with us for a while so I could help out. Daddy got to bless his first grandchild. Veda had lots of dark hair – she was such a pretty baby and we were honestly proud of her. How happy I was to be able to take care of my daughter and our first grandchild.

Church Building Program – Charles and I put in many hours helping build the Long Beach First Ward meeting house. The stake missionaries provided a meal once a week for the builders. Lilly Pope and I did the cooking and serving for at least 20 men each meal. Dad did carpentry work and helped wherever needed. We have a picture of him nailing shingles on the roof. When the building was almost finished, we scraped paint off of and washed all the windows, getting the building ready for services. I didn't know a building had so many windows!

About Merrill

Girls – Merrill decided to go back and work for my sister and her husband in their café in West Yellowstone, washing dishes, the next summer. We missed him terribly but knew he was in good hands with Jeanette and Pete. He was engaged to a girl named Zada Price and was seriously in love. When he came home that fall we were so glad to see him. Somehow, during the summer, he and Zada had agreed to disagree. We were relieved. About that time he met Ilene Hughes, who was staying with her grandmother and going to high school. The love bug bit again – hard. Merrill and Daddy bought a car together and now he had a way to take a girl out.

Moving Again

Smaller House – Having such a large house and our family getting smaller, we decided to get a smaller house, in what they called North Long Beach – 5050 Walnut Ave. Having been informed I was going to be a grandmother again, I began to help Donna prepare for her baby.

Now I began to know I had a family. Children getting married, grandchildren arriving. Donna and Wilbur came and stayed with us when it was time for the baby to arrive and remained for a month afterwards. Early one morning Donna informed me we were going to the hospital. So Wilbur and I took her there, hoping it wouldn't be too long. At 4:37 that afternoon the nurse came and told us we had another granddaughter .

Andrea Lee Bliss – I was so happy when I saw Andrea. Talk about hair, she sure had it. We had to keep it brushed back to keep it out of her eyes. She also was a very pretty baby. She didn't lose her long black hair as so many babies do. When I first saw her that day she was born, she surprised me by looking right at me, just as if to say, "Grandma, here I am."

A Laugh – Donna, while changing the baby in the middle of the night one night, stuck the pin in the quilt, forgetting Wilbur was underneath it. It went right through the bedding and into Wilbur's leg. He let out a howl you could hear for a mile. It sure tickled me.

Blessing Dress – Daddy again blessed his granddaughter – his second grandchild. I made her white satin blessing dress and it sure was beautiful, even if I did make it.

Many Changes

Merrill's Career – It came spring and Merrill was looking for work. He went to work for a tile laying company, starting in sorting tile. He has progressed far in this, now owning his own company.

Girls' Visits – How Daddy and I looked forward to the one day a week that the two girls and their babies came out to see us in North Long Beach. They came on the bus and it gave us a good chance to help spoil Veda and Andrea.

Charles' New Job – Daddy, by this time, had begun working for Sunnyside Mausoleum and Cemetery, not far from where we lived. While working there, he helped dig graves and the ground there had a habit of caving in. One day he and another man were digging a grave and the sides caved in, breaking the other man's leg. Daddy jumped to one side, and was pinned absolutely in the corner and practically buried. It was a frightening time for him because the dirt had gotten into his mouth and nose and was closing off his breathing. The next day he was black and blue all over his lower body.

Merrill Married

A Temple Marriage – By this time Merrill had decided to get married to Ilene. Daddy and I went with them to the Mesa Temple where they were married. From there we went with them to Malad, Idaho, so Ilene's parents could meet their new son-in-law. While there, they had a reception for Merrill and Ilene, which was well attended and they received many wonderful presents. Pete and Jeanette came down to the reception and Daddy and I went back with them to Shelley for a visit. I want to tell you, it was sure cold in Idaho and we were glad to return to California.

Television – Donna and Wilbur got us our first television set, which was just then catching on. It had a 7 inch screen and a bubble that set in front of it to magnify the picture. That was really something new for Daddy and I and we spent many hours watching Uncle Miltie (Milton Berle), wrestling, and other early shows.

Dixie Lee – Soon after this, December 27, 1952, Merrill and Ilene presented us with another granddaughter, Dixie Lee. She too was beautiful – dark eyes and dark hair. Our grandchildren came fast and furious after that and from then on they were all boys, each one making his own special place in our hearts.

Another Move – After seeing we were going to have a houseful of grandchildren, we decided we needed a larger home. So we purchased a house out in Lakewood on Iraquois Avenue. It had a combined living and dining room that was large enough to seat the whole family for holiday dinners.

Sarah Came to Stay

A New Idea – But awhile before making that move, something else of importance happened in our lives. Daddy had started working for the Mastic Tile Company and worked the evening shift. Therefore I was alone a lot in the evenings and quite lonely. In 1955 we attended a High Priest dinner and there was the cutest little Indian boy. I said "Who brought that cute little Indian boy?" A lady spoke up saying they did. The more I thought about it, the more I thought I'd like to take one in our home. I asked Sister Genoway if she knew where I could get a little Indian girl. She said Jerry had a little sister named Sarah that her parents wanted to come to California. She remarked that they were going to take Jerry and their own son out to the reservation because school was out. They would ask about Sarah while there. But they decided to write a letter to the parents instead and when they came back, they brought Sarah.

A Foster Daughter – Sister Genoway called and said she had our little Indian girl for us. So we went over and got her. She cried a little the first night but the next day she met some of the little girls around the neighborhood and was content after that. We had a little dog we called Bimmie. He and Sarah had many delightful hours playing together. She dressed him in her doll clothes and put him in her doll carriage and had a wonderful time. He would also let her give him rides on the tricycle. Sarah made many friends at school. She stayed with us the year around and we took her out to the reservation to visit several times through the years. Sarah Ann Pete was her full name but she took the Tyler name when she entered school and continued to use it throughout her school years, including vocational nurses training at Cerritos College.

Jeanette's Death – In 1952 (which was two or three years before Sarah came to live with us), my sister, Jeanette, became very ill with cancer. I went to Salt Lake to be with her. We were there for two weeks and then took her home to Shelley. They operated on her on the 2nd of September and the doctor said she could only live about a month. I felt I had to remain with her and she passed away October 2nd. I had been away about 11 weeks.

Home again – Daddy met me in Las Vegas and we came home together. I was happy to be home, but saddened from the loss of my only sister. I found my family well and happy. Some say they wouldn't stay away that long from their husband but I had the full consent of Daddy to stay. He loved Jeanette too and if I had it to do again, I would do just as I did.

Cooperating With Each Other – By this time Daddy and I had filled three stake missions. We were both working in the ward, Dad as secretary for the High Priest's group and me as work leader in Relief Society and other things. I never cold have met the challenges my church work called for if it had not been for my darling husband. When I now seem to feel overburdened, I remember how he used to come home from working the night shift at 8 A.M., take me to Relief Society over at the church to quilt, before going to sleep. And then get up and come back to pick me up. He always supported me fully in my church work and I tried to do the same for him.

Our Silver Anniversary

Surprise! – We had a wonderful surprise in 1962. About a week before our silver anniversary, we got an invitation to it. Our children hadn't said a word to us about our anniversary and here was an invitation inviting us to our own celebration. What a wonderful time it was. There were so many friends and loved ones there. It was an open house in our own home and at one time there were 4 bishops in our home at the same time. They had been our bishops in different wards and at different times. What a thrill and an honor. And every high priest in the quorum came that day. The wonderful presents were very much appreciated.

Our granddaughters, Veda, Andrea, and Dixie Lee served refreshments. Nellie Gamage, Wilbur's aunt, made the wonderful, beautiful, and delicious cake – a four tiered wedding cake with a bride and groom on top. It really was the most beautiful cake I've ever seen. Nellie and Sally (Wilbur's mother) cut the cake and did the catering and Jay Walton (Wilbur's step father) worked hard in the kitchen keeping the dishes washed up. What a wonderful job they all did. We will always be grateful and thankful for all everyone did for that most memorable occasion in our lives. The punch was so delicious. The day must have made it perfect because we've made the same recipe many times and it has never tasted as good again. Some of the ingredients must have been the sweetness and love of our three children stirred up into the mixture.

Retirement?

The Temple – Daddy passed the age of 65 and it was time to retire. He retired from Mastic Tile and we thought we would enjoy having more time together. We were both working in the church and wanted to be able to attend the temple regularly. But in order to do so, I had to have my divorce cleared by the First Presidency. This was soon taken care of and we went on with our temple work for about 2 months.

A Mission? – Then one day I was called into the Bishop's office during Sunday School. I thought probably he had talked to Dad at Priesthood Meeting and would ask us to go on another stake mission. Instead, he asked me if I would like to go on a full time mission. I said, "Oh my goodness! Have you talked to Charles?" He said no, but if I was willing, they would call him in, which they did. We decided we would go.

The Call – We started filling out the papers right then. Bishop Malquist called the stake president (Briant) while he was in Sunday School. He said to come in Monday night and fill out the stake papers. In three weeks we got our notice from President McKay. We were called to the Southern States. That was the 7th of September, 1962, and we had to report to the Mission Home in Salt Lake on the 28th!

What About Sarah? – In order to have time to go to Idaho to visit our folks there before leaving, we had only two weeks to get everything done and be ready to go. In that short time we had to rent our home, get our furniture etc. in storage, our clothes ready, – and everything. Sarah was about 12 years old and we had to find a place for her to stay. Donna and Wilbur said they would take care of her while we were gone.

Our Mission to Georgia

Car Trouble – At our farewell meeting the building was filled with well wishers and we eceived a lot of cash contributions that were a big help to us. We bid tearful goodbyes to our children and grandchildren and left on Monday morning. We got just outside of Corona, about 40 miles from home, and the car began to act up. It kept getting worse all the way to Las Vegas. We got it checked and thought they had fixed it. But the first hill we came to, it balked. We went on and with tears and prayers, made it to Cedar City. There we still couldn't get it fixed and decided in order to reach our destination, we would have to trade cars. We laid over two days in Cedar City, bid goodbye to our Rambler station wagon, and bought a little blue Rambler sedan.

Last Times – We proceeded to go on up to Idaho to visit our folks. That was the last time Charles saw his brother John and the last time I saw my brother Ira. They both passed away while we were on our mission.

Mission Home – We entered the Mission Home the morning of the 28th. We were there for a week, getting instructions and counsel. There we were set apart as full time missionaries by Spencer W. Kimball.

Sick All The Way – On the 4th of October we started for Atlanta, Georgia. I was vaccinated n the day we left Long Beach, for Diphtheria and Typhoid Fever. The night before we left Salt Lake, all the missionaries had a meeting at the Assembly Hall. We sang the first song and half way through the meeting, all the missionaries were called to stand and sing. I couldn't make a sound. I was sick. We returned to the Mission Home and by Monday morning, I was really sick. But we had to start on our journey just the same. What a queer feeling that was, to be sick and getting sicker, and the distance becoming greater between me and my loved ones and home.

Grits – I was sick all the way out to Atlanta. We took Route 40 and followed that until we got to Indiana. Then we branched off to go deeper into the South. Each time we stopped to eat, the further into the South we got, the more grits we were served.

Alma Branch – We arrived in Atlanta, met President Ravston, and were sent to a little town named Alma. Oh what a mess we found. Brothers and Sisters not speaking to one another and other serious problems. I was set apart as Relief Society president and Dad as a counselor in the branch presidency. I was the first one to quilt a quilt in the Southern States Mission. We were the first to have a "Dime a Dip" and a bazaar. We were a small branch but we took in over $100.00. The Relief Society was so unorganized that they were unable to help the poor or contribute in any way to help the needy.

Bazaar – When we had our bazaar, the 14th of December, we had a quilt, aprons, dish towels, embroidery work of different kinds, several bird cages made out of wire coat hangers and other miscellaneous things. Donna and her mother-in-law, Sally Walton, sent a box of bazaar items such as nylon net tub scrubbers etc. They were a big help to our successful bazaar. Everybody in the branch was so pleased with our bazaar.

Long Drives – Daddy and I traveled over 1,000 miles a month, traveling 85 miles to do Relief Society visiting teaching. We really found out what destitute people are. I remember one home we visited in the cold winter. The house was so drafty I could see Dad's hair blowing in the breeze. I think that was where we picked up Asian Flu.

The Flu – Both of us had the flu and were terribly sick. It was Christmas time. That was the loneliest Christmas we ever spent – the first one away from our family. We had dinner with the Stivie family. It was really a southern Christmas dinner – grits, chitlun dumplings, fried chicken, several different kinds of salads and fruit cake. Everything was delightfully cooked and served. Missionaries were only supposed to go and eat and then ask to be excused. We were even supposed to proselyte that day but we were both just too sick.

Hearing Loss – On the 27th of December, the flu settled in my left ear. My, such pain, it was terrible. We went to an ear specialist in Waycross. He treated it and said he was sure it was going to be okay and asked us to come back in two weeks. When I returned in two weeks, I was completely deaf in that ear, as I remain today.

21 Doors – Well, time marched on. We were busy with our branch responsibilities and missionary work. One day we knocked on 21 doors and never got in one home. Churches there included Methodists and Baptists and the Church of Christ. It was hard to get people to listen because they carried the old tradition – "What was good enough for my Mammy and Pappy is good enough for me."

Providing Transportation – We met members who hadn't been to Church for months because they had no way to get there. Poor Daddy had his hands full. He was over the Primary and Mutual. There were children in the Branch and he had to see that they got to their meetings. We also had to see that the young women got to the missionary conferences in Savannah.

To Savannah – We made two trips a month to Savannah for the Southern States Missionary Conferences which were held monthly, and the Regional meetings for young people. Also Conferences for the Branches which were held on alternate months.

Progress Was Slow – It was wonderful to see how those young girls tried to be missionaries and bring other people into the Church. I pray that they may be humbly in the Church and ctive members today. Some people were baptized so quickly, before they even got all the lessons. Some people in the South joined the Church just because of the Welfare Program. We were told not to emphasize the welfare program when teaching the people. We Relief Society sisters were still making and selling things to bring in money to help the poor. We were able to hold our funds at about $100.00. There are surely a lot of needy people in the South. We spent a lot of our own money to help those who were in dire need.

Heading Home – Our mission was drawing to a close. Due to my ill health, we were looking forward to out release. When Dad got in the blue Rambler with its nose pointed back to California, he hardly took time to sleep or eat. Never having traveled much, I really wanted to do some sight seeing. We did get to go to Daytona Beach and while there had all 4 wheels of the Rambler in the Atlantic Ocean. Quite a thrill for us. We stopped also at Sunrise Springs, Florida. We took the glass bottom boat and saw many different formations of the springs, including the Devil's Kitchen. The sights we saw were those we passed on the way we were traveling. Oh how I would have loved to take some side trips and seen more, especially Cypress Gardens. But Daddy was so anxious to get home to his loved ones. Well, I was too, but I knew we'd never travel that way again.

Rivers To Cross – I well remember some of the rivers we crossed both going out and coming back. Of course, while we were in Idaho, we crossed the Snake River. Then there was the Red River, Green River, Colorado River, Ohio, Tennessee, Okefenoke, and the Mississippi. I was disappointed in the Mississippi River. I looked for something much larger, having heard about the river boats, of course. I couldn't have swum across it, but it was still smaller than I expected. It was muddy and trashy looking. The Tennessee River was a beautiful river – quite clear, and it flowed so evenly. The prettiest river we crossed was the Suwannee. It was such a darling river. It made you feel like you'd like to build a cabin and live on its banks. Dad had a heck of a time getting me away from that river. I just loved it. But none of them were more beautiful or charming than our own Snake River.

New Orleans – We visited New Orleans and took a sight seeing trip through the old Spanish town. That was sure interesting. You could almost see yourself sitting on those high balconies, waiting for your hero to come home. We were afraid we'd get turned around and lost in New Orleans. We had parked our car to go on this sight seeing trip. When we got back, Dad asked someone where we could get back onto the highway. He said, "That's it, right there on the corner." It couldn't have been easier. Two happy people started out again. The city was so large, but we had no problem.

Carlsbad, New Mexico – Now the next stop we were going to make for sight seeing was Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico. What a wonderful sight. If any of you ever get that far, please don't miss this wonderful place. It's just something you can't describe. So I'm not going to try. When we were through there, we started for Texas. It took us two days and a half to cross the state of Texas. Oh, I forgot to tell you, Daddy became a rock hound on this trip. Every crack and cranny in the car was filled with rocks of different kinds. We traveled on through Arizona, into California and home to Donna's. We had rented our house. My, what a shape we found it in. It took us $1,000.00 to put it in shape to move back in to.

Home Again

Social Security – That spring, just after we arrived home, we had to make a hurried trip to Idaho to get necessary papers for me so I could get my Social Security benefits. On the way back we hit a deer just outside of Cedar City, Utah. I got my knee cut very badly and had to be on crutches for a while. Seat belts were not common then, but Charles had them installed (on the passenger side only) after that. He felt terrible and responsible for my injury. But it soon healed, leaving a big scar, and all was well.

Mobile Home – Towards fall the mobile home bug bit me. We sold our home and bought a mobile home. It made us a lovely little home. The only thing we regretted was that it didn't have room to have all our family home for holiday dinners.

Anaheim – We first lived at the Del Estes Mobile Estates in Anaheim. We decided to move to Huntington Beach at the Scandia Park. It was such a lovely park. Daddy got work there helping on the grounds. It was an adults only park and Sarah went to live permanently with Donna's family.

Riverside – We didn't live there long because Dad got an offer for us to work as managers at the Rancho Riverside Mobile Home Park in Riverside and we moved there. We thought it would be a good thing for us but we just about killed ourselves working. There were days when Daddy worked from 6 in the morning until 10 at night, besides being on call 24 hours a day. He planted 100 trees, way over 100! He would drag home so tired. The work was just too much for him at his age. We retired again at the end of 1966. Dad was 73 years old. We thought maybe we'd take life easier now.

Charles' Health Decline

Strokes – Daddy was a hard worker all his life, never having time to develop hobbies. In retirement the time was heavy on his hands and he was restless and unhappy. In May of 1967 he had the first of 4 strokes he had in less than 4 months. He also had colonic trouble. He was hospitalized three times in that three months. He never did recover entirely from those strokes.

Mine Too – My health had never been good since I came home from my mission and in 1966 I had a ruptured blood vessel that completely blinded my right eye. It was hard for me to adjust to the loss of my eyesight and hearing, both now greatly diminished. The work there at ıe Park didn't help my health any either because my responsibilities were great.

Charles Brooded – Daddy hated it when he had to give up his driving because of the strokes. So did I. We were now completely dependent on others for everything. Both of us had to adjust to staying home more and not being able to go when and where we wanted and needed. We let each day slide by. We were alone so much. Our love became stronger for each other. Each day Daddy realized his handicaps more and more and he brooded a lot. I know it was on his mind constantly. I tried to make things as pleasant for him as I could. Donna made a trip from Norwalk each Tuesday and spent from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. with us. The others also came often and I could talk to them each day on the phone without costing me anything

To Corona – We decided to move to Corona to be closer to Norma and Merrill. So, just like turtles, we moved numerous times, always with the same home on our backs. Kind of costly but easier than moving the old fashioned way. One morning about 10 o'clock, Daddy complained of a pain in his chest. I called Norma and she came over. No matter what we did, it didn't relieve him. We called the doctor and he said to bring him to the hospital. We did nd it happened that our own doctor was on call that day. We were fortunate he was there. He told us Daddy was having a heart attack and if we had been 15 minutes later, he would have died.

Heart Attack – He spent six days in intensive care and if that's what you call intensive care, I don't want any of it. He was badly neglected, – never bathed, his teeth were never cleaned. We were only allowed to be with him 5 minutes of every hour and could do nothing about the neglect when we belatedly became aware of it. He was then moved to the floor where he remained 7 more days. One of us remained with him all the time, around the clock. This was necessary because he was disoriented and we knew he needed watching and care the nurses wouldn't give him. Dr. Waldren praised us for the care we gave him. I think it was love that brought Charles through this crisis. Every time he opened his eyes, one of us was there. I know this worked a hardship on the children. Such love and devotion I'll never forget.

Wally (Merrill's foster son) To The Rescue – When we took him home, Daddy was helpless as a baby. He required a lot of care, which the children and I gave him. It was while he was still in bed with this sickness that he fell out of bed. I couldn't get him up by myself, not being strong enough. I called Norma and she called Wally. He came over and helped me put him back in bed. I'll never forget Wally's kindness to his grandfather. He sat on the side f the bed and talked to Daddy, held his hand and told him he would soon be well again. Daddy's heart attack was in December of 1971, right after Christmas.

Grandson Heros – The mobile home space we rented in Corona needed a lot of work to get it in shape for planting. I bought gray rock, I think it was 5 tons of it for the back yard and 5 tons of green rock for the front yard. This was just dumped in heaps. I never worked so hard in my life. I had to use the wheelbarrow to wheel the rocks back where they should go. I never could have done it if it weren't for Dean, Kevin, Stacy and Merrill Dee. They came and helped me. The boys also helped me dig holes for the evergreens and roses. When it was all done, it was recognized as the prettiest space in the park.

Our Eternal Temple Marriage – All through the years Daddy and I had longed to be sealed to each other. I'd always felt like a sister to Elverda and felt this was her desire too. But we couldn't be sealed because I had been sealed by proxy to my first husband after he passed away. After much prayer and deliberation we decided to look into the matter. After consulting with our bishops, past and present, a letter was sent to President Joseph Fielding Smith. Within two weeks I received a cancellation of the first sealing and the way was cleared to being sealed to Charles.

We Could See Forever – On May 13th, 1972, I was sealed to Charles in the Los Angeles Temple. It was the most clear, perfect day – like the song – On a clear day you can see forever. It was on that day we were sealed for time and eternity. As we looked in the mirrors in the sealing room, we felt like we were seeing forever – together. How wonderful it is to have someone that you truly love, knowing that if you keep your covenants, you'll be together forever.

Christmas Eve Tradition – It has been a family tradition, on December 24th, to meet at Merrill and Ilene's lovely home and the whole family celebrate Daddy's birthday and also Christmas. These family holiday get togethers seemed to bring the family closer together. Last year Daddy's ill health kept us from getting together at Merrill's but the family and all the grandchildren came to Donna's open house to greet us. I just don't know what we'll do this year but we'll make the best of things as we've always done. But it was with sorrow and sadness that we closed the book on the many years of Christmas/Birthday celebrations with the whole family together at once.

No Birthday Cakes!? – One Christmas Eve, Ilene had made Daddy a beautiful birthday cake and we were all surprised when Daddy said it was the only birthday cake he could ever remember having. I guess having a birthday on December 24th isn't the best idea. Everyone is so busy with Christmas, the birthday gets neglected. I still have one of the flowers from the cake. Imagine being 80 before ever having a birthday cake! We loved the skits and performances the families put on for these occasions.

Mission Tradition – It is a matter of great pride to us that our 7th grandchild has just entered the mission field. I guess Daddy and I started all this when we went on our first stake mission in 1946 in Idaho Falls, Idaho. We completed that mission in Long Beach and then served two more stake missions before serving our full time mission in 1961 and 1962 in the Southern States. And by the way, one of our grand daughters-in-law has also served a full time mission – in Chili. Two of our grandsons, Dennis and Randy, served missions in Argentina, Larry in Chili (2 counting Dennis's wife, Shauna), Jerry in the North Eastern Mission and Clayne in the Washington D. C. area on a Spanish speaking mission. Dan went to Spain and Stacy is in South Carolina. Is that all of them? We pray that each of our grandsons will be able to serve the Lord on missions when they come of age. It doesn't hurt for a Grandma to brag a little bit. It isn't every grandmother who has had 7 grandsons serve in the mission field doing the beautiful work of serving the Lord in this manner. I feel very blessed.

I Needed Help

It Got Too Hard – Daddy's health continued to get worse. After his heart attack he just didn't seem to bounce back like he should have and there was very little he could do to pass the time. It began to be harder and harder to take care of him. His mind wasn't clear and sometimes he fought me when I tried to help him. He just didn't understand. He became more and more helpless. I took care of him myself as long as I could and then had to turn to the children for help.

Move to Norwalk – Donna and Wilbur were the only ones without young children so we went there to stay, just as my parents had once come to stay with us. It was necessary to get a hospital bed for Daddy, so for the first time in all those years, we couldn't sleep together. I still miss his presence beside me. We came to Donna's in May of 1976. The doctor said he had chronic brain syndrome (another name for Alzheimer's we think), caused by hardening of the arteries in the brain and that it would continue to progress. It has, until now (and for the past year) he is completely helpless.

We feed him a liquid diet with a syringe, wanting to avoid tube feeding. He has forgotten how to swallow. We lean his chair back a bit, but still he chokes quite badly sometimes. We use a hydraulic lift to move him from bed to chair and back and are thankful for such a modern convenience. He is too heavy for us to lift and without it we would surely have to put him in a rest home, which we so much don't want to do. Norma and Merrill take turns coming on Saturdays to help take care of him and relieve Donna of the responsibility for a little while. I myself have arthritis and it's hard for me to get around. Sometimes I don't feel like I'm doing my part but I do the best I can.

I Sold Our Last Home – I finally came to the realization that I would never be able to take Daddy home to the mobile home again and that even if he should pass away first, I am not well enough to live alone. Dennis and Shauna lived in our mobile after they were first married and that relieved me of a lot of worry concerning it. But when they decided to move and a buyer came along for the mobile, I decided the best thing was to sell it. I'm sad to give up my home but I still feel greatly relieved not to have to worry about its upkeep etc.

My Philosophy – I don't think there has been a mother or grandmother who has enjoyed her family more than I have mine. My philosophy of life has always been – "Live today to be better tomorrow." Be honest in all dealings and be thoughtful of other people. Be prayerful and let the Lord help you in the various ways he can. I've always been a strong believer in prayer. My prayers are answered daily, and they will be for you if you'll but put your trust and faith in him. My life hasn't always been as pleasant as now. But the hardships I've had have made me more conscious of other people's feelings and their problems.

To My Family

I Love You All – My love is great for all of you. We number 48 and growing. Forty years ago when Daddy and I were married (that makes this written about 1977), there were only five of us. I'm proud of my family – all working diligently in the Church, keeping the commandments of the Lord to the best of their ability. Now, Children and Grand-children, keep this sweet love and togetherness within your hearts, for there is nothing in life better than a loving family.

Final Notes Added by Donna

In spite of our very best efforts, Nora and Charles had to be placed in a nursing home (sharing a room) in September of 1982. Wilbur was transferred to Michigan by General Motors. We had to go or he would have lost his pension, which of course we would need badly in a few short years. Both Norma and Merrill had to work, so there was no other choice. We found a nice one not far from Norma and Merrill. Mother could have her own furniture and things about her. This was very, very hard to do.

Norma and Merrill visited almost daily and Nora was reasonably content. But Charles was not cared for in the same manner his children cared for him. He lost weight quickly and passed away 2 months to the day after he was placed there, on the 15th of November, 1982. They had been married 45 years. Nora lingered for two more years, dying in August, 1984 at the age of 86 years. Family members visited often and with Norma's help she continued to give gifts at Christmas to each of her descendants. This was very important to her.

My Prayers Answered

By Nora Moore Tyler

As night pinned her curtain around me
And my daily work was through,
I stood alone, forgotten,
By the one I thought was true.

My days had been so lonely
But night brought on despair.
Why must I stay and suffer?
Oh my Lord, it isn't fair.

I called out in anguish,
The tears, they dimmed my eyes,
For I stood alone, forgotten,
Where only the forgotten dies.

On my knees I asked my Father,
To Guide m through that night.
When I arose I felt His presence
And I knew I was in His sight.

I prayed for home and husband
Who from d me would not stray,
And cause me all those heartaches
And with me always stay.

So in answer to my pleadings,
We drifted far apart.
And in my heart there is no love
For he who broke my heart.

And now my prayers are answered,
In a home where love abides.
I never stand alone, forgotten;
God is always by my side.

I have my home and husband,
And children numbered three.
And I am loved and cherished,
As I had prayed to be.

May God grant me this privilege,
To live and love and care
For those who make my life complete
And at night my prayers to share.

Nora periodically expressed her deepest feelings in verse. Most of them have not been saved, probably only this one in reference to her second and third marriages and the one about the Tyler Family that is quoted in the Charles Tyler history.

Mother Nora's Poetry

A couple of the poems Nora wrote have been included elsewhere in this history. These following were found belatedly. Some of them are so faded, they can hardly be deciphered, but I will do the best I can. Most are not titled so I will give them titles according to their content. However, the first: **A "Rose"** was titled. I remember it was written for me to relate at the **Rose Banquet** where each of the Young Women in M.I.A. contributed a rose to a rose bouquet. (Donna T. Bliss)

A Rose

By Nora Moore Tyler

A rose is the handwork of nature
Silently guided by a hand from above.
While not knowing the depth of its texture,
We know it's the symbol of love.

It blooms in its beautiful radiance
This flower of loveliest hue.
Its short life could be used as a guidance
For the weary, the traveler, and you.

For it signifies purity and virtue;
It's a guide for the standards of youth.
While it's just a symbol of nature,
It stands for all that is truth.

So when life's journey is over
And with death your eyes do close;
Let's not have lived the life of a rover,
But have lived to the life of a rose.

(23 Oct. 1947)

Mother

By Nora Moore Tyler

You painted no Madonnas
Or chapel walls in Rome
But with a touch divine,
You lived one in your home.

You wrote no lofty poems
That critics counted art.
But with a noble vision,
You lived them in your heart.

You carved no shapeless marble
To some high soul's design.
But with a finer sculpture,
You shaped this soul of mine.

You built no great cathedrals
That centuries applaud.
But with a grace exquisite,
Your life cathedraled God.

Had I the gift of Raphael
Or Michaelangelo,
Oh what a rare Madonna
My Mother's life would show.

Shadows of Evening

By Nora Moore Tyler

When the shadows of evening close around me
And my daily work is through,
It's then I think; "Have I completed
The work God sent me here to do?"

I think of my home and children
And my husband fond and true.
It makes me want to finish
All that I came here to do.

Then as the shadows deepen,
And my eyes with tears are wet,
It's then I kneel in thanksgiving
For blessings I can't forget.

Gone Fishin'

By Nora Moore Tyler

The most disgustin' thing I know
Is to want to go a fishin' and your dad won't go.
When I'm grown; And that will be soon,
I'll take my son fishin' every Saturday afternoon.

I'll just lay on the bank, With my hat across my eyes,
While he does the fishing; with fish nibbling at the flies.
I'll let him take his shoes off and wade in the stream,
For that is the height of a small boy's dream.

When we get tired, we'll eat our lunch from a box.
Then we'll slip back to the bank, as sly as a fox.
I'll let him stay until almost dark,
And we'll start home a whistlin' like a lark.

When we get home; a day well spent,
There'll be two happy hearts that a hammer couldn't dent.
For the most disgustin' thing I ever knew,
Is to want to go a fishin' and your Dad won't go with you.

(Nora taught the boys classes in the Primary organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints for many years and had a special understanding and love for little boys.)

Little Girls and Dolls

By Nora Moore Tyler

I always told my Mamma that water wasn't good for little girls.
But "Oh yes," she said, "It will even keep their hair in curls."
So I got my little dolly and I sat her in a chair;
Then I took some water and tried to curl her hair.

You should have seen my dolly! She was such a looking sight.
Her nose was gone and her eyes would never be so bright.
Her arms came off and her legs were gone.
So I just buried her and sang a little song.

Now I have no dolly and my life is in a whirl.
If my Mamma doesn't stop this water business,
She won't have a little girl!!

Potato Harvest

By Nora Moore Tyler

(Nora was in the Primary Presidency and became very close to the other members of the presidency. When they took a little leave to pick potatoes and earn a little spending money, Nora wrote this poem.)

When the autumn leaves are falling and the clouds are getting black,
Then I think of Arelie and Vonda, hugging those brown potato sacks.
Although Arelie seems ten years older, Vonda trips along the same.
But listen girls, and think a while, it's Arelie we've got to tame.

So let us all work together, and keep these two old girls
A working in the spud field, for they are our two best pals.
And when their work is over, and their pockets are full of jack,
We'll give them a hearty welcome and be damn glad they're back!

(Did she borrow that shocking word from Gone With The Wind?)

We Reap as We Have Sown

By Nora Moore Tyler

We shape ourselves, the joy or fear
Of which the coming life is made.
And fill our future atmosphere
With sunshine or with shade.

The tissue of the life to be,
We weave with colors all our own,
And in the field of destiny,
We reap as we have sown.

Life Is a Short, Short Journey

By Nora Moore Tyler

(Nora wrote this when her own father passed away and I think she used the closing stanza in the poem she wrote later for the Tyler Reunion.)

God took another treasure when he took our father dear.
Although our hearts are saddened, we know our mother waited near,
With open arms and smiling face, to welcome one she loved.
His father, mother, and his children too, were waiting up above.

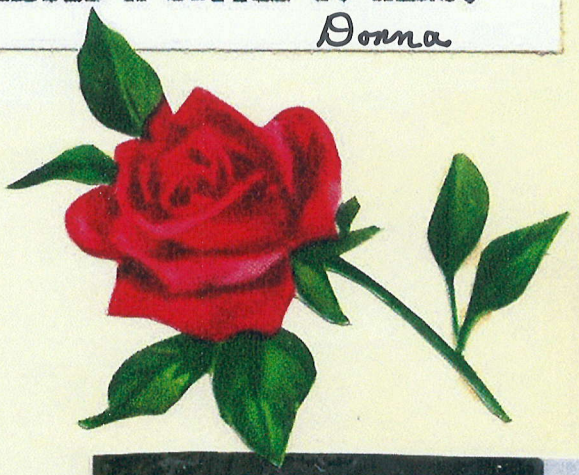
May our footsteps be guided in the paths that we were reared,
By a true and faithful father, who our burdens always shared.
We will have the lovely memories of a father's kindest smile,
And a father's choicest blessings will be ours all the while.

Life is such a short, short journey as down life's lane we go.
Let us be so very careful, the kind of seeds we sow.
Let us not let Satan tempt us and our actions have to blame.
But let us all be chaste and honest and thank God we bear his name.

MY SECOND MOTHER

GOD WAS SURELY SMILING DOWN ON OUR FAMILY WHEN HE SENT US ANOTHER MOTHER. SHE DIDN'T TRY TO TAKE OUR OWN MOTHER'S PLACE, BUT MADE A PLACE OF HER OWN, AND WE LOVED HER FROM THE START. CHILDREN ARE DRAWN TO HER; SHE SPEAKS TO THEM ON THEIR OWN LEVEL AND SHE HAS A NEVEREND-ING SUPPLY OF NURSERY RHIMES AND JINGLES. SHE IS A GOOD COOK, A GOOD SEAMSTRESS, AND IS IN EVERY WAY A FINE MOTHER. WE'RE SO GRATEFUL SHE HAD A HEART BIG ENOUGH TO ACCEPT THREE MOTHERLESS CHILDREN AS HER OWN, AND TO GUIDE US AS SHE FELT OUR OWN MOTHER WOULD. SHE HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN PRIMARY, MUTUAL, AND RELIEF SOCIETY, AND HAS ALWAYS ENCOURAGED US TO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN THE CHURCH. WE ARE THANKFUL FOR THE SUNSHINE SHE HAS BROUGHT INTO OUR LIVES AND HOPE WE HAVE ADDED A LITTLE TO HERS.

Donna







Long Beach Fourth Ward Relief Society Sisters. Early 1970's



Savilla Walton
Wilbur's Mother

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF CHARLES TYLER

I AM CHARLES TYLER, THE YOUNGEST OF ELEVEN CHILDREN BORN TO DANIEL MARONI TYLER AND SARAH ELZINA PULSIPHER TYLER. I SAY AS DID NEPHI: "I WAS BORN OF GOODLY PARENTS."

TO SATISFY THE DESIRES OF MY THREE CHILDREN, NORMA D'ON, MERRILL JOHN, AND DONNA ELVERDA, I NOW BEGIN MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY; MARCH 20, 1961 AT OUR PRESENT HOME IN LAKEWOOD, CALIFORNIA.

I COULD NOT MAKE MY HISTORY COMPLETE WITHOUT THINKING BACK TO A YEAR OR TWO BEFORE I WAS BORN AND TOLD TO ME BY MY ELDEST BROTHER, DAN, WHO WAS NINETEEN YEARS OF AGE WHEN OUR FATHER DIED.

WHEN FATHER WAS TWELVE YEARS OLD AND STANDING, WATCHING A BASE BALL GAME, A LARGE BOY TRIPPED HIM OVER, BREAKING OR DISLOCATING THE HIP JOINT.

IN THOSE EARLY YEARS OF SETTLEMENT OF FAR AWAY PLACES FROM SALT LAKE CITY WHERE THE MAIN BODY OF MORMONS WERE, THE DOCTORS KNEW LITTLE OF SETTING BONES OR WHAT DO DO FOR FRACTURED HIPS, SO FATHER LIVED OUT THE REST OF HIS LIFE ON A CRUTCH AND CANE. THAT LEG NEVER GREW MORE.

YOU WILL HAVE A SHORT COPY OF FATHER'S LIFE SO I WON'T GO INTO MORE DETAIL THAN NECESSARY.

RHEUMATISM SETTLED IN THE HIP AND THROUGH THE YEARS CAUSED MUCH PAIN AND SUFFERING. HE WAS GIVEN PAIN RELIEVING MEDICINES SUCH AS LAUDANUM, A PREPARATION OF OPIUM WHICH IF NOT ADMINISTERED WITH CARE AND WISDOM IS A KILLING DRUG. ONE DROP TO A DOSAGE WAS FIRST GIVEN AND AS HIS SYSTEM BECAME USED TO THE DRUG THE DOSAGE WAS INCREASED UNTIL FINALLY HE WAS GETTING A TEASPOON FULL, ENOUGH TO KILL A HORSE.

THAT HAD TO BE STOPPED AND HE TRIED WHISKY WITH FAIRLY GOOD RESUETS, BUT THAT TOO WAS HABIT FORMING. SO AFTER MY MOTHER'S PLEADING, HER FAITH AND PRAYERS, FATHER DECIDED TO TAKE A "CURE" TO TAKE AWAY THE APPETITE FOR WHISKY. THAT WAS KNOWN AS THE "KEELY CURE".

I KNOW YOU CHILDREN ARE WONDERING WHAT ALL THIS HAS TO DO WITH MY PERSONAL LIFE'S STORY, SO PLEASE DON'T CONDEMN MY FATHER FOR WHAT YOU MAY THINK WAS WEAKNESSES, FOR SEVERE PAIN WILL CAUSE PEOPLE TO TAKE DESPERATE STEPS.

IT WAS SAID AND BELIEVED THAT AFTER A MAN TOOK THE KEELY CURE HE COULD NOT FATHER ANOTHER CHILD, SO FATHER AND MOTHER FIRMLY BELIEVED THERE WOULD BE NO MORE CHILDREN BORN TO THEM.

WHEN MOTHER LEARNED SHE WAS TO GET ANOTHER BABY THEY WERE PLEASED AND THANKFUL. SO IN DUE TIME, THE 24TH. OF DECEMBER 1893 IN THE EVENING, A BEAUTIFUL (??) BABY WAS BORN, WITH LONG BLACK HAIR AND BROWN EYES.

MOTHER SAID: "IT'S A BOY I THINK", SO FATHER WENT OUT AND TOOK A DRINK. BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THAT BABY BECAME YOUR FATHER, SO DON'T WONDER WHY FATHER AND MOTHER CALLED ME THE "KEELY BABY."

I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO GOD FOR GIVING FATHER AND MOTHER THAT LAST BABY BOY.

I HAVE SHED MANY A TEAR OF THANKSGIVING TO HE WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE FORME TO BE BORN TO THOSE TWO WONDERFUL PARENTS AND TO HAVE THE BROTHERS AND SISTERS I HAVE, AND THE TWO WONDERFUL, LOVING COMPANIONS I HAVE HAD, AND NOT FORGETTING YOU FOUR CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN AND STILL ARE A BLESSING TO ME AND ARE VERY DEAR TO MY HEART. I WEEP WHEN I THINK OF WERE I MIGHT HAVE BEEN SENT, DARK AFRICA, CHINA, RUSSIA, OR TO A HOTEN-TOT-COUPLE, WHO KNEW NOTHING OF JESUS CHRIST OR THE GOSPEL WHICH HE SENT TO EARTH.

I PRAY THAT SOME DAY I MAY BECOME WORTHY OF HIS CONSIDERATION OF MY SPIRIT.

I CANNOT REMEMBER THE FIRST THREE YEARS, FIVE MONTHS AND TWENTY DAYS OF MY LIFE, BUT MY FIRST RECOLLECTION WAS WHEN MY MOTHER, THEN AWIDOW, AND US CHILDREN MOVED FROM UTAH TO IDAHO.

OF COURSE WE TRAVELED BY TEAM AND WAGON. SOME OF MY BROTHERS RODE HORSES AND DROVE THE CATTLE HERD WHICH MADE OUR JOURNEY LONGER.

I REMEMBER THAT THERE WERE TWO SPRING SEATS ON THE WAGON MOTHER AND I WERE IN. DAN WAS IN THE FRONT SEAT DRIVING THE HORSES. HE, TO TEASE ME WOULD LEAN BACK, PLACING HIS HEAD IN MY LAP. I SAID: "IF YOU DON'T STOP, I'LL JERK YOUR HEAD OFF AND THROW IT ON THE CAR TRACKS." MOTHER AND DAN NEARLY BUSTED LAUGHING.

ANOTHER INCIDENT I REMEMBER ON THAT TRIP WAS SEEING TWO INDIAN BOYS RUNNING BEHIND THE WAGON AS WE WERE CROSSING THEIR RESERVATION, AND COAXING FOR A LITTLE LAMB BELONGING TO MY SISTER, RUTH.

MY FATHER HAD DIED AFTER GREAT SUFFERING WHEN I WAS TWO YEARS OLD. I WAS TOLD THAT I WOULD CLIMB ON HIS BED

AND SAY: "PA'S BOY.".

IN JUNE OF 1897 WE ARRIVED AT THE THREE ROOM LOG HOUSE WITH A DIRT ROOF, WHICH WAS OUR HOME FOR SEVERAL YEARS.

MY FIRST YEARS FOLLOWING WERE SPENT LIKE ANY OTHER BOY ON A FARM, HERDING PIGS AND COWS WITH MY BROTHER AND SISTER, MARION AND MARY. (TWINS) OF ALL THE TASKS I EVER DID, PIG HERDING WAS THE MOST DETESTED.

I REMEMBER ONE TIME WE WERE HERDING PIGS AND LET THEM GET INTO THE NEIGHBORING FARMER'S CROPS. HE PENNED THEM UP AND MY BROTHER JOHN HAD TO PAY $17.00 TO GET THEM BACK, A DOLLAR A HEAD. MY OLDER BROTHER DOUBLED A ROPE AND SPANKED MARION AND MARY, BUT BEING SMALLER, I ESCAPED PUNISHMENT.

AT THAT TIME, THE UPPER VALLEY OF SNAKE RIVER WAS NOT FULLY SETTLED, AS THERE WERE THOUSANDS OF ACRES STILL IN SAGE BRUSH. WE HERDED OUR COWS THERE AND PLAYED AMONG THE SAGE.

ONCE I ALONE WAS WITH THE COWS, AND LEFT THEM WHILE I WENT FARTHER NORTH TO SEE MY SISTER RUTH, WHO WAS MARRIED. I STAYED SO LONG THAT THE COWS BEAT ME HOME AND I THOUGHT THEM LOST. WHEN REACHING HOME, MOTHER ASKED MY WHY I CAME HOME. I SAID: "TO GET A NEW COW HERD."

OUR THREE ROOM LOG HOUSE WAS SURROUNDED BY LARGE TREES. I FIRST WENT TO MILO, OR LEORIN SCHOOL. MY BROTHERS PURCHASED FORTY ACRES OF LAND AT WILLOW CREEK, NOW UCON, IDAHO, AND BUILT A BRICK HOUSE ON IT FOR OUR WONDERFUL MOTHER.

RUTH WAS MARRIED BEFORE WE LEFT UTAH. DAN WAS NEXT AND THEY RENTED A FARM FROM MY UNCLE MONT HUFFAKER, WHICH WAS BETWEEN WHERE WE LIVED AND THE SCHOOL WE ATTENDED FIRST.

I REMEMBER HOW HAPPY I WAS AT BEING OLD ENOUGH TO GO TO SCHOOL, BUT SOON BECAME AFRAID OF THE MAN TEACHER, AS HE LIKED TO WHIP THE BOYS. WE WALKED A MILE AND A HALF TO THAT SCHOOL (LEORIN) IN MILO. THEN WHEN I WAS IN SECOND GRADE, WE STARTED GOING TO WILLOW CREEK SCHOOL, LATER NAMED ELVA, THEN UCON, WHICH NAME STILL REMAINS.

JOHN RAN THE FARM AND AS YOUNGER CHILDREN BECAME OLD ENOUGH TO WORK WE FIRST HERDED PIGS (UG, THAT HATED TASK) AND COWS, AND AS I REMEMBER, WE ALWAYS HAD PIGS AND COWS. I CAN REMEMBER HELPING PLANT THE GARDEN. MOTHER TOLD US TO PLANT FIVE SEEDS OF CORN IN EACH SPOT. SHE HAD A LITTLE VERSE THAT WENT LIKE THIS: "ONE FOR THE BLACKBIRD, ONE FOR THE CROW. ONE FOR THE CUTWORM, AND TWO TO GROW."

IN THE WINTER, SNOW WAS SO DEEP THE HORSES AND SLEIGHS COULD GO OVER THE FENCES.

AS I GOT OLDER, RIDING OR LEADING DERRICK HORSE WAS ONE OF MY JOBS. OTHER WORK FOLLOWED SUCH AS RAKING AND BUNCHING HAY, SHOCKING GRAIN, AND MANY CHORES LIKE FEEDING LAMBS, CHICKENS, AND CARRYING IN WOOD AND WATER. I LEARNED TO RIDE A HORSE AND THOUGHT I WAS GETTING REAL BIG. JOHN BOUGHT MARION AND ME A LITTLE BAY MARE AND WERE WE HAPPY, OH BOY!! WHEN WE OUTGREW HER, WE GAVE HER TO OUR NEPHEW, LEO COOK.

JOHN AND ESTHER WERE MARRIED BEFORE THE BRICK HOUSE WAS FINISHED, SO AS SOON AS IT WAS COMPLETED, MOTHER, ANDREW, EMILY, MARION AND MARY, AND MYSELF MOVED TO THE NEW HOME.

MY CHURCH ACTIVITIES BEGAN WHEN I STARTED TO PRIMARY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL. WE USUALLY WALKED THE ONE AND THREE FORTHS MILES TO PRIMARY, WHICH WAS HELD IN WILLOW CREEK'S FIRST CHURCH HOUSE, A ONE ROOM LOG HOUSE WITH DIRT ROOF WHICH I WELL REMEMBER.

I WAS HAPPY WHEN I WAS OLD ENOUGH TO BE BAPTIZED, BUT HAD TO WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT SUMMER WHEN THE CANAL WATER WASN'T TOO COLD. BISHOP ALFONSO BERT SIMMONS BAPTIZED ME IN THE 'FARMER'S FRIEND' CANAL.

AS I GREW AND LEARNED NEW TASKS, BY MY MOTHER'S TEACHINGS, I TRIED TO DO THEM WELL. WHEN I WAS OLD ENOUGH, I DROVE A TEAM AND HARROWED THE PLOWED GROUND. THEN CAME THE TIME WHEN I COULD DO PLOWING, MOWING HAY, AND RUNNING A HAY WAGON, AND USING A JACKSON FORK.

I USED TO LIKE TO GO WITH ONE OF MY OLDER BROTHERS TO THE MOUNTAINS FOR WOOD, BEING GONE THREE DAYS. ANDREW AND I MADE SEVERAL TRIPS TOGETHER.

THE NEXT FEW YEARS CAME AND WENT, IN WHICH I FINISHED SCHOOL AND BY THEN MY SISTERS AND BROTHERS EXCEPT MARION WERE MARRIED.

MOTHER'S HEALTH BECAME BAD, AND SHE WAS SENT TO SALT LAKE CITY WHERE THE DOCTORS WERE WHO WERE SUPPOSED TO KNOW MORE THAN THE ONES IN IDAHO FALLS. DR. "GILL" RICHARDS WAS HER DOCTOR, AND AFTER TREATING HER FOR SOME TIME WITHOUT ANY SUCCESS, HE SAID SHE MAY AS WELL GO HOME, FOR THEY COULDN'T DO HER ANY GOOD.

I WENT TO SALT LAKE CITY AND CAME HOME BY TRAIN WITH HER AND REMEMBER HOW PLEASED SHE WAS TO BE BACK HOME, BUT SHE NEVER DID GET GOOD HEALTH, ALTHOUGH SHE LIVED SEVERAL YEARS LONGER. AS MOTHER'S HEALTH BECAME POORER, MARION AND I TOOK TURNS DOING FARM WORK AND CHORES, AND TAKING CARE OF MOTHER AND DOING THE HOUSE WORK. OUR SISTERS CAME WHEN THEY COULD TO VIS IT MOTHER AND DO ANYTHING POSSIBLE FOR HER COMFORT.

IT WAS DURING THIS TIME THAT I CAUGHT THE MUMPS AND WAS REAL SICK FOR A MONTH. THIS WAS DURING MY LAST YEAR IN SCHOOL. MOTHER AND MARION TOOK CARE OF ME WHEN DOCTOR MOTE AND HIS WIFE, A NURSE, WERE NOT THERE.

THE MORNING OF THE DAY OUR DARLING MOTHER LEFT US, IT WAS MARION'S TURN TO DO THE OUTSIDE WORK, SO WE BOTH GOT UP AND STARTED DOING OUR CHORES. MOTHER CALLED TO ME AND WHEN I GOT INTO HER BEDROOM SHE WAS SITTING ON THE BED WITH HER FEET ON THE FLOOR, THE FIRST TIME SHE HAD DONE THAT WITHOUT HELP FOR WEEKS. I HELPED HER INTO THE LIVING ROOM AND INTO HER ROCKING CHAIR.

SHE COMPLAINED OF A HEADACHE, BUT TOLD ME TO GET BREAKFAST, SHE W AS HUNGRY. I STARTED BREAKFAST, BUT HER HEADACHE BECAME MORE SEVERE, SO I CALLED MARION IN AND ONE OF US WENT ON HORSEBACK TO LET THE REST OF THE FAMILY KNOW. THERE WEREN'T ANY TELEPHONES AT ANY OF THE FAMILIES' HOMES, SO IT TOOK LONGER. ANDREW AND HELEN WERE ON THEIR DRY FARM SO I RODE THERE TO TELL THEM TO HURRY HOME.

THAT EVENING, STILL SITTING IN HER ROCKING CHAIR, SHE PASSED AWAY. SEPTEMBER 18, 1912. WE LAID HER TO REST IN THE UCON CEMETARY.

AS I ADVANCED IN THE PRIESTHOOD I HELD POSITIONS IN ALL OF THE PRIESTHOOD QUORUMS, DEACONS, TEACHERS, PRIESTS AND ELDERS. I WAS PRESIDENT OF THE ELDER'S QUORUM, AND ALSO SECRETARY OF THE ELDER'S QUORUM.

AFTER MOTHER DIED, I FARMED THE LITTLE HOME PLACE AND LIVED WITH DA N AND FAMILY. MARION WENT ON A MISSION ABOUT THAT TIME. WHEN HE CAME HOME HE GOT MARRIED AND RAN THE LITTLE FARM. I WORKED FOR MY BROTHERS AND OTHER FARMERS DURING THE NEXT FEW YEARS AND AT A SMELTER IN TOOELE, UTAH. MY DEAR AUNT EMILY, HER DAUGHTER AND FAMILY LIVED THERE AND SO LET ME LIVE WITH THEM WHILE I WORKED IN THE SMELTER.

FINALLY I BECAME HOMESICH FOR MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS AND WENT BACK TO IDAHO. I WORKED FOR EACH OF MY THREE OLDER BROTHERS AND WHILE WITH DAN I LEARNED MANY HARDSHIPS OF MY PARENT'S LIVES, AND OFTHE SUFFERING OF OUR FATHER.

IN 1917 I ENLISTED IN THE U.S. NAVY IN SALT LAKE CITY. I WAS SENT TO GOAT ISLAND IN SANFRANCISCO BAY. HAD MY HAIR CLIPPED SHORT AND BEGAN TRAINING ON HOW TO KILL PEOPLE. WOULD LIKED VERY MUCH TO START ON MY FIRST COMPANY COMMANDER, BUT THE WOOD GUNS WE WERE TRAINING WITH DID NOT HOLD SHELLS.

FROM THERE I WAS SENT TO SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA AND TOOK TRAINING AT BALBOA PARK. I ENJOYED THE WARM CLIMATE THERE. WE HAD REAL GUNS THERE, BUT THE OFFICERS WERE MORE HUMAN AND WE LIKED IT BETTER EXCEPT FOR MORNING REVELIE. I LEARNED TO DO MOST OF THE THINGS A SAILOR DOES, AND TRAINED AT SIGNALING AND MORSE CODE.

FROM SAN DIEGO I WENT ON ACROSS COUNTRY TO VIRGINIA. I WAS PLACED ABOARD THE BATTLESHIP NEBRASKA, AND LEARNED TO MAN THE LARGE GUNS. AFTER A SHORT TIME ON LAND AT NORFOLK, VIRGINIA, I AND ENOUGH OTHER BOYS TO MAN TWO GUNS MADE THREE COMPLETE TRIPS TO FRANCE ON THE GOOD SHIP 'HOWICK HALL', AN ARMY CARGO SHIP.

ALL SHIPS REQUIRE A GREAT AMOUNT OF WORK, PAINTING, SCRUBBING, SPLICING, AND MENDING LINES AND CANVAS. THE NEBRASKA HAD A WOOD DECK WHICH, AFTER LOADING THE BUNKERS WITH COAL, WAS BLACK AND TO CLEAN IT WE USED BRICKS FOR HOLY STONES, AND WOULD STONE THAT DECK UNTIL IT SHINED BETTER THAN A NEW BORN BABY'S SPANKED BOTTOM.

ON THE HOWICK HALL, THE ONLY NAVY MEN ABOARD WERE TWO GUN CREWS, TWO ELECTRICIANS, AND THREE QUARTER MASTERS. I WAS A MEMBER OF THE FORWARD GUN CREW. THE REST OF THE SHIP'S CREW WERE CIVILIANS.

ON OUR FIRST TRIP TO FRANCE WE LEFT NEW YORK CITY CHRISTMAS DAY, A ND SEVENTEEN DAYS LATER ARRIVED AT LA HAVRE, FRANCE. THERE WERE THIRTY SHIPS IN THE CONVOY AND WE HEARD THAT TWO WERE SUNK BY U. BOATS. WE SLEPT WITH OUR CLOTHES ON EXCEPT SHOES, AND A LIFE JACKET UNDER OUR HEADS.

ALL THE SHIPS WERE PAINTED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO CAMOFLAGE THEM AND WE TOOK A ZIG ZAG COURSE THROUGH THE WAR ZONE. AS A MEMBER OF THE FORWARD GUN CREW, MY FIRST DUTY WAS TO LOAD THE GUN WHILE IT WAS BEING FIRED.

WE DID THE LOOK OUT DUTY ALSO, AND TO REACH THE CROWS NEST (A BARRELL), HIGH ON THE MASTS, WE CLIMBED ROPE LADDERS.

DURING THE THREE TIMES I WAS IN FRANCE I SAW LA HAVRE, ST NEZARE, NANTES, BREST, BERDUN, AND BORDEAUX. BY THE TIME I HAD MADE THE THREE ROUND TRIPS TO FRANCE DURING NINE MONTHS ABOARD, I THOUGHT I WAS AN OLD SALT.

ONCE W ILE OUR SHIP WAS AT ANCHOR IN NEW YORK HARBOR NEAR THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, A CHIEF PETTY OFFICER, MYSELF, AND ANOTHER FELLOW TOOK A GROUP OF SAILORS BY MOTOR BOAT TO THE DOCK FOR A DAY OF SIGHT SEEING. WE STARTED BACK TO THE SHIP, THE THREE OF US. THE MOTOR STOPPED WORKING, SO WE HAD TWO OARS AND ATTEMPTED TO ROW BACK TO THE SHIP. THE TIDE WAS GOING OUT REAL STRONG AND WE COULDN'T GET THE BOAT TO GO WHERE WE WANTED AND HAD THE HARBOR PATROL NOT SEEN US AND COME TO OUR RESCUE, WE COULD HAVE GONE OUT TO SEA UNNOTICED.

THE LAST SHIP I SERVED ON WAS A U.S. DESTROYER NAMED 'HOPEWELL 181'. WE WERE OUT ON THE ATLANTIC ON A SCOUTING TRIP DURING TERRIBLY ROUGH SEAS AT WHICH TIME ALL MEMBERS OF THE CREW BECAME SEA SICK. WH N THE BOW DROPPED INTO A TROUGH THE WAVES WOULD COMPLETELY COVER THE FORWARD PART OF THE SHIP. THE GLASS AT THE FRONT OF THE BRIDGE WAS BROKEN BY THE FORCE OF THE WATER, AND CUT THE QUARTER MASTER'S FACE.

ON THAT TRIP WE VISITED ST. JOHNS, NEW FOUNDLAND, THE AZORE ISLANDS, AND BERMUDA. WHEN WE RETURNED TO PORT OUR SHIP WAS PUT IN DRY DOCK FOR REPAIRS TO DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE ROUGH SEAS.

I MUST TELL OF AN INCIDENT OF ALARM WH LE ON THE LAST TRIP OUT. WE HAD LINES (ROPES) STRUNG FROM STEM TO STERN TO HOLD ONTO WHEN IT WAS NECESSARY TO BE ON DECK.

THE "HEAD" (THAT IS WHAT A SHIP'S LAVATORY IS CALLED) WAS AT THE STERN, AND TO REACH IT WE CAME ON DECK, TOOK HOLD OF THE LINE AND GINGERLY MADE OUR WAY AFT, KEEPING WATCH FOR THE HIGH WAVES.

WHEN ONE PASSED ACROSS THE SHIP WE WOULD HURRY TO THE DOOR, UNFASTEN THE LOCK, OPEN THE DOOR QUICKLY, AND STEP INSIDE AND QUICKLY CLOSE AND DOG IT SHUT.

ONE SUCH TIME I WAS ALMOST TOO, TOO SLOW, FOR BEFORE I HAD THE DOOR ENTIRELY LOCKED A HUGE WAVE CROSSED OVER, AND ONE SECOND DIFFERENCE IN TIME SAVED MY LIFE.

BY THAT TIME THE WAR WAS OVER, SO THOUSANDS OF US WERE DISHHARGED. I WAS SENT FROM NEW YORK TO SALT LAKE CITY TO GET RELEASED, AS THAT WAS WHERE I ENLISTED. OF COURSE I WENT BACK TO UCON BECAUSE MY FAMILY OF BROTHERS AND SISTERS WERE THERE, BUT SINCE MOTHER'S DEATH I DIDN'T REALLY HAVE A HOME, SO FELT LIKE A LONE INDIAN. I WAS USED TO GOING PLACES SO IT WAS HARD FOR ME TO SETTLE DOWN.

THAT FALL I ASSISTED ESTHER'S HUSBAND, WILL DAVIS, HARVEST HIS CROP, THEN BOUGHT A NASH ROADSTER, AND WITH MY NEPHEW LEO COOK, STARTED FOR CALIFORNIA. THAT WAS 1919 AND MUCH OF THE DISTANCE WAS DIRT ROADS UNTIL NEARLY TO THE COAST TOWNS.

ON OUR WAY, WE VISITED MY TWO UNCLES IN GUNLOCK, UTAH, AND MESQUITE, NEVEDA. WE LOCATED FIRST AT BAKERSFIELD AND HIRED OUT TO AN OSTRICH FARMER ON A 297,000 ACRE CATTLE RANCH. WE HAD WORK TO DO INSIDE THE OSTRICH PASTURE, AND AT TIMES WERE CHASED BY A MALE OSTRICH, THEN WE CHASED IT.

WHEN WE LEFT THERE WE WENT TO REDLANDS AND WORKED IN THE ORANGE GROVES A WHILE. IN SAN BERNARDINO WE HELPED BUILD A ROAD BY BUSTING AND MOVING ROCKS.

IN THE SPRING OF 1920 WE STARTED BACK TOWARD IDAHO AND HAD SO MUCH MUD TO PLOW THROUGH THAT THE CAR DEVELOPED SOME KNOCKS, SO I LEFT IT AT A GARAGE IN CEDAR CITY, UTAH AND RODE A STAGE COACH TO THE RAILROAD AT MODENA, WHICH IS ABOUT SIXTY MILES FROM CEDAR CITY.

THE MUD WAS TERRIBLE AND ONE FRONT WHEEL BEARING WORE OUT, SO WE CHANGED COACHES WHEN ONE CAME ALONG. WE WENT HOME BY TRAIN AND IT WAS A FEW MONTHS BEFORE I WENT BACK FOR THE CAR.

I LIVED WITH DAN AND WORKED AT ARTHUR MISKIN'S SCRAPER FACTORY TO EARN MONEY TO REPAIR THE CAR AND THEN WENT BY TRAIN AND COACH TO CEDAR, GOT THE CAR, AND WENT TO ST. GEORGE TO SEE MY BROTHER JOHN AND FAMILY, WHO WERE THERE TO DO WORK IN THE TEMPLE. I VISITED MY UNCLES AND COUSINS AT GUNLOCK AND MESQUITE, ALSO ST. GEORGE FOR A MONTH OR TWO, THEN IDAHO WAS CALLING ME.

I STOPPED AT TOOELE, UTAH TO VISIT AUNT EMILY, AND WORKED A WHILE FOR HER SON IN LAW, GROVER McBRIDE, HAULING PIPES FOR A WATER LINE. WHILE DOING SO I WAS GOING UNDER ATRESTLE AND GOT SQUEEZED. A LOT OF THE HIDE ON MY BACK WAS SCRAPED OFF. GROVER TOOK ME BACK TO THE SMELTER DOCTOR FOR TREATMENT.

I WAS UNABLE TO DRIVE MY CAR TO IDAHO, SO LEFT IT AGAIN AND WENT HOME. THAT MUST HAVE BEEN THE SUMMER OF 1921. I WENT TO THE RANGE WITH ED PHILLIPS SHEEP AS CAMP MOVER. ONE DAY OUR HERD OF ABOUT FOURTEEN HUNDRED SHEEP MIX

MIXED WITH ANOTHER, AND IF YOU HAVE NEVER TRIED TO SEPARATE TWO HERDS OF SHEEP ON AN OPEN RANGE, YOU SHOULD TRY IT SOME TIME. OH WELL, LIFE IS ONE CONTINUAL ROUND OF EXPERIENCES, SOME GOOD, SOME BAD. WE PULLED INTO THE VALLEY JUST IN TIME TO MISS BEING SNOWED IN.

HERE I GO BACK TO DAN AGAIN, AND I WONDER WHY HE PUT UP WITH MY COMINGS AND GOINGS, BUT WE SPENT ONE WINTER BREAKING COLTS TO WORK AND HAULING STRAW TO BED HIS SHEEP. WE HITCHED A COLT ONCE WITH A BROKE HORSE, THEN HITCHED TWO COLTS TOGETHER. I ALSO BROKE SOME TO RIDE.

THE NEXT SUMMER I WENT TO THE 'BIG HOLE BASIN' IN MONTANA TO WORK ON A CATTLE RANCH, THEN TO UTAH, TOPPED SUGAR BEETS AND WORKED IN A SUGAR FACTORY.

HERE IT WAS THAT CALIFORNIA WAS CALLING, SO WENT TO SAN FRANCISCO, WORKED IN A GOVERNMENT BONDED WAREHOUSE LOADING AND UNLOADING GREAT CHUNKS OF TOBACCO, LARGE MATS OF RICE, BAGS OF WALL NUTS AND CASES OF CONFISCATED LIZ-UORS. WHILE IN SAN FRANCISCO I HIRED OUT TO A MINING COMPANY TO CUT A TWENTY BY TWENTY FOOT TUNNEL THROUGH A SOLID ROCK MOUNTAIN.

I LEARNED ENOUGH ABOUT MINING TO W ORK IN A GOLD MINE IN NEVADA. IT WAS HIGH IN THE MOUNTAINS. ONE NIGHT WHILE WORKING ALONE WAY BACK IN THE MINE, WITH ONLY A LITTLE CAR-BIDE LIGHT WHICH WAS ATTACHED TO MY CAP, I PUT A CHARGE OF DYNAMITE AND A CAP IN A HOLE, AND CUT TOO SHORT A FUSE TO GIVE ME TIME TO GET OUT OF THE 300 YARD TUNNEL. THE BLAST WENT OFF, THE WIND BLEW OUT MY CARBIDE LIGHT AND KNOCKED ME DOWN, BUT I WASN'T HURT. I BELIEVE THE DARK-NESS IN THERE WAS THE DARKEST DARKNESS I HAVE EVER SEEN AND IDON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES MY HEAD STRUCK THE TOP OF THE TUNNEL BEFORE I SAW A DIM LIGHT AT THE ENTRANCE. IT WASN'T LONG UNTIL I HAD HAD ENOUGH OF MINING AND SOWENT BACK TO SAN FRANCISCO.

I HAD BEEN A SAILOR, SO IT WASN'T HARD TO GET A JOB ABOARD SHIP, WHICH I DID, ON ONE BOING TO THE EAST COAST. MY BROTHER MARION THEN LIVED IN CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA AND I WANTED TO SEE HIM.

AFTER BOARDING THE MELVILLE DOLLAR, IT WENT TO VAN-COUVER ISLAND AND UP THE MAINLAND TO BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA WHERE IT TOOK ON ACARGO OF LUMBER.

WHILE LOADING THE SHIP, I NEARLY GOT ONE OR BOTH LEGS BROKEN, BUT WAS FORTUNATE TO ONLY BE BADLY BRUISED. WE WENT DOWN AROUND MEXICO, THROUGH THE PANAMA CANAL, AND THUS TO NEW YORK. FIFTY-FIVE DAYS ABOARD, AND MOST OF THAT TIME I COULDN'T DO MORE THAN SIT AROUND AND SPLICE LINES AND SLINGS FOR UNLOADING LUMBER BECAUSE OF MY LAME LEGS.

I WAS PAID OFF AT NEW YORK, THEN TOOK A TRAIN FOR CHARLESTON WHERE I SPENT A FEW MONTHS WITH MARION, AND WORKING AT DIFFERENT PLACES. FIRST AT A NEW BANK BEING BUILT, SECOND, ASSISTING CEMENT FINISHERS, THIRD, GROOMING AND FEEDING RIDING HORSES AT A RIDING ACADAMY.

WHILE WORKING THERE I BORROWED AHORSE TO RIDE OUT IN THE HILLS TO SEE MARION'S SON LAWRENCE, LIVING WITH HIS GRANDMOTHER. IT WAS DARK BEFORE REACHING THE RIDING ACA-DAMY TO LEAVE THE HORSE. A CAR STRUCK THE HORSE, KNOCKING# IT OFF THE ROAD, AND, OF COURSE, IT FELL ON MY LEG, HURT-ING THE ANKLE OF THE SAME LEG MOST BRUISED ABOARD SHIP.

WELL, I COULDN'T WORK, SO DECIDED TO HEAD FOR IDAHO, WHICH I DID, BUT I WAS LAME FOR SOME TIME AFTER REACHING THERE.

DURING THESE YEARS OF COMINGS AND GOINGS I HAD MET SEVERAL LOVELY GIRLS, AS ALL GIRLS ARE, BUT MANAGED TO BE GOING SO MUCH THEY COULDN'T CATCH UP WITH ME TO PROPOSE --UH! THAT IS EXCEPT ONE, AND SHE GOT A GOOD HOLD ON MY HEART STRINGS, SO I HAD TO STOP GOING.

I STILL HAD MY CAR, SO BEGAN GETTING BETTER AQUAINTED WITH THE GIRL WHO BECAME MY WIFE, HILDA ELVERDA ANDERSEN.

I MET ELVERDA, YOUR MOTHER IN UCON, BUT AS SHE WORKED IN IDAHO FALLS, I WENT THERE TO SEE HER, AND SPENT MANY # PLEASANT HOURS WITH HER. SHE WAS THE ONLY DAUGHTER OF JOHN AND HILDA ANDERSEN. MARRIED ON JUNE 4, 1924 IN THE

WE WERE ~~MARRIED IN HYDE 4,5,m 1924 UP TOE #########~~ ~~#########~~ SALT LAKE TEMPLE. THAT DAY MORE COUPLES WERE MARRIED IN THAT TEMPLE THAN EVER BEFORE. WE WERE IN THERE ALL DAY WITH NO BREAKFAST OR DINNER, AND WE WERE SO HUNGRY AND TIRED WE DIDN'T KNOW WHERE TO SLEEP.

HOWEVER, WE GOT A ROOM IN THE HOTEL UTAH, BUT TO THIS DAY I DON'T REMEMBER SLEEPING. WE TOOK A HONEYMOON TRIP BY DRIVING TO MT. PLEASANT, UTAH WHERE SHE WAS BORN, AND HER GRANDPARENTS STILL LIVED.

I WAS WORKING ON A FARM FOR H.F. JENSEN WHILE HE TAUGHT SCHOOL. SO MY WIFE AND I CAME BACK AND SETTLED DOWN TO WORK AND RAISE A FAMILY, WHICH WAS THE MAIN REASON

WE WERE ON EARTH FOR.

SHE WAS ONE OF THE MOST WONDERFUL OF WOMEN AND WE WERE VERY HAPPY TOGETHER. SHE WAS BLOND, AND FIVE FOOT THREE INCHES TALL. A GOOD HOUSE KEEPER, COOK, AND A WONDERFUL MOTHER.

WE LIVED ON FARMS AND THOSE YEARS WHEN FARM CROPS DID NOT BRING MUCH MONEY, AND WE HAD LITTLE OF THE LUXURIES OF LIFE, BUT WERE HAPPY IN EACH OTHERS COMPANY.

WE WORKED AND PRAYED TOGETHER THIRTEEN YEARS, AND GOD CALLED TO HER, AND THEN YOU DEAR CHILDREN, AND I, LEARNED WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO LIVE WITHOUT HER KIND AND LOVING CARE.

BEFORE THE TIME FOR OUR FIRST BABY TO BE BORN I PUT A FLAG POLE UP BY OUR HOUSE, WITH A ROPE AND A FLAG, SO ELVERDA COULD SIGNAL ME IN FROM THE FIELD IF SHE STARTED HAVING PAINS.

WHILE PLOWING IN THAT ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY ACRE FIELD, I LED MY RIDING MARE ALL DAY SO IF I SAW THE FLAG UP I WOULD LEAVE THE PLOW HORSES STANDING AND RACE THE MARE TO THE HOUSE, BUT IT DIDN'T HAPPEN THAT WAY.

WHEN THE TIME CAME, I WAS AT HOME, AND GOT THE DOCTOR TO COME FROM IDAHO FALLS, A DISTANCE OF NINE MILES. I CAN TELL YOU THESE THINGS NOW BECAUSE YOU ALL HAVE CHILDREN OF YOUR OWN AND WELL UNDERSTAND WHAT I AM TELLING YOU.

WELL, THE DOCTOR WORKED WITH HER SEVERAL HOURS, BUT SHE DIDN'T DILATE, AND I WAS SO FRIGHTENED THAT WHEN HE SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO TAKE HER TO THE HOSPITAL, I DIDN'T OFFER A SINGLE OBJECTION.

I BELIEVE THE NURSES KNEW MORE WHAT TO DO THAN THE DOCTOR, BECAUSE IT WAS ONLY A SHORT WHILE UNTIL THE BABY WAS BORN, AFTER TWELVE HOURS OF PAINS.

AS YOU KNOW, THE BABY WAS ABOY, CHARLES DELOY, AND WE LOVED HIM SO, AND I WAS SO PROUD OF MY WIFE FOR PRESENTING HIM TO ME. WE RECOGNIZED HIM AS BEING A VERY INTELLIGENT AND LOVELY BOY, BUT OUR HAPPINESS WAS SO SOON TO END, FOR AT EIGHT MONTHS OUR FATHER CALLED HIM HOME.

OUR WORLD HAD FALLEN ON US, AND IT TOOK SOME TIME TO FEEL LIKE GOING TO CHURCH AGAIN, BUT THE LORD WAS GOOD TO US TO TEACH US THERE IS ANOTHER LIFE AFTER DEATH, AND WE HOPE TO SEE OUR BOY AGAIN. HIS MOTHER HAS BEEN W ITH HIM THESE MANY YEARS.

HE SOFTENED OUR GRIFF BY SENDING US YOU, DEAR NORMA, AND WE WERE JUST AS PROUD OF YOU AND LOVED YOU JUST AS MUCH.

THEN CAME ANOTHER BOY, AND EVEN IF HE WAS BORN IN A THREE ROOM LOG HOUSE WITH A DIRT ROOF, HE TOO WAS, AND STILL IS A WONDERFUL BOY, AND WE LOVE YOU, MERRILL.

DONNA, OUR LAST CHILD BORN, WAS A BEAUTIFUL CHILD ALSO, AS WERE ALL OF YOU. OF COURSE WE LOVED EACH AND ALL OF YOU.

YOUR FIRST FEW YEARS WERE SPENT ON THE FARM AND WE ALL SPENT SOME HARD TIMES TOGETHER. I COULDN'T DO ALL THE THINGS FOR YOUR MOTHER AND YOU CHILDREN THAT I WANTED TO, AND IT HURT ME TO SEE YOU NEEDING THINGS I COULDN'T GET.

YOUR MOTHER WAS TO GET ANOTHER BABY IN APRIL, BUT FOR AN UNKNOWN REASON, GOD SAW FIT TO TAKE HER FROM US ALSO, IN NOVEMBER OF 1936. I KNOW IT HAD TO BE A VERY SPECIAL REASON TO TAKE THE MOTHER OF THREE YOUNG CHILDREN.

THE DAYS FOLLOWING WERE LIKE A NIGHTMARE TO ME, BUT I REALIZED I HAD TO CARRY ON, AS I WAS THE ONLY ONE MY CHILDREN HAD TO DEPEND ON FOR THE NECESSARY THINGS OF LIFE AND I WORRIED A GREAT DEAL UNTIL I WAS FORTUNATE IN FINDING ANOTHER WOMAN TO CARE FOR YOU WHILE I WAS OUT FARMING. I LEARNED OF A WIDOW NAMED NORA ROSS MOORE, WHO CAME TO KEEP HOUSE FOR ME.

WHEN SHE WALKED INTO OUR HOUSE A GREAT WEIGHT SEEMED TO LIFT OFF MY SHOULDERS. I RECOGNIZED IN HER A WOMAN WHO COULD ASSIST ME IN RAISING YOU AND TEACHING YOU CORRECTLY. SHE, I LEARNED HAD MANY TRAITS OF YOUR MOTHERS, WERE NEAR THE SAME HEIGHT AND SIZE.

I HAVE FELT SINCE THAT FIRST DAY THAT YOUR MOTHER APPROVED.

IT IS NEARLY TWENTY SIX YEARS SINCE NORA CAME INTO MINE AND YOUR LIVES, AND SHE HAS LOVED YOU AS HER OWN AND YOUR OWN MOTHER COULD NOT HAVE DONE MORE FOR YOU OR FOR YOUR CHILDREN. I LOVE HER DEARLY, AND KNOW YOU DO ALSO.

IT HAS MADE HER HAPPY THAT YOU HAVE CALLED HER MOTHER. IT HAS ALSO PLEASED ME AND I THANK YOU, FOR SHE HAS EARNED THAT DISTINCTION OF BEING CALLED MOTHER. SHE NEVER EXPECTED OR TRIED TO TAKE YOUR MOTHER'S PLACE; ONLY MAKE A PLACE IN YOUR HEARTS FOR HERSELF, SO IF I SHOULD GO BEFORE SHE, PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE AND KIND TO HER FOR YOU WILL BE THE ONLY ONES SHE CAN TURN TO.

THIS AUTOBIOGRAPHY TURNED OUT TO BE A LOVE LETTER, BUT I HAVE WRITTEN SOME OF THE THINGS THAT WERE IN MY HEART, AND THIS PENCIL JUST KEPT GOING.

WE QUIT FARMING, AND MOVED TO IDAHO FALLS WHERE I WORKED AT SEVERAL PLACES. FIRST, THE 'BLIND BULL' COAL YARD, THEN ONE SEASON I WORKED FOR A MR. EPSTINE, IN THE HONEY BEE BUSINESS, AND LEARNED A GREAT DEAL ABOUT BEES.

IN THE WINTER FOLLOWING, THE POTATO CELLARS WERE MY NEXT PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT. THE POTATO ALCOHOL PLANT AND POTATO DEHYDRATING PLANT ALSO GAVE ME WORK.

THE RAILROAD COMPANY WAS HIRING MEN TO CLEAN AND REPAIR CARS FOR POTATO SHIPPING, SO I WORKED THERE TWO OR THREE WINTERS.

IN 1946 I WAS ORDAINED A SEVENTY IN IDAHO FALLS BY S. DILWORTH YOUNG, AND YOUR MOTHER AND I WERE CALLED ON A STAKE MISSION. I ALSO WORKED IN THE CHURCH AS SECRETARY OF THE YOUNG MEN'S MUTUAL, AND LATER WAS COUNSELOR TO THE MUTUAL SUPERINTENDANT.

IN 1947 WE MOVED TO LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA TO LIVE, WHERE WE PURCHASED A HOME AT 3030 CEDAR AVENUE. WE LATER TRADED IT FOR ANOTHER AT 5026 WALNUT AVENUE.

WE COMPLETED OUR STAKE MISSION IN CALIFORNIA, IN LONG BEACH FIRST W ARD. MY FIRST WORK IN LONG BEACH WAS LANDSCAPE GARDENING. AFTER TWO YEARS OF GARDENING, I BEGAN WORK AT 'SUNNYSIDE CEMETARY AND MAUSOLEUM.(THERE I IRRIGATED, DUG GRAVES, AND CLEANED MARBLE.

IN NOVEMBER OF 1951, DONNA, THINKING I WAS WORKING TOO HARD, PERSUADED ME TO GET A JOB AT 'MASTIC TILE', WHERE I WORKED TEN YEARS, THREE AND A HALF MONTHS.

MY WIFE AND I WERE CALLED ON ANOTHER STAKE MISSION AND I ACTED AS DISTRICT PRESIDENT.

WHILE STILL WORKING AT MASTIC TILE COMPANY, WE PURCHASED ANOTHER HOME AT 4309 IROQUIS AVE., LAKEW OOD, AND RENTED THE ONE ON WALNUT AVE.

I WORKED IN THE CHURCH AT EVERYTHING ASKED OF ME, AND WAS ORDAINED A HIGH PRIEST BY BROTHER LORIN DANIELS, OF THE STAKE PRESIDENCY, 1961.

IN SEPTEMBER, 1962, BISHOP MALQUIST ASKED ME ABOUT ##### MOM AND I GOING ON A SIX MONTH FULL TIME MISSION.

WE ACCEPTED, AND AFTER AWEEK AT THE MISSION HOME IN SALT LAKE CITY, WE WERE SENT TO GEORGIA WHERE WE ASSISTED WITH BRANCH WORK AND DID PROSELYTING.

SATAN SEEMED DETERMINED THAT WE WERE NOT TO GO AND CAUSED US MUCH TROUBLE GETTING TO SALT LAKE CITY. THEN MOM WAS SICK FROM THERE TO GEORGIA, BUT WE WERE ALSO DETERMINED AND DID MUCH PRAYING.

GOD BLESSED US ABUNDANTLY, EWEN THOUGH MOM WAS ILL CONSIDERABLE OF THE TIME AND LOST THE HEARING ON ONE EAR.

WE LEARNED TO LOVE THE PEOPLE OF THE SOUTH AND THEY PROVED THEIR LOVE FOR US.

WE WERE ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIVE MILES FROM SAVANNAH WHERE WE WENT TO ATTEND MISSIONARY MEETINGS, CONFERENCES AND LEADERSHIP MEETINGS.

DURING THE SIX MONTHS WE MADE TEN TRIPS, TO AND FROM AS THE SOUTHERNERS SAY, OF TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY MILES.

TO DO RELIEF SOCIETY VISITING, WE DROVE EIGHTY-FIVE MILES EACH MONTH. OVER ONE THOUSAND MILES EACH MONTH WAS NECESSARY IN MISSIONARY AND BRANCH DUTIES.

AFTER BEING RELEASED, WE DROVE DOWN THE ATLANTIC COAST TO DAYTONA BEACH FLORIDA, SEEING INTERESTING SIGHTS AND EVEN HAD THE FOUR CAR WHEELS IN THE OCEAN WATER.

WE RODE A SIGHT SEETNG BUS IN NEW ORLEANS, AND SAW MANY REALLY OLD BUILDINGS.

VISITED THE MARVELOUS CARLSBAD CAVERNS IN NEW MEXICO AND THE SALTON SEA IN CALIFORNIA ON OUR WAY HOME.

WE ARE LIVING WITH WILBUR AND DONNA AND FAMILY IN NORWALK, CALIF. SINCE ARRIVING HOME.

I WAS ASKED TO ATTEND FOUR FUNERALS SINCE THEN TO TAKE PART IN THE SERVICES.

JUNE 18TH: I WAS ASKED TO BE PALL BEARER AT THE FUNERAL OF ONE OF OUR NEIGHBORS, MRS BRICE.

JULY 3, 1963: MOM AND I WENT TO THE LOS ANGELES TEMPLE AND ASSISTED IN DOING SEALINGS AND ENJOYED IT VERY GREATLY.

WE SLEPT IN OUR HOME LAST NIGHT FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE LAST SEPTEMBER 16TH.

TODAY IS JULY 4TH. WE ARE SPENDING THE DAY WITH WILBUR, DONNA AND CHILDREN, EATING AND LISTENING TO FIRE CRACKERS.

1968 Addition to autobiography of Charle s Tyler

OUR OTHE R DAUGHTER, SARAH ANN HAS BEEN WITH US SINCE SHE WAS FIVE AND A HALF YEARS OLD. SHE IS A LOVELY GIRL. SHE HAS BEEN A BLESSING TO MOTHER NORA AND ME FOR WE LOVE HER DEARLY.

WE ARE THANKFUL TO WILBUR AND DONNA FOR KEEPING HER FOR US WHILE WE WERE ON OUR MISSION. WE ALSO APPRECIATE THEIR CHILDRE N FOR TREATING SARAH AS THEIR SISTER.

WHILE OUR HOME WAS RENTED DURING THE SEVEN MONTHS WEXX WERE GONE IT WAS BADLY NEGLECTED. IT TOOK LOTS OF WORK AND MONEY TO MAKE IT FIT TO BE LIVED IN.

THEN AFTER A SHORT WHILE WE SOLD OUR LAKEWOOD HOME AND PURCHASE D A MOBILE HOME, ~~12~~ 12' X 60' WITH A SEVEN FOOT EXPANDO FOR THE LIVING ROOM, AND HAD IT MOVED TO THE "DEL-ESTES MOBILE PARK" IN ANAHEIM. BUT WE SOON HAD TO LEAVE THERE BECAUSE MOTHER COULDN'T TOLERATE THE ACID FUMES FROM A PROCESSING PLANT NEXT DOOR.

WE MOVED TO SKANDIA MOBILE PARK AT HUNTINGTON BEACH WHERE I WAS PROMISED WORK. AS IT WAS AN "ADULT" PARK WE ACCEPTED OF DONNA AND WILBUR'S INVITATION TO KEEP SARAH ANN FOR US AND THEY HAVE BEEN LIKE PARENTS TO HER AND WE KNOW SHE APPRECIATES W HAT THEY HA VE DONE FOR HER. WE TOO.

A YEAR AFTER MOVING TO HUNTINGTON BEACH WE WERE OFFERE D A JOB AS ASSISTANT FOREMANS AT RANCHO RIVERSIDE PARK BESIDE THE RIVE SIDE FREEWAY, FIVE MILES FROM CORONA AND EIGHT MILES FROM RIVERSIDE. AT THIS WRITING WE DON'T EXPECT TO MOVE AGAIN AS WE RETIRED DEC. 31, 1967 AND HAVE TRULY ENJOYED AN EASIER LIFE AND EACH OTHERS COMPANY.

SINCE LIVING AT THIS PLACE MY DARLING LOST THE SIGHT OF ONE EYE (ONE EAR WENT DEAF WHILE WE WERE ON OUR MIS S ION). SHE HAS DONE CONSIDERABLE PAINTING ON PILLOW SLIPS AND MAKING BREAD FOR SOME PEOPLE IN THIS PARK.

I HAVE BEEN A "HOME TEACHER" EVERY PLACE WE HAVE ~~XXXXX~~ LIVED. AT PRESENT I AM SECRETARY OF OUR HIGH PRIESTS GROUP.

WE HAVE THREE SONS, FOUR DAUGHTERS AND 14 GRANDCHILDREN PLUS ONE DARLING LITTLE GREAT GRAND-DAUGHTER AND HER FATHER GIVES US ANOTHER GRANDSON.

WE ARE THANKFUL AND PROUD OF THE WAY YOU ARE ALL CONDUCTING YOURSELVES AND TRYING TO KEEP GOD'S COMMA NDMENTS WHILE WORKING IN HIS CHURCH.

I SAY GOD BIE SS EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU. KEEP UP THE GOOD W ORK AND YOU WILL BE BLESSED FOR SO DOING.

YOUR FATHER,
GRANDFATHER,
BROTHER IN THE GOSPEL OF
JESUS CHRIST.

AT HOME, DEC. 25, 1969

YESTERDAY (MY BIRTHDAY) AND TODAY HAVE BEEN THE MOST JOYFUL OF ANY TWO DAYS OF MY LIFE.

FOR MANY YEARS OUR CHILDREN AND US HAVE MET TOGETHER ON CHRISTMAS TO VISIT; TO HONOR ME ON MY BIRTHDAY AND TO GIVE AND RECEIVE GIFTS AND EAT LOVELY DINNERS.

WE MET THIS YEAR AT OUR SON A ND DAUGHTER'S HOME, ALL EXCEPT ANDREA, WHO HAD ANOTHER ENGAGEMENT.

WE MISSED YOU, DEAR ANDREA, BUT HOPE YOU ENJOYED CHRISTMAS WHERE YOU WERE.

THE FOUR FAMILIES PROVIDED AND PREPARED THE FOOD, COOKED TO PERFECTION AND SERVED TO TWENTY-FOUR HUNGRY PEOPLE.

ILENE BAKED AND DECORATED A BEAUTIFUL BIRTHDAY CAKE IN MY HONOR, BUT AFTER EATING SO MUCH OF THE OTHER DELICIOUS FOOD WE WERE TOO FULL TO EAT THE CAKE. WE BROUGHT IT HOME AND TODAY GAVE A PIECE TO FRIENDS WHO CAME TO GIVE GREETINGS.

LAST NIGHT WE CAME HOME AT 11:15, UNDRESSED, AND WENT TO BED. WE HAD BEEN IN BED A FEW MINUTES WHEN THE DOORBELL RANG FOUR RINGS. I GOT OUT OF BED, WENT TO

THE DOOR IN ONLY MY UNDERWEAR, OPENED THE DRAPES A LITTLE, LOOKED OUT, BUT THERE WAS NOONE IN SIGHT, BUT NEAR THE DOOR WAS A BOX ABOUT FOURTEEN INCHES SQUARE. I WENT OUTSIDE, STILL IN MY UNDERWEAR, LOOKED TO THE SIDE OF OUR MOBILE AND NOONE THERE, SO I CARRIED THE BOX INSIDE.

BY THEN MOM WAS IN THE ROOM AND I SHOWED HER THE BOX. IT WAS A CHRISTMAS DECORATED BOX WITH A CARD SAYING, "FROM SANTA CLAUS, AND NOTHING ELSE. BEINGS AS IT WAS SO NEAR CHRIS TMAS MORN ING, WE DECIDED TO OPEN IT.

IF WE HAD NEVER BELIEVED IN SANTA CLAUS, WE DO NOW, FOR WHAT WE SAW INSIDE WE STILL WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT, BUT WE THINK THERE WAS A GREAT LOT OF COINS, PENNYS, NICKLES, DIMES, QUARTERS AND 2 HALF DOLLARS.

TO US IT LOOKED LIKE A MILLION DOLLARS IN AND UNDER XXX A HOUSE WITH AN ATTACHED GARAGE. THE ROOF OF THE HOUSE WOULD RAISE AND IT, THE HOUSE, WAS ALS O FULL OF COINS , ALSO UNDER THE HOUSE.

WE DIDN'T SLEEP MUCH THE FEW HOURS LEFT FOR WONDERING WHO HAD DONE THE TRICK. WE HAVE DONE SOME INQUIRING TODAY BUT HAVEN'T LEARNED A THING. SO, OF COURSE, WE ARE STILL WONDERING. IT IS NOW TEN P.M. ON THE 25TH AND WE WILL GO TO BED, AFTER THANKING GOD FOR A FRIEND OR FRIENDS WHO WERE RESPONSIBLE.

IT TOOK TWO HOURS FOR US TO CLASIFY THE COINS AND COUNT THEM FOR A TOTAL OF DOLLARS.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A GUESS? NO, YOU DIDN'T GUESS IT CORRECTLY. IT WAS $104.00 plus.

WE WERE GIVEN MANY WONDERFUL GIFTS, VERY VALUABLE TO US.

GOD BLESS OUR CHILDREN, WE LOVE THEM DEARLY.

CHARLES

IT IS NOW DEC. 30TH AND NOONE WILL CONFESS HE OR SHE WAS THE SANTA WE ARE STILL SEARCHING FOR.

SO WE CAN ONLY ASK OUR FATHER UP ABOVE TO BLESS THE ONES WHO WERE SO KIND AND UNSELFISH.

WHETHER THEY WERE PEOPLE OF THIS PARK WE KNOW NOT BUT GOD WILL BLESS THEM, I KNOW.