

*Lois Belnap
Erickson*



1920 — 2011

Lois Belnap Erickson 1920—2011

Lois loved her heritage and wanted all of us to know the family members who meant so much to her. Through the years she spent many hours involved in family history projects and enjoyed researching, writing histories and collecting photos of her ancestors. Many of these were shared at family reunions and she made sure that her children received copies of her findings. When we saw how important this work was to her, we have often wondered why she didn't write her own history. As we started going through the many diaries, calendars and journals that she used to record her thoughts and important details of her life, as well as the many "Life sketches" and "Life Stories" she had written over the years, we realized that she did in fact write her own history. We just needed to find a way to compile her thoughts and ideas in a way which would reflect her priorities and values and tell her story. This is what we have tried to do in the following history.

This volume presents Lois's life story in her own words compiled and arranged from multiple sources and edited to form a life story connecting the many aspects of her life that we think tells her family and others what she would want them to know about her.

Almost all of the words in this history are her own, with the exception of a few words to connect her thoughts. Sections in italics have been added to provide context or to join together words taken from her writings. Other text not written by Lois are identified by the author

Also included are picture collages of various stages of Lois's life. Many of these collages contain pictures of little charms that were hers. Lois kept a small wooden box filled with charms she collected early in her life. Children and grandchildren loved to open this box and were delighted to see the many different shapes and colors of the charms she had saved and enjoyed hearing her tell about them. Some of these charms are included in the collages that Ellen has created. Maybe we could say that she had a "charmed life."

Book compiled by Nancy Jensen and Ellen Anson, with contributions by Ray Jensen, David Erickson, Bruce Erickson, Janet Gee, Susan Schmidt, Chris Erickson and Jeane Burton

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Early Memories & Childhood

Lois, a charming, sunny redhead with freckles, was born on October 7, 1920, Thursday at 3 a.m., and three weeks after the family moved into their newly-built home at 1111-21 Street in Ogden, Weber Co, Utah. I had beautiful auburn (red) hair and mother, Mabel, said I never lost any of it and it stayed that color. The family never nicknamed me, but others called me “Red” and “Carrot top” because of my red hair.

Mother said I was a fairly good baby but had colic and she remembered saying, “I’ll be glad when she’s three months old” (babies were supposed to outgrow colic about then) and on the day I was 3 months old I got bronchitis! The doctor prescribed sleeping outdoors every day, rain or shine—even in cold weather (it would have been January).

I was blessed as Lois Ruth Belnap by my father Arias G. Belnap (*the blessing certificate says, Nathan J. Harris Sr.*) I heard Mother say she had wanted 3 girls and would name them Lois—Ruth—Mildred. My parents were longtime residents of Ogden City. Arias had been born in Hooper, Utah on 6 September 1893 to Hyrum and Anna Bluth Belnap. Mabel was born 20 March 1894 to Nathan John Harris and Emma Oakason Harris in Ann Arbor, Michigan where her father attended law school. I was the second of their five children; Ralph was first (1917), Lois (1920), after me came Mildred (1923), Donald (1927) and Gordon (1929).



Mabel, Ralph and Arias Belnap
(Mother, Brother, Father)

Mother and Dad first lived in a little home rented from Austin Wintle on Gramercy between 22nd and 23rd, then they lived in a small home on Washington Ave (later Boulevard) between 20th and 21st on the west side of the street. They had also spent time in California at Mare Island Navy Base where Dad was located and worked as an accountant during the 1st World War. They lived on Haight Street in San Francisco. Years later, the folks wanted to take us to San Francisco for the World’s Fair in 1938 and show us where they had lived. We rented an apartment on Haight Street very close to where they had lived, and we had a good time.



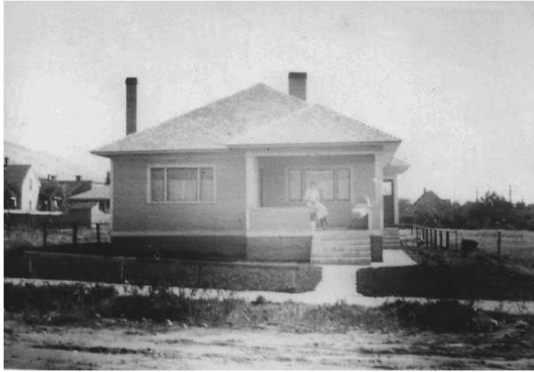
Lois, Ralph & Mildred

Dad was in the lumber business with Uncle Von, so he built a nice white frame house which was large and comfortable. I loved our home. Since Dad was a lumberman, he selected choice wood for our home and also drew the plans for it. There was a large front room with a fireplace, full mantel across glass bookcases, and the piano was also in there. The piano was well used. I played; so did the others. The front room was entered off the front door. The room was always papered. The French doors had pongee curtains on them, and were hung on the dining room side. The fireplace had marble "tile" on the floor and it had a dark metal front. There were lace curtains on the two small windows over the mantle and on either side of the fireplace and the front north window. Mother always kept the curtains clean. The pongee curtains were washed and ironed but the lace curtains were washed, starched, and stretched on curtain stretchers. There was a floral rug and varnished wood around it. There was a door

on the south wall leading to a long hall. We held plays and used the French doors as the curtains.

Our telephone number was 1149. We later had a different one when we got a dialing system to dial our own numbers. Our first telephone was a small brown box –one located on the south wall in the kitchen. I have a vivid picture of Grandma (Anna Bluth) Belnap standing there with the receiver in her hand talking. We gave the number wanted to an operator and she dialed the number. Later our telephone was moved into the dining room on the west wall, and then when Ralph went in the Navy the folks had it moved into the hallway by the kitchen door and to the west of their bedroom so that they could hear it in case he called them. In later years when Eldred would call me he would say, "Is this eleven-four-nine?" He made up a jingle or poem about the number. We thought it was really wonderful when we got the dial telephone. It was a black one, but had the receiver and mouthpiece connected into one piece and it was cradled over the top of the telephone base with the dial. The telephone played a big part in our lives, and I had many friends call, chat, and visit over the telephone.





1111 – 21st Street, Ogden

One friend called quite often on Sundays and Mildred often commented that she wondered if he did it purposely so that I could get out of the dishes.

Mildred and I shared the south east bedroom in our home at 1111 - 21st. We had a double bed and a birds-eye maple dresser. She took one top and large drawer and I took the other. We had 2 windows on the East and two easement windows which opened and closed with a turn-key. Sometimes when the snow was blowing hard, it would come through the cracks and

Dad would stuff rags to keep out the wind and snow.

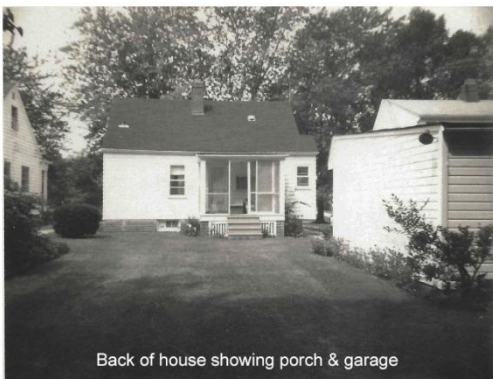
I loved books and reading, such as: Louisa May Alcott's books (Little Women, Little Men, Jo's boys, etc.) Gene Stratton Porter's books, "The Girl of the Limberlost," Bess Streeter Aldrich, "A Lantern in her Hand," and the scriptures and stories of my ancestors. My Mother always read us Bible stories and she was a spiritual person.

We could see the mountains on the east and loved them. On the south we had the apricot tree, other fruit trees and the garden, and the back lawn held our playhouse in the south east corner. It was a large one—a gasoline station house that Mr. Thomas had on 23rd and Madison (or maybe Quincy) and they were going to tear it down but Dad bought it for a playhouse. Mildred and I and friends had lots of fun in it. It was large enough to have friends come and play games and we had many good times there.



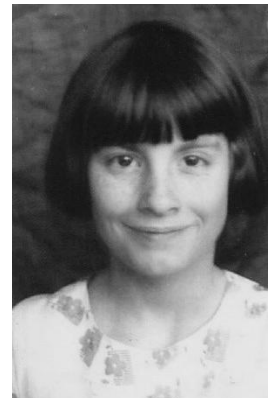
(This picture of the house was taken in the 70's)

I had a very happy childhood in spite of no central heating, radio or television (a crystal set came later). We lived on a quiet tree-lined street. The street car line ended at 21st and Van Buren and the neighborhood children all gathered under the arc light—our unofficial clubhouse—to play games. In the wintertime we built snowmen and would sleigh ride down 21st street which seemed steep to us children, and there was more snow back then. These were glorious days!



We also made our own fun by swinging, playing jacks, skating, dancing to the phonograph and playing all sorts of games with neighborhood children. Our family liked to go camping and we often went with friends; I also liked to go hiking. As a child I loved playing games and having parties with friends. We played jacks, "Run Sheepy Run," "I spy," "Mother May I," hopscotch, did

Lois, Age 10



cartwheels, and would lie on the cool grass and watch the clouds or the stars. We played Old Maid, Rook, Flinch, Spoof, Bunco, and Bingo. Mother played games with us children, and we spent many hours practicing penmanship, spelling, and playing the game, “Hang Man” on the black board in the kitchen.

As a teenager we would sometimes walk to town and have a nickel for a candy bar or use it to ride home on the street car. Sometimes we would go to the picture shows on Saturday (later called movies); they were all black and white. We had a large group of friends, boys and girls and we would have a birthday party for each one. On my 16th, they all brought a pretty handkerchief. That was a special birthday and I kept those handkerchiefs in my cedar chest for many years. Friends also gave me a stuffed elephant, and a crocheted dog.

We never got an allowance growing up. Money was very scarce—it was just after WWI and money was counted in pennies, nickels and dimes. Then came the Great Depression and caused great sorrow, also the Ogden State Bank failed and many of the family lost all of their money. Yes, I had chores—everything to help mother in everything necessary. I cleaned cupboards, scrubbed the kitchen floor often etc. My most happy part was helping mother “raise” my younger sister and two younger brothers. My sister and I, three years younger, were always very good friends. My brothers Donald and Gordon are very special brothers. I also babysat children for many years—learned much from them and my mother.

Once when I was a young child—maybe 9 or 10, not sure, but took some (2) eggs from the coop and was going to go to the store and exchange them for candy. Mother intercepted me and made me go to the neighbors and tell them I stole them and apologize. I felt so badly. I never stole eggs again for sure.



I was encouraged by my parents to “Always do what you are asked to do, and never turn down a church assignment.” My father, Arias, was bishop for 17 years, and then was a counselor in the Ogden Stake Presidency for 11 years, and mother was the great sustaining influence in our home to keep the kids active and participating in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints programs.

Christmas

Years later she wrote, “I had a beautiful red-headed doll, red cradle and black leather fold-up buggy, and a red rocking chair. For Christmas we always received a book, a new nightgown or pajamas, and on Christmas night we put on new sleepwear and read a new book in front of the nice fire Daddy had built in the fireplace and it was pleasant and I was cozy and warm.

When I was very young, 3 or 4 or maybe earlier, I had a special experience! I remember standing in a white night gown, and watching many aunts and uncles and mother and dad around a tall live Christmas pine tree, and they were lighting small candles which covered the tree. They worked quickly so that the tree was completed lighted, and they let the candles burn for a very short time, then they all blew them out. This was the only time that the tree was lighted that year. Years later we had electric lights and bird ornaments.



There weren't gifts throughout the year, so Christmas was a special time, and the presents became more abundant after the depression. Mother would make us a Christmas dress some years, and I remember when I was in Elementary School, mother made me a blue velvet dress for a Christmas dance. Mildred's dress was red. I think I would have been in the 4th or 5th grade, Miss Mallon was our Auditorium teacher. When I was in the 5th grade at Lorin Farr School, Miss Hendrickson told us the truth about Santa Claus, and I was bewildered. Daddy put me on his lap and read me the article, "Yes, Virginia there is a Santa Claus," I felt so much better after that. Christmas is for love, giving to others, and helping others to be happy.

I remember being at Christmas parties at Grandma Anna Bluth Belnap's home on 21st street. She had a beautiful green dish always filled with ribbon candy. One time she gave me a small brown Japanese basket, and I kept "secret" things in it for years. Another time the folks told Uncle

Earl Belnap, MD, that I had a cold. We went into the kitchen, and he looked in my throat, took a tablespoon and pushed out my tonsils. Ha! Easy way!

Later on, our crowd would visit each person's home to view their gifts. We would show our gifts, except for the "pink things" (underwear). We always had a good time, and it would last most of the morning, then some would leave for Christmas Dinner. We never had a big dinner on this day – that was confined to Thanksgiving –but the folks always had a nice buffet laid out if we desired food. Christmas was such a fun time! We enjoyed being with friends, and then we might go to Nathan J. and Emma Harris's home (grandparents) and visit with them, or read, or play the piano. It was a peaceful day!

So many memories! Christmas trees with candles, going to the Homestead at Rozel, Utah with Aunt Luella, Uncle Wilford and Uncle Nathan, having scarlet fever, visiting the Old Pioneer Tabernacle on corner of 22nd and Washington (Architect William. N. Fife and Walter Thompson were sent by Brigham Young from Salt Lake to build it). It was used until 1956 for Stake Conferences and in this building I heard many general authorities—Harold B. Lee, David O. McKay and J. Rueben Clark Jr. came and spoke at a Youth session and chorus sang.

Halloween

When we were kids we just dressed up—even took real pumpkins with lights (before the days of flashlights) and walked around. We never got treats as such, but now days the kids say, "Trick or Treat" and people prepare treats. When the children were home I'd make chili and pumpkin pie for supper, no one ate the pumpkin pie but me so sometimes we had pumpkin style sugar cookies or donuts.

My Parents

My Mother

Mabel Harris Belnap was a homemaker and was always there when we came home from school. She did everything a woman was required to do: preparing delicious meals, baking wonderful bread, cakes, pies, cookies and made desserts. I guess my favorite meal was roast beef, potatoes and gravy, peas and homemade ice cream. Often we would have bottled fruit for dessert. We housecleaned in the spring and the bedding, quilts etc. were all washed. Cleaned everything!

She did church work—Relief Society counselor, taught Mutual lessons and took others to the temple. She sewed all of our clothes until I got into Central High, and I then sewed several dresses for myself. For washing, there was a coal stove in the basement and Mother soaked all the clothes in a copper tub, and then washed them in a washing machine. Most of the time clothes were hung outside to dry on the clothesline but occasionally they were hung in the basement.

Mother always said, “Tell a child you love them with your eyes too.” I sent this to Heloise (writer on tips in Good Housekeeping magazine) and won an Honorable mention and award of her book. Mother always said, “Write it down – you think you will always remember, but it’s too easy to forget.”



Arias & Mabel 1947

When Lois wrote several of her “Life Stories” in 2006, she included this experience written by her mother, Mabel: “One Fourth of July after a family dinner and celebration on the back lawn at our home on 21st St., we all decided to go over to the hill above Lorin Farr Park and see the fireworks display. It was after dark, and we followed along the edge of the gravel pit which was very deep. I was walking with our daughter, Lois, by the hand. We were the last ones in the line. She was about 3 or 4 years old. I felt myself standing on air. I had stepped off the path, and to this day, I can feel the feeling in my feet that I was standing on air, and I felt two strong hands take a hold of my arms above the elbow, and put me on the path and turn me to the right to which was the direction I should go. This is a very real experience, and I know my Heavenly Father was very kind in preserving my life.”

My Father

My father Arias Guy Belnap (Mabel called him “A”) was a lumberman and he worked with Uncle Von and his father Hyrum at the Belnap Lumber Co. on 24th Street below Grant Ave. (south side of the street). Byron hauled lumber for them. While the folks and Ralph were on vacation in Canada the lumber yard burned down. I remember the huge clouds of black smoke going high into the sky as we watched from the front porch; Aunt Luella stayed with us. Article in the Ogden Standard Examiner 1981 – “50 Years Ago” July 19, 1931: Approximately \$85,000 damage was done by a spectacular noon-day fire which swept the Smoot and Belnap lumber yards in Ogden. For a time it threatened to consume the entire block bounded by 24th and 25th Streets and by Lincoln and Grant Avenue.

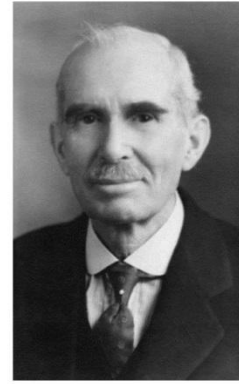
Dad, Arias Belnap, was elected to the office of Weber Co. Treasurer (Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected President at the same time) and served from January 7, 1935 until March 31, 1957 at which time he was appointed by Governor George D. Clyde to the Utah State Tax Commission. He was in charge of Motor vehicles and transportation. At that time, car license plates were changed yearly, and the grandchildren liked asking him about the new license plates that were due to come out. He commuted to Salt Lake for some time but my parents finally decided to move south and bought a home at 1462 E. 3150, South Salt Lake.



Arias & Mabel Belnap

My Grandparents

Hyrum & Anna Bluth Belnap I knew my grandparents – Hyrum and Anna Bluth Belnap and Nathan and Emma E. Oakason Harris – well. They were all born before 1869, so they were native pioneers. Hyrum, Nathan and Emma's parents all came across the plains; Anna was born and baptized in Sweden and came to Utah at the age of 7 just after the Railroad was built. Proselytizing and the gospel came to Sweden later than other places.



Hyrum & Anna Bluth Belnap Family about 1913

Back: Volney Bryan, Center: Hyrum Earl and Arias Guy,
Front: Hyrum, Della Augusta, Gladys, A Jewel, Anna Bluth Belnap

Hyrum Belnap had two wives: Anna and Christiana. I did not know Christiana (1st wife of Hyrum) but I knew all of her children: Hyrum, Marion Kerr, Olive Jensen were the ones I knew best. They lived in a large home on Madison between 21st and 22nd across from Liberty Park.

Hyrum and Anna Bluth Belnap first lived at 918 21 St. in Ogden and later in a lovely yellow brick home he built for Anna at 904 - 21st and Quincy. Anna was frequently ill and finally died of encephalitis of the brain in 1931.



Belnap Family, 1952

Volney Bryan Belnap, Arias Guy Belnap, Byron Knight Belnap, Hyrum Earl Belnap
Front row: A Jewel Belnap Furniss, Gladys Belnap Carwin, Della Augusta Belnap

Nathan & Emma Harris

Nathan John Harris and Emma Elvira Oakason lived at 1084 22nd St. in Ogden. It had an upstairs and I stayed with Aunt Lell (Luella) many nights in her “attic” bedroom. The house had a porch on the east (where they washed clothing), a large kitchen (first large coal stove) pantry and large table. The dining room had a pot belly stove with a stool behind it which I used many times. Their large front room had a door which opened into a large library; they had a piano, and front porch with a long bench. I visited them both quite often, and it was great having them both sets of grandparents so close – only about a block each way.

Emma and Nathan lived on 22nd St. and before more houses were built on Van Buren we’d cut kitty-corner to their places. Mother reminded me that as a child I said, “Mommy, the ‘hop grasses’ will get me,” as we crossed those lots. Emma was a choice person and very dear to me. I would visit her and sit on the front steps while she peeled transparent apples, or sit on a tiny bench behind the pot-bellied stove in the dining room and she would tell me stories. I often walked up 22nd when coming from Central or Weber College and would stop in and visit a little while. She made wonderful lemon meringue pies, and they always had a large rump roast on Sundays. They had 9 children and hungry boys! She had an intriguing life.

Nathan John Harris, my grandfather, used to play “El Capitan” on their piano. He had large hands, and I used to feel that the piano literally “swayed” as he played.



Nathan John & Emma Elvira Oakason Harris Family

Front left to right: Lawrence, Wilford, Nathan John, Nathan Jr., Luella, Emma, Ruth, Leo
Back three: Irene, Everett, Mabel

My folks were always very proud of their pioneer heritage. Mother told us stories about Louisa Sargent Harris and her journey across the plains and her life in Harrisville. I probably remember her better than any of the others, (through stories) but, I've wished many times that I had written down the many things I'd been told. Mabel said that Louisa used to come in (from Harrisville) to their home on 1084 22nd Street to help Emma with her babies. Grandma (Emma) remembered meeting Martin Harris (the Book of Mormon witness) when he came and stayed with his nephew Martin Henderson Harris and Louisa after he came to Utah. (He later went to Logan, Cache County, to stay with his son.) She stated he bore his testimony to them concerning the Book of Mormon.

Mother told us about the lovely home the Harris's had in Harrisville and the fruit trees, and large well-kept farm. The Cincinnati plum tree my parents had was from their farm. (The Cincinnati plum was small, between the size of a quarter and half dollar piece and when ripe would be light colored on the inside with a dark skin. The skin gave them a beautiful red-purple color.) Grandma and Grandpa Harris had one on 22nd St. and we had one on 21st, and Eldred and I brought one to Pleasant View with us. They were very difficult to grow at first, because they had to be moved as an entire tree. I remember as a child going to Grandma's on 22nd after school or after having run to the store for her, she'd say, "Run into the pantry and get yourself a piece." She meant a piece of fresh buttered "graham" bread kept in a large metal lard can, and we'd dip into a crock for the plum preserves. She cooked them on the back of the coal stove and the preserves still had the pits in it. I watched Grandma make her bread. Mother said when they were all at home that she baked nine loaves in a large, square pan every day.



Emma & Nathan Harris

Grandma's pantry was a small room off the kitchen and had a small window which they opened to keep things cool. The dishes were on the south side behind a sliding screen, and the butter was always on a clean dish on the bottom shelf; the utensils were in drawers. Mother said Grandma used to fry small sausage patties, put them in a crock and pour the hot grease over them to preserve them, and she said they always tasted so good when they were hungry after school. Grandma had a large, coal stove in the kitchen until later in her life when they purchased an electric stove.

We got our electric stove in 1936, and it seems to me that she got hers after that. It was always nice and warm in her kitchen, but I remember her best sitting in the dining room before the round, pot-bellied stove in her rocking chair. There was a small stool behind the stove and we all liked to sit there and visit with Grandma. Sometimes she would doze with her head on the back of the chair. She'd sit here often before going to bed and take off her "switch" of hair (a long hair piece she wound on the top of her head) and place it on the table.

Grandma wasn't very tall. As she was older and when I knew her best, she seemed about my height, 5' 2 or 3". Each time I went to see her I would put my arm around her and kiss her and standing up she seemed about on my level. She put her hair in rags or leather "curlers" but kept a coal oil lamp on the back corner of her dresser and once she was dressed, she would do her hair. She would brush it, then put a few curls around her face with the curling irons which she kept in the chimney of the lamp to heat.

She liked small prints in her dresses, and her best dresses were of dark material, and she was a fine seamstress. She liked them to fit well, and she once told me about making dresses and putting "stays" (metal covered strips) through the bodice so that they held their shape. She said that the inside of the dress must be finished as nicely and made as well as the outside. When she sewed for people she worked with some of the finest velvets and ribbons and laces. In later years she had Sister London make dresses for her.

She had problems with her feet and sometimes we children were asked to go to 22nd and walk Grandma to church. I remember her saying how the rocks hurt her foot as she crossed Oak Street (which wasn't paved in those years), and she would grip my arm so she wouldn't walk so heavily. She had corns and bunions and would soak her feet and then "trim" the bunions and remark at how they hurt.

When I was a youngster I remember her vacuuming (and how much noise her old Hoover made) and remember going over with mother and playing office by the table or desk by the window in the dining room. The table had a little board which pulled out and we thought it was great fun to sit there and write. On the south wall of the dining room was a huge—oak I suppose—heavy sideboard. An old wind-up clock with gold on it ticked away there, and Grandpa paused every night in front of it to wind his watch and put it on the side board and then wind the clock.

Almost behind her chair was a cupboard with glass doors and in it she kept their relics. I can't remember too many of the things except the ivory elephants and ivory tusks Uncle Wif (Wilford) had brought back from his mission to South Africa.

Grandma always enjoyed going to church meetings. I was impressed at how she would get all dressed up (as if she was going to church) and sit in front of the new Atwater Kent radio which was in the front room and listen to General Conference. She would sing the songs along with the congregation, and she felt this was her treat.

Grandma was still living in the house when Eldred was courting me (before he left on his mission in March of 1940) and when I took him over to meet Grandma she was very favorably impressed. A day or two later she said to me, "Do you like him?" I replied, "Yes." I told her he would be going on a mission soon. She said, "Well, just don't let him get away. He's a good catch."



Grandma was rather heavy-set as I remembered her and often seemed tired. The house on 22nd was a large one, and she kept it up until she moved to live with Aunt Irene (Harris Storey) who lived on 28th and Jackson, and was an invalid.

Grandma passed away at Aunt Irene's home on December 29, 1943 and was buried on December 31st. She had been ailing for some time and in the hospital for a while and I went with mother once to visit her there; she was discontented and wanted to be home. In the weeks just before she passed away they said she called for "Pa," and she kept telling them that "Pa" was coming for her.

Mother was down sick in bed at the time she died, but she wanted Grandma viewed from our home on 21st. I remember they brought the casket to our home and put it across the northwest corner of the front room. I asked Dad if we were to sit up with her, and I was relieved when he said, "No, they don't do that much anymore; we'll just leave the light on," and a lamp was left on all night in the front room. I remember mother in her robe going in to see Grandma. She and Grandma were always quite close and visited a lot. Mother was too ill to go to the funeral, and on the day of the funeral she left the bedroom to go kiss Grandma goodbye.

Grandma's funeral was held on December 31, 1943, because of New Year's Day, it would be a long time to hold her over. I can't remember the funeral service, but I remember Dad and the boys shoveling the snow for the hearse. We didn't go to the ward that night for the dance out of respect to Grandma, but we did go sleigh riding down 21st street.

My Brothers and Sister



**Gordon, Lois, Mildred, Donald
Arias, Mabel & Ralph 1941**

Siblings

Ralph, was born July 29, 1917 and he was very kind and considerate of us. When WWII came along he joined the Navy and later married Helena Danielson. He worked with Dilworth Young in Scouting and he and Helena lived for many years in DeKalb, Illinois.



Mildred, born August 10, 1923 was my only sister and we loved each other and were the best of friends. She was a very hard worker, married Edwin (Ted) E. Evans, they lived in Boise and later served a mission there. We never again lived in the same place but wrote frequently till she died.

Donald E. was born September 10, 1927 at 1111-21st. He married Sharon Anderson; they have a nice large family and are hard workers; Donald was an insurance agent with Beneficial life. Donald liked to hear stories as a child and I loved spending time with him and Gordon as children.

Gordon Leslie was born November 17, 1929. I remember he had whooping cough and mother had to give him injections of some kind. He says I raised him with charts, stars, stickers. He's always been very kind and considerate of other people. He married Joy McArthur and they had 4 sons; Alan died when Gordon was in the Korean War.



Gordon & Donald



Mildred



Ralph, Gordon, Lois & Donald



Lois, Mabel & Helena



Honoring --



ELDER GORDON BELNAP

Prior to his departure for the
FINLAND MISSION

Testimonial will be held
SUNDAY, JULY 31, 1949
5:55 P. M.





LDS Church

Dad, Mother and our family always went to church. First in the 13th ward and later the 20th when the ward was divided (boundaries from the north side of 22nd street, along Monroe Blvd. to the Ogden River on the north and all of Ogden Valley—Liberty, Eden and Huntsville). The 20th Ward held Sacrament Meeting in the 13th Ward Recreation Hall, and some auxiliary meetings and parties were held in our home. Our home was the Bishop's Office (1111- 21st), telephone 1149. We met in the 13th Ward until the 20th Ward Cultural Hall was built on 21st street.

I was five years old when Dad was sustained as Bishop of the new 20th ward on Mother's birthday, March 20, 1925. (I'd be 6 in October) Arias Belnap was Bishop for 17 years and then a member of the Ogden Stake Presidency for 11 years. While recovering from knee replacement surgery in April 2001, I stayed with Jeane and Steve Burton and their family in Provo. On our last weekend we toured a museum at BYU, and downstairs was a special exhibit of architectural buildings and temples, etc. There was a picture of the 13th Ward, and Jeane said as we approached it, "There's Grandpa (Arias) Belnap!" And sure enough, he was right in the center. It was a beautiful building; I was baptized there and have fond memories of it.

We prayed as a family, always had a blessing on our food before meals, and I always had my individual prayers before bedtime. When putting our children to bed, we always sang:

"Now run along home, and

Jump into bed,

Say your prayers

Don't cover your head.

Now just one more thing,

I want you to do,

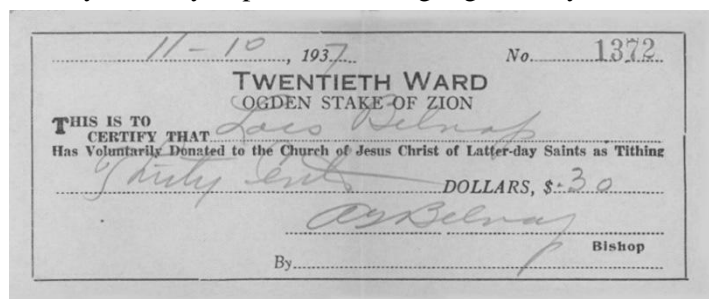
You dream of me and

I'll dream of you."

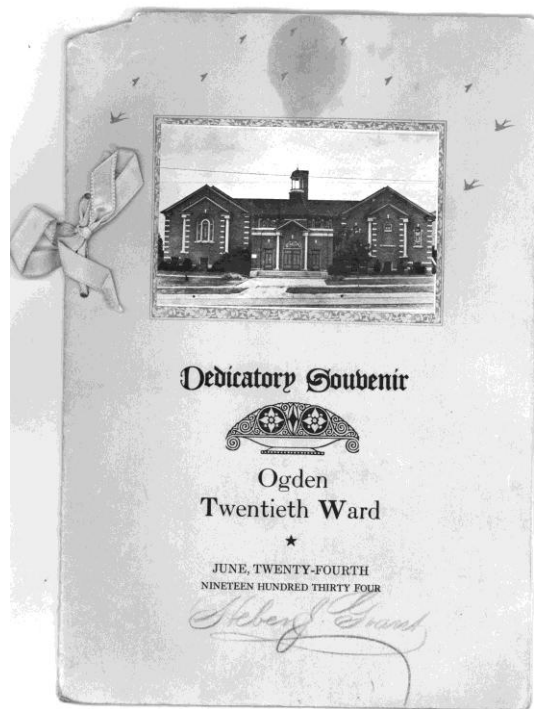
I'm not sure if I learned the song from Mother or not.

I was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on my birthday, Oct. 7, 1928; I was 8 years old. I was baptized by a priest (it was not typical at that time for fathers to baptize their children) in the font in the 13th ward located on 23rd and Jackson. As bishop, my father conducted the baptism and also confirmed me a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and said, "Receive the Holy Ghost." The Holy Ghost has been my companion for many years—and I rely completely on the Holy Spirit through the Holy Ghost to guide and direct my life. My baptism was a highlight in my life and I shall never forget it.

As bishop, my father only had a ward clerk, no finance clerks as they have now, so he was responsible for the tithing and fast offering donations. When I was at home as a young girl, he would let us children sit



around the dining room table as he opened the Fast Offering envelopes and poured the money out. It was Depression time, and people didn't have much but they were encouraged to pay as much as they could, and most of the time they paid in small coins. He would let us children gather the pennies, nickels, dimes together and stack them in piles. That was a lot of fun, and we looked forward to helping.



Pres. Heber J. Grant came to dedicate the 20th Ward building in 1934, and after came to dinner at our home at 1111 21st St.; I was about 14. A children's meeting was held first and President Grant told us how he had struggled to write, throw a baseball and sing. Then he sang us a song and talked of many things. After the meeting he stood at the back door and shook hands with every child. I was told to go home and put the potatoes on to cook but I couldn't get the fire started in our coal stove however much I struggled. Dad finally came home and got the fire going, took off the stove lid and set the kettle right onto the fire. The potatoes were done by the time the roast was cut and the rest of the vegetables heated, and after, Mother served homemade ice cream. After dinner, President Grant gathered with us in the front room and we visited and he signed my dedication program; I still have it. Over the years, other visitors came to our home including President Joseph Fielding Smith and Moroni Timbimboo, an Indian Chief. After WWII, John A. and Leah Widtsoe also visited the folks'

house. Eldred and I (and Bruce) went to help mother when they were entertaining the General Authorities after conference. While stationed in Louisiana, we had lived with Ed and Ruth Schoenfeld; Leah was their aunt.

Every Friday night, in the 20th Ward, we had a dance and program, talent show, whatever—but all the performers were members of the ward. After the program, members would arrange the chairs along the Cultural Hall walls, and then the floor was waxed with corn meal and the dance began. There was a grand march led by the Bishopric and their wives and everyone joined in, children and all. Everyone danced the Virginia Reel, the Vesuvian, waltzes, fox trots etc. As a child I remember dancing with the members of the Bishopric. Brother Norda loved to dance and we all had a good time.

Budget cards were issued for a special activity every month and people paid what they could (maybe \$1.00 or less). Remember, these were Depression times and no one had much money. Friends joined us from outside of the ward such as Sidney Noble, Jesse Jensen, Herbert Harbertson etc., and our crowd was formed. Dad (Arias) loved the Youth and went along with activities. We (the group) spent one summer working on "Here Comes Charlie." Dad let me write and direct a road show.

Testimony

I am most grateful to my Heavenly Father for all of his blessings. (Mar 25, 1998) God is very personal to me – my Savior, my friend. I know He lives, and God hears and answers my prayers – some are answered immediately and at other times, I gain wisdom and I have to learn patience. I trust him completely to guide me through this life.

Registration Slip Date Feb 23, 1935
90 Ward Ogden Stake
NAME Lois Belnap
 Number Baptisms 21
 Number Endowments _____
 Number Sealings { Wives to husbands _____
 Children to parents _____

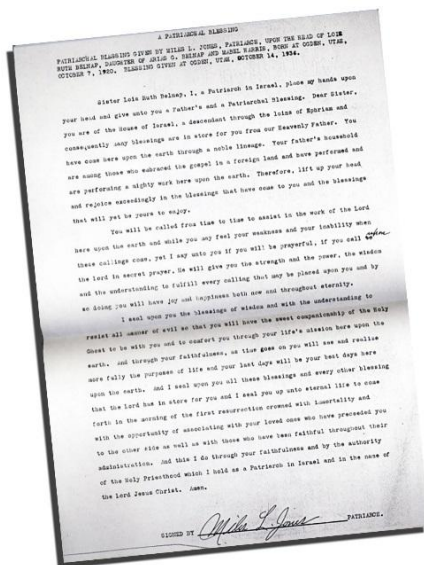
Baptisms at the temple – 1935



Patriarchal Blessing

In 1934, I went with my friends Luella London and Mildred West to receive my patriarchal blessing. The two girls went first and I was the last one. Their blessings were long, two pages at least, and my blessing is printed on a legal-size sheet of paper, and this is an exact copy. (Except it might have been different spacing on the typewriter instead of double spaced as it is here.) As we were going out the door, Brother Jones said to me, “There will be many blessings come to you that I have not told you.” Why not? I had been disappointed thinking that I wasn’t given a blessing that would tell me I would be married or have a family or would go a mission as I had hoped. Evidently I was wishing the Lord would tell me what I wanted to hear. After reading my blessing many times, I have come to know that my blessing describes what I must seek after: To gain wisdom I will have to pursue knowledge and understanding; I will be required to make the blessings that come to me be done through my own efforts to seek and to depend on the Lord. It has been a great comfort to me, and I appreciate it more each day.

When Eldred and I were talking of marriage, we read each other’s patriarchal blessings, and his says that he will have a large posterity, so I said, “Yes, I will marry you.” (Ha!) I was hoping that this would fulfill my desire to be a mother. Eventually we obtained actual “missions” too. Actually I felt there have been many missions in my lifetime to work at and enjoy—one especially is our family who have blessed our lives so bounteously.



Music

Lois had many skills and talents and was blessed with a lovely voice and musical talent. I was a piano student of Bernice Tyree and sang in various choirs and youth groups, and I was one of two girls chosen from our ward to participate in a Church Music festival in the Tabernacle where Mr. Zanzig, famous in California, was guest conductor.

I love music and I saw “Carmen,” my first opera, performed by the San Francisco Opera Company in Kingsbury Hall in Salt Lake with my parents.

At Lorin Farr Elementary school, a group piano class was held, and it was there I first learned to “play” the piano. We paid a small amount to begin and received a “cardboard piano,” and a music book. (Now at age 89 I can still play the first piece I ever learned.) Later I took lessons from Bernice Tyree who lived on Van Buren Ave. I would walk almost to 28th Street where she lived. She was an opera singer, and would often sing while I played. She taught this “nervous” piano player.



My sister, Mildred, played the violin, and I would accompany her often. I remember when we played in the 20th Ward for a Mother's Day Sacrament meeting program.



When my father, Arias, was called as Bishop of the 20th Ward there was no meetinghouse, and a small pump organ was placed in our home. He could play it, and we would enjoy singing along. When the 20th ward was completed the organ was placed in the building. He encouraged music in the Ward—choirs, choruses, and we enjoyed hearing the Pulsifers sing and play.

My father organized one of the first youth choruses in the church when I was in my teens, and I was a member of the “Lieder Kranz Chorus” of the Ogden 20th Ward and sang and gave talks at various wards throughout the State. We practiced every Sunday after meeting, and our conductor, Clarence Clarke a salesman, would often travel from long distances to be at our rehearsal. Brother Clarke, although a beautiful baritone, could not read music; so he memorized all the parts with his wife, Elma, who was our organist. We were privileged to sing for J. Rueben Clark Jr. at a Youth meeting in the old Ogden Tabernacle; sang at David O, McKay’s farewell program when he left Ogden to become a General Authority, and the Youth Festival in Salt Lake in the Assembly Hall where Choirs throughout the church competed.



After that festival, Sister Emma Lucy Gates Bowen asked to meet with us and she said, “Your rendition of the Lord’s Prayer (written by her brother, B. Cecil Gates) is the most beautiful I have ever heard.” We were invited to sing in the Salt Lake 20th Ward where Eldred G. Smith was bishop, and after Sacrament meeting we were invited downstairs for dinner, and he talked to us and showed us the box which

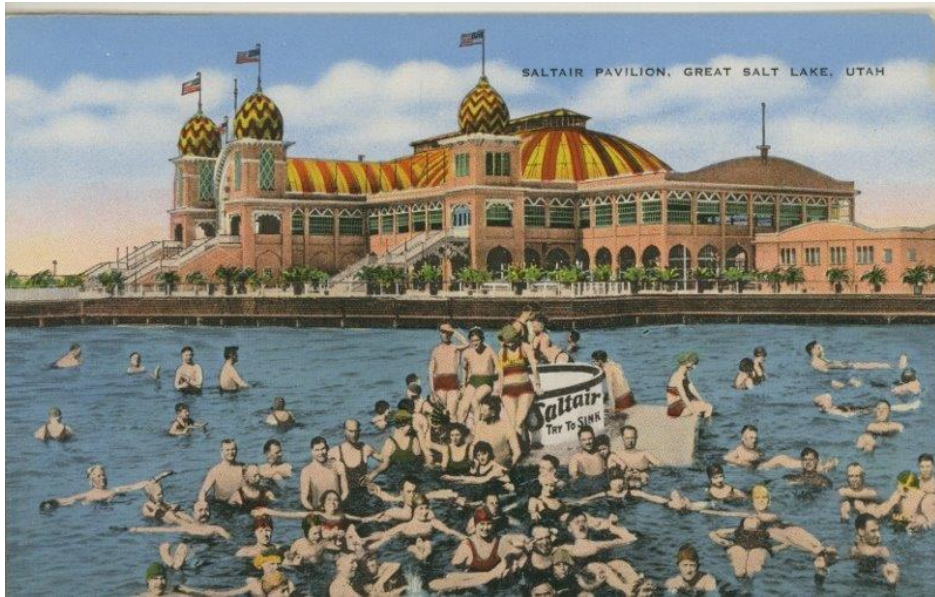
held the gold plates when the prophet Joseph had them, the garments worn by Hyrum and Joseph showing the bullet holes in them, and other family treasures.

For many years we had a two-day reunion at the 20th Ward where the Lieder Kranz Chorus presented the entire program and it was fun for our children to come and listen to our group. Arias was released as bishop after 17 years to be counselor in Ogden Stake Presidency, which consisted of Lawrence Burton, Laurence Evans and Arias. He was set apart by Spencer W. Kimball of the Quorum of the Twelve. Grandma Harris (Emma) was there and Pres. Kimball talked with her for some time.

Lieder Kranz Chorus & Logo



Salt Lake City – 1930's



“Years ago before I was married, dancers from the Ogden Stake rode the train to Saltair and did exhibition dances during the dance intermission time. That was a great experience, I believe I danced with George London.”
(Written Nov, 12, 2000 after reading Standard Examiner article about Saltair.)



Schools

Lorin Farr Elementary

I attended the Lorin Farr Elementary School, located on 22nd St. between Van Buren and Harrison. It was a red brick building – first was just a box type building with a large stairway up front. A gymnasium was added later on the west after I left school; Mother and Dad were active in PTA and he was instrumental in its erection.

I've had many wonderful teachers. One favorite was Lottie F. Smith at Lorin Farr. She was also the Ogden Stake Sunday School President. She was very kind and encouraged reading and beautiful penmanship. When I was in 4th Grade, Mrs. Seamons died and Miss Edith Light became the principal. (Ogden Standard Examiner "50 years ago", Dec 8, 1928. Miss Edith M. Light was director of penmanship in the Ogden City Schools. Miss Light, who was also assistant



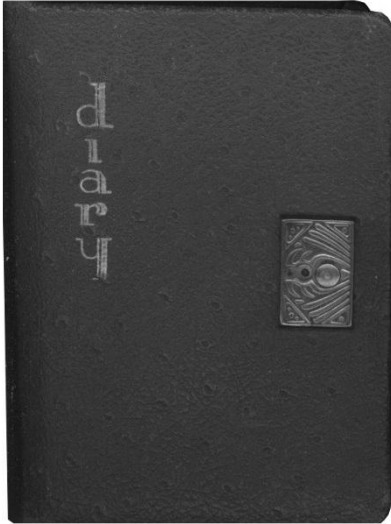
principal of the Mound Fort School, had been teaching writing to the children of Ogden for nine years.) She was a very beautiful lady; tall and stately – I liked her very much. She was kind to me and would let me run errands or take notes to classes.

When I was in the 4th Grade, they started the platoon system at Lorin Farr; that is, changing classes about every hour or 45 minutes. We began school at 9:00 a.m., and ten or fifteen minutes before start time, a boy would ring the large bell and run around summoning everyone to school. We could hear the bell from our house, and when the weather was nice and not stormy or snowy, we could cut through the back yard and through the fence and through the alley.

When I was in the 7th grade at Lorin Farr School (Elementary school), I had an art appreciation class. One picture the teacher showed us I always loved was "The Song of the Lark" by Jules Breton; I later saw the original in the Art Museum in Chicago. When we moved to Pleasant view (1951) I was asked to teach the Lark class in Primary. The colors were yellow and brown, like the sunflowers which were so prolific and beautiful. I loved being out in the fields watching the beautiful yellow and brown Meadow Larks; there were many around at that time. Their thrill was different—we could sing "Pleasant View is a pretty little town" or "Ogden is..."

Central Junior High

At Central Junior High School, Ruth Merrill was my English teacher. She encouraged us to read classics and memorize long works of past authors; Sir Walter Scott, “When the Poppies Bloom in Flanders Field” and many others.



Lois also kept a small daily diary from 1936-1938. In this diary she describes daily life, going to school, her friends, church activities, summer work, and experiences such as seeing President Franklin D. Roosevelt when he came to Utah to attend the funeral of George Henry Dern (Secretary of War and former Utah Governor). She also wrote often about her Spanish club, “Los Trabajadores,” and the Sponsor, Miss Clawson. From an entry in her October 1985 Journal she adds more: Howard Belnap was my father’s cousin. He courted Miss Clawson when I was at Central and married her. She was the Sponsor of the Spanish club. They were married and she died before their baby was born. It was very sad – he was heartbroken. He called me to his office and gave me the banner, “Los Trabajadores.”

I think it was about 1932, all of the Junior High School students were taken (we walked) to Lorin Farr Park. John Philip Sousa’s beautiful band was centered in the middle of the arena, and they played one march after another of Mr. Sousa’s.

When in Central Junior High School, a group of friends got together. We had so much fun. The girls were always planning parties (so we could be together), and the boys came. We had one party (I was in charge) where we gave little china Dutch boys and girls as favors. Do you remember them sitting on the little shelf in the kitchen? Some of my male friends: Don West, Peter Kranenburg, George London, Sidney Noble, Eldred Erickson, Glen Saunders, Richard Carruth, Jesse Jensen, Herbert Harbertson, Wendall Foulger, Keith Wiggins, Ernest



Lois—front, 3rd from left

Cook. Some of the ladies: Eileen Manning Larsen, Luella London San Giovanni, Betty Smeding Smidgley, Maureen West Keyes, Mildred West, and more whose names I can’t immediately recall. There were always more boys than girls. We called our group the “Knowledge Seekers.”

We wanted to get together on Sunday too, so a kind lady, Lillian Cheney, offered to teach us scripture on Sunday.



Ogden High School

Ogden High School was on 25th and Monroe and I was in the last class before we moved to the new Ogden High School (cost 3 million dollars) and the first to graduate in the new building in 1938. (She attended her 60th reunion on May 29, 1998!)

The new Ogden High School was a lovely art deco style building trimmed in gold leaf. People watched the construction with great interest—there had never been a school like it, and how exciting to be among the first to attend school there! Ogden High School

was dedicated in prayer by David O. McKay of the First Presidency of the L.D.S. church – Oct 29, 1937.

I had many Shakespeare classes from Leland Monson at Ogden High School.

Her sewing teacher, Miss Handy, saw a vogue pattern and wanted Lois to make a dress like it. At October General conference in 1937, while in Salt Lake City, she went to Z.C.M.I. store where she saw the fabric. It was pure nylon and was the first nylon they had ever seen. The dress required 13 yards of fabric (at \$1.00 a yard) and her Dad said, “It cost a fortune.” (Although when it was finished, he really liked it.)The pattern showed pleated nylon and the fabric was taken to someone with a hot iron to make the pleats. At school they had a fashion show of the graduation dresses. Her teacher wanted her to walk across several times to show her beautiful dress but Lois only wanted to walk once.

The portrait of Lois in her dress was colored by Aunt Della Belnap as a present to her.



High School

Best Orators Selected



WINNING SPEECHMAKERS . . . afternoon by Golden Spike chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. Lois Belnap, (left) 17, was second and Barbara Reeve, 17, was third. They are Ogden high seniors. (Staff photo).

Ogden Junior Wins D.A.R. Speech Meet

Golden Spike Group Holds Annual Oratorical Contest

Tribune Intermountain Service OGDEN—Mary Kariya, 16, junior in Ogden high school and daughter of Mrs. C. Kariya of 2213 Grant avenue, was awarded first place in the annual oratorical contest for high school girls sponsored by Golden Spike chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, in Utah the American Revolution, in auditorium Monday afternoon. Miss Kariya's subject was "Young America and World Peace."

Second place was awarded Miss Lois Belnap, 17, high school senior, who spoke on "The Measure of an American," and third place went to Miss Barbara Reeve, 17, high school senior, whose subject was "Young America and the Traffic Problem."

Will Be Given Medal

Miss Kariya will be given a D. A. R. medal. A souvenir spoon will be given Miss Belnap and Miss Reeve receives honorable mention.

Others in the contest were Miss Mary Lou Brown, who spoke on "Loyalty to the Ideals of America"; Miss Alice Jensen, who discussed "Preparing for Citizenship," and Miss Le Verne Lee, "A True American."

Mrs. John C. Evans, chairman of Americanism of the D. A. R. chapter, presided. Judges were Mrs. Wade M. Johnson, Mrs. E. A. Fleming and Mrs. Clyde T. Greenwell.

Business Staff and Typists

Adam, Jack Andrews, Blaine Glasemann

SEATED: Lois Belnap



Teacher Training Certificate

awarded to Lois Belnap

for having satisfactorily completed the Teacher Training Course prescribed by the Deseret Sunday School Union Board of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Issued May 9, 1937

Thomas E. McKay
STAKE PRESIDENT
Walter V. Smith
TEACHER TRAINER

Leonard A. Robins
STAKE SUPERINTENDENT
Russell Philosopher
WARD SUPERINTENDENT

PROGRAM

D. A. R. ORATORICAL CONTEST FOR HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS

TUESDAY, MARCH 8th, 1938 — 2:30 P. M.

Mrs. Harry Irwin — Regent

Mrs. John Coffin Evans,
Chairman on Americanism

The Golden Spike Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution congratulate the girls taking part in this contest for their wonderful spirit and cooperation, and wish them success in life.

We also extend our appreciation to their teacher, Blanche Kendall McKay for her interest and service in the development of these participants.

1. Lois Belnap "The Measure of an American"
2. Mary Lou Brown "Loyalty to the Ideals of America"
3. Alice Jensen "Preparing for Citizenship"
4. La Verne Lee "A True American"
5. Barbara Reeve "Young America and the Traffic Problem"
6. Mary Kariya "Young America and World Peace"

JUDGES

Mrs. Wade Johnson Mrs. E. A. Fleming Mrs. Clyde T. Greenwell

"LOYALTY TO OUR COUNTRY AND TO OUR GOD"

REFRESHMENTS

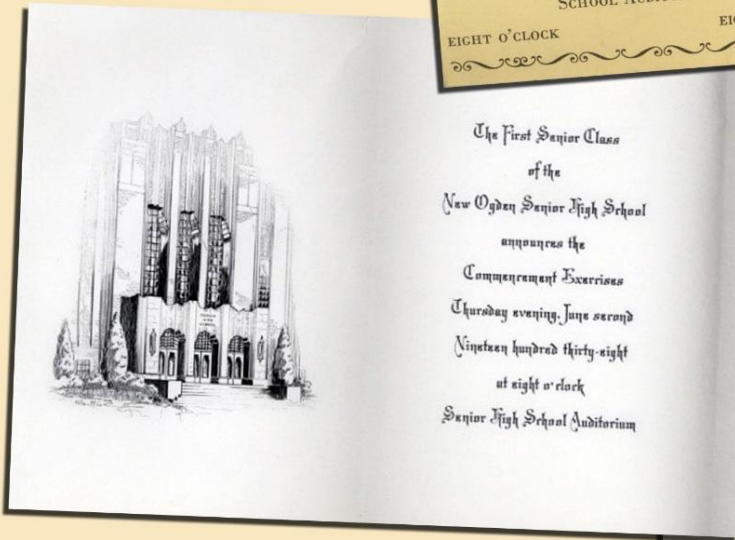
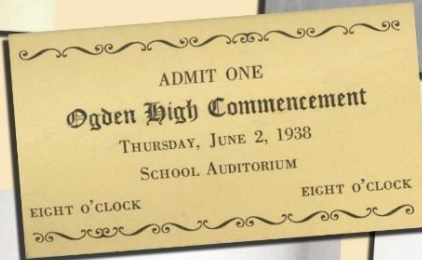
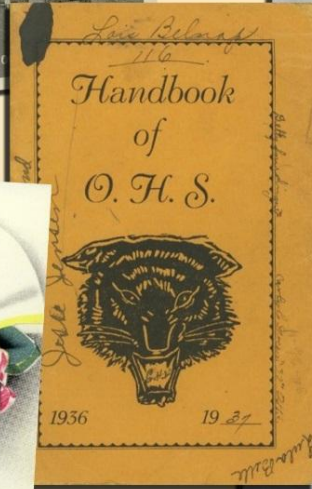
THANK YOU — CALL AGAIN
UTAH POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

TWENTIETH WARD WILL NAME QUEEN

The L. D. S. Twentieth ward will present a Valentine dance, Tuesday in the ward recreation hall at eight p. m. This dance is sponsored by the M Men and Gleaner Girl classes. Those attending will be given a chance to vote for one of the following girls, Mildred West, Mildred Scott, Fern Perkins, Nelda Van Dyke, Laura Varney and Lois Belnap, for queen of the ball.

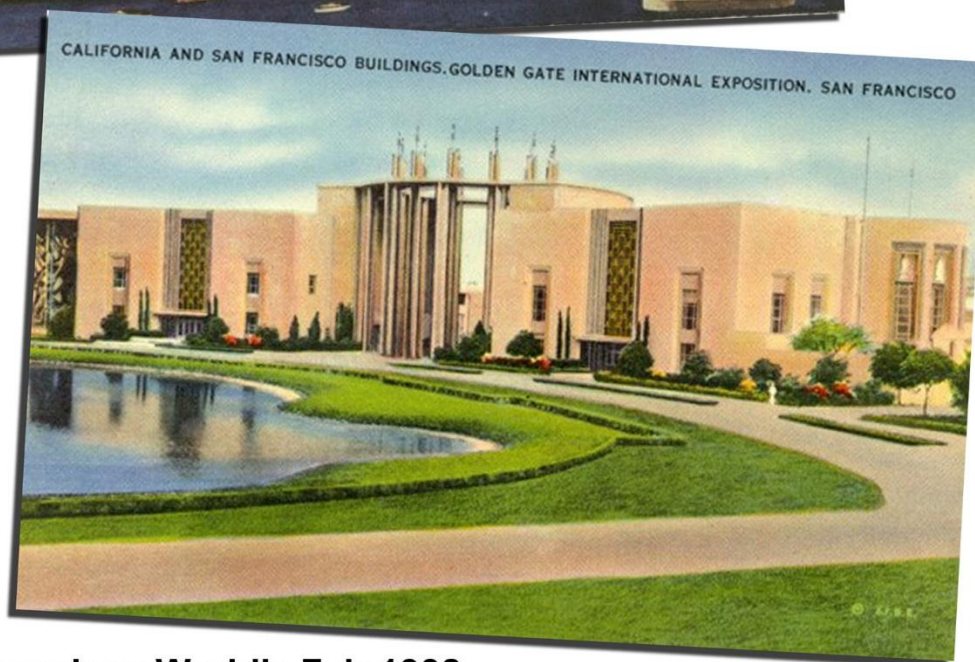
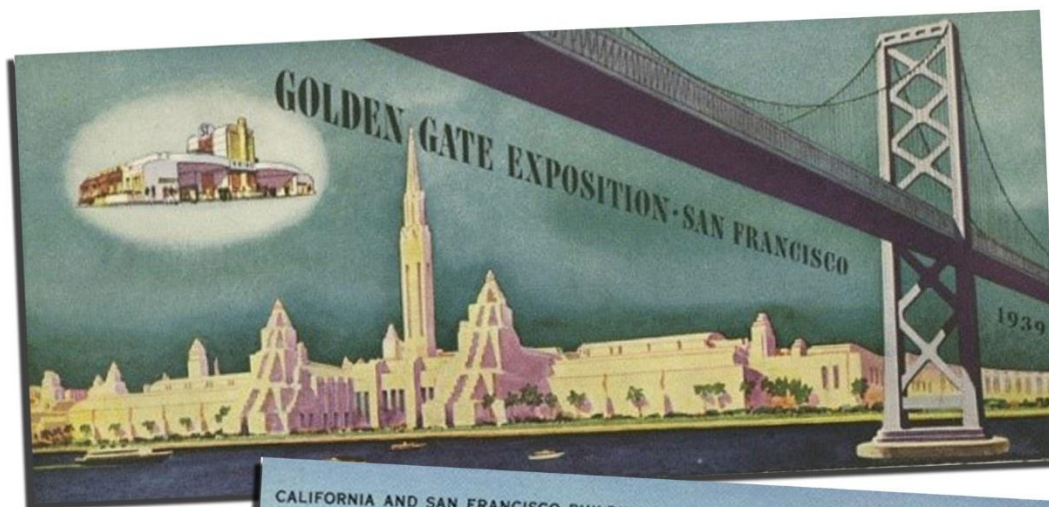
The public is invited. Budget tickets will be honored.

High School



Travels with the Family

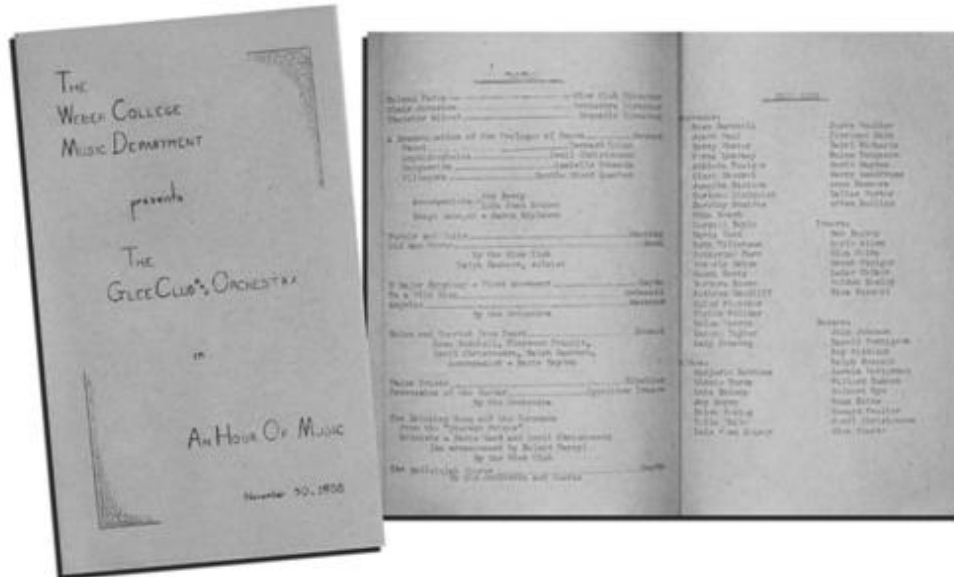
The folks wanted to take us to San Francisco for the World's Fair in 1938 and show us where they had lived. They rented an apartment on Haight Street very close to where they had lived. We had a wonderful time!



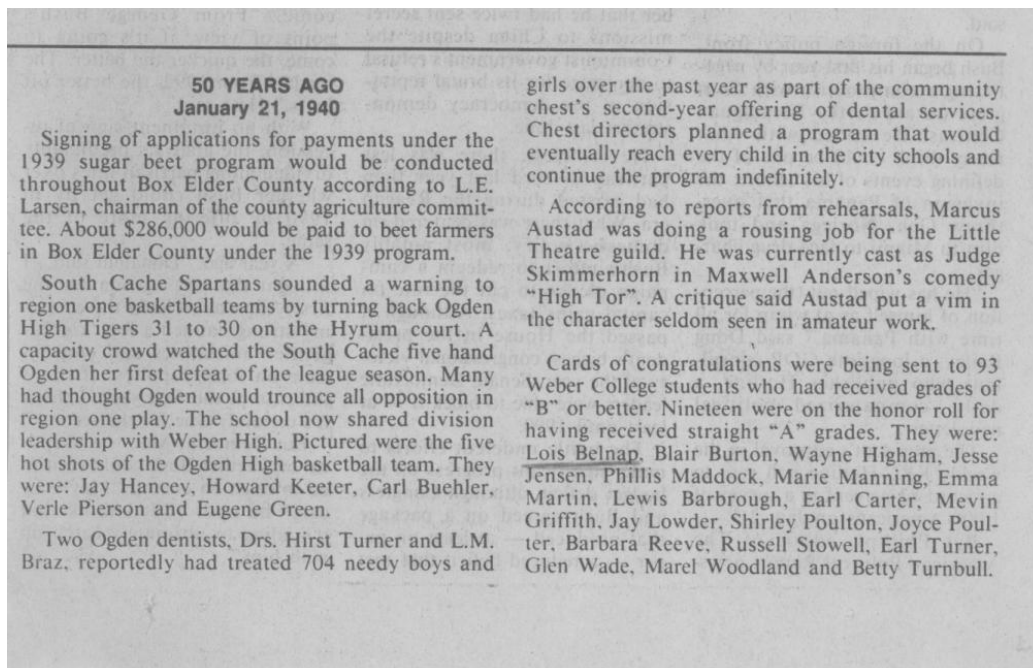
San Francisco World's Fair 1938

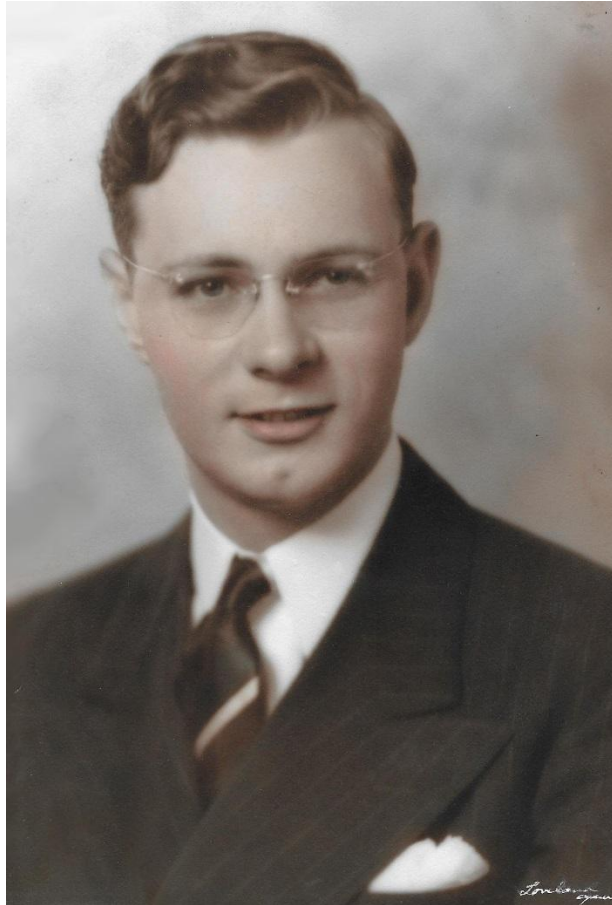
Weber College

Lois attended Weber College, earning her Associate of Science Degree in June 1940. At Weber College I was Vice Pres. of the "W" club; was a member of the social club, Iota Tau Kappa. I was on the class basketball club, and shuffle-board winner of the school (girls). I sang in the glee club and the choir directed by Roland Perry and enjoyed that very much. At Weber College she was also on the Yearbook staff.



Lois had a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, one of whom was Eldred Hilmar Erickson. We attended some of the same schools and knew the same people. Over time, we started dating. We played tennis, hiked, collected rock specimens and danced to the travelling Big Bands.





They wrote in each other's yearbooks--the Weber College "Acorn" yearbook 1939, (by her picture) written 3 directions:

LOIS: "Did you want a volume? You got it whether you like it or not." LOIS: Don't judge me by my picture, please, or you'll be disappointed. This is the reason that I've never given you one. I don't take a good picture. I want you to remember me without that homely mug coming up."

LOIS: "Please believe me, 'cause I think you're perfectly swell. You can argue if you want but I believe our friendship is stronger now than ever before. I have a high respect for you ... I've written about enough --so too-do-loo Lois"

In Lois's Weber College Acorn 1939, Eldred wrote, "Dear Lois, I don't know hardly what to say but here goes - I can't think of the proper words to apply to you,

but I think you're about perfect. You have been a real and true friend to me. I have enjoyed your company at all times, tho' I don't see how you could stand me sometimes. I'll try not to write any more poems. I hope our friendship may continue as ever. Eldred"

(By Acorn Staff picture) "Dear Eldred, It's quite hard to think of good enough adjectives to describe you. You're swell, grand etc. You've been one grand friend. In fact, it is people like you who make friendship so wonderful. You'll get what you want out of life because you're the type of person who will succeed. Please never forget the grand time we've had and spent together. Don't forget a redhead who wishes you all the success in the world. Lois."

"P.S. Maybe you won't believe this because I preached too much is that it? Once you made me a promise about a mission. I sincerely hope you keep it - for your sake. I can't tell how much your friendship has meant to me and now I realize it more than ever. Be certain of one thing - this is all the truth. Lois"

Tenth Ward Will Hold Testimonial



ELDRED H. ERICKSON

... Called to mission

Eldred H. Erickson, who recently finished two years at Weber college, is making preparations for departure to the north central states mission of the L. D. S. church. Elder Erickson is the son of Hilmer and Luetta Randall Erickson, 310 Thirteenth. He enters the mission home in Salt Lake Feb. 26 and leaves for his field of labor March 7.

A farewell testimonial will be given Friday Feb. 23 at eight p. m. in the Tenth ward under direction of Bishop Arthur G. Pledger, with Elder Erickson's seventies quorum conducting. The following program has been arranged. Instrumental duet, Don West and Glen Wade; dance by seven-year-old Phyllis Randall; vocal solo, Leroy Randall; accordion solo, Grant Williams; reading, Dorothy Woods; remarks by Elder Erickson, his father, Hilmer Erickson, and Bishop Pledger.

Dancing will follow. The Tenth ward is on Kiesel at Sixteenth.

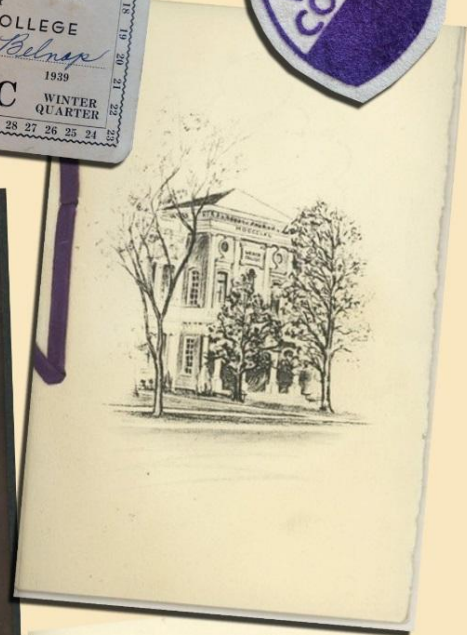
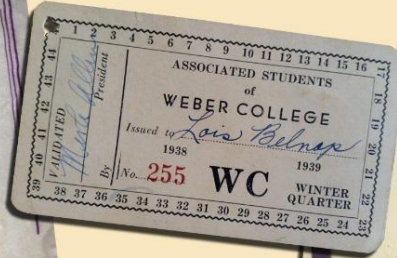
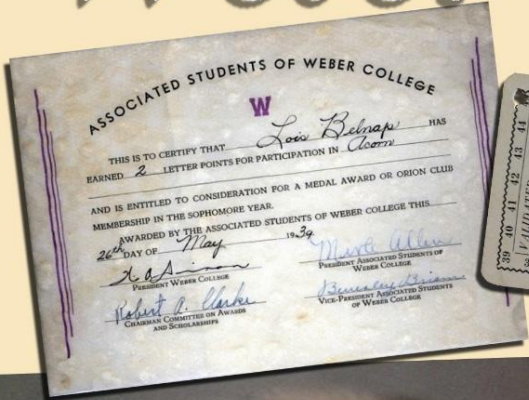
Eldred left for an LDS Mission in the North Central States Mission. They had no definite understanding for marriage while he was on his mission, except that Lois would not be married before he came back. They remained good friends and corresponded throughout his entire mission. He returned from his mission on March 30, 1942.

Herb was the first of the group to be a missionary, so he was the first back. We went on a date to Logan to meet Milton R. Hunter who wrote, "Beneath Ben Lomond's Peaks." We got home, and Herb asked me to marry him—I said NO. Eldred and I weren't engaged but I told him I wouldn't marry before he returned from his mission, but I wanted to keep dating in case he changed his mind when he got home. I had a couple offers after that, but I was still waiting for that special guy in the North Central States Mission!



Eldred's Pre-Mission Party (Eldred, Lois and Mildred right front, Sid Noble right back)

Weber College



HONOR STUDENTS	
College Preparatory	
Highest Honors	High Honors
Positon, Shirley	Beve, Barbara Jane West, Charles Donald West, Mildred Pearl Wade, Glen
Honors	
Miller, Clara Louise	Moore, Helen
French, Eberman Warren	Taylor, Brian Lake
Turnbull, Dorothy Betty	Burton, Blair
Beloas, Lois Ruth	Tracy, June
Maddock, Phyllis Marie	Benson, Kathleen
Keyes, Gale Harold	Jensen, Jesse Lloyd
Terminal	
Highest Honors	High Honors
Poulter, Joyce	Anderson, Carl Norman
Honors	
Towne, Marion	Clay, Robert Blaine
Hill, Betty Edna	Vincent, Burt
Bambrough, Lewis Orville	Eggleston, Orland
Higham, Wayne A.	Richards, Edith Ann
Martin, Earl H.	Main, Florence
* Certificate of Preparatory Training	
Auto Service and Repair	
Ballingham, George	Hyer, Clyde Benson
Chatfield, Norman	Newcomb, Waide
Johnson, DeLor	Thompson, Cyril
Auto Body and Paint Reconditioning	
Berglund, Frank	Harding, Lewis
Carroll, Lloyd	Rackham, Lawrence
Welding	
Cummins, James D.	Monson, Vird Wiley
Marriott, LeRoy	Whittemore, Frank
Air Conditioning and Refrigeration	
Carlson, Blaine	Sweeney, Nick
Linsley, Ray Arthur	Warrick, Ralph Richard
Malouf, Fred	Woods, Harold F.

*This certificate does not represent graduation. It is awarded to students who left school upon receiving employment in their trade.

Golden Gleaners

Leader Congratulates Gleaners on Birthday

Pres. George Albert Smith congratulated more than 800 Golden Gleaner Girls for their achievements in the MIA and for their representation as young womanhood in the Church Friday afternoon at their tenth annual banquet and birthday party. The event was held at the Union Building on the campus of the University of Utah.

Theme of the banquet-birthday party was "Ye Olde Gift Shoppe," which represented the spirit of enjoying a life from which gifts "old or new, practical or foolish, serious or humorous," could be purchased.

A birthday cake from the Master M Men of the Church was presented at the banquet and President Smith officiated in cutting the first piece. A special surprise birthday cake honoring the ten years the Golden Gleaners have been holding the annual banquets was brought in and presented by 20 of the original 47 Golden Gleaners.

Special presentations were made by Mrs. Merle Poulson, chairman of the advisory committee for the Golden Gleaners. To Mrs. Bertha S. Reeder, president of the YWMA, and her counselor, Mrs. Larue C. Longden, were presented honorary titles of Golden Gleaner. In addition, Golden Gleaner certificates were also presented to Mrs. Ruth May Fox, Mrs. Lucy Grant Cannon, Mrs. Reeder, Mrs. Longden, Mrs. Ann C. Larson, and Mrs. Rose Wallace Bennett.

Included on the program in

addition to President Smith were remarks by Joyce Briscoe of the Oakland Stake in California, Geraldine Smith representing the Woodruff Stake, Kemmerer, Wyo., LaRosa Cardwell of the West Jordan Stake, Riverton, Utah, and Mary Thomas recently of the Birmingham Branch in England.

Special musical numbers were also provided for the program. Lucy Grant Fox of Liberty Stake, Salt Lake City, sang "Sing, China Doll," Adele Olsen of the South Sanpete Stake, Manti, Utah, played a melody on the piano, and the Merrie Minstrel Maids, a girl's double trio sang "Sing, Glad Heart."

A special statistical report was also made by Mrs. Poulson. She reported that there are now better than 2500 Golden Gleaner Girls in the Church and that during the last 12 months 478 girls achieved Golden Gleaner certificates.

Among the nearly 800 girls present were four sisters, all Golden Gleaners. They are the Foy Sisters formerly from Bountiful, Utah. Three of them, Mrs. Jean Foy Call, Mrs. Julia Foy Brough, and Mrs. Inez Foy Barker live in the South Davis Stake, while the fourth sister, Mrs. Lola Foy Smith, lives in the Pasadena Stake, California.

Each Golden Gleaner attending the banquet and birthday party was presented with a pretty handkerchief stamped "Golden Gleaner."

Donna Smart acted as the toastmistress for the evening's entertainment. Dec. 1st, 1940



J. Reuben Clark
Ogden Stake "M" Men and Gleaners'
Sunday Evening Service

December 1st, 1940

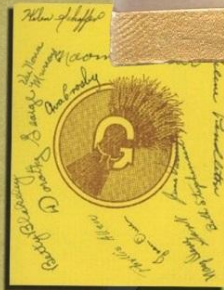
1. Prelude: North Ogden String Ensemble.
 2. Song: Congregation, "True to the Faith".
 3. Prayer: Wade Andrews, President of "M" Men.
 4. Liederkrantz Chorus: Clarence Clark, Director.
A. "In the Garden."
B. "Happy Song."
 5. Trumpet Duet: "Holy City", Kenneth Holmes and Junior West.
 6. Chorus:
A. "Rain in the River."
B. "Wondrous Words."
 7. Speaker: President J. Reuben Clark, Jr.
 8. Chorus: "The Lord's Prayer."
- Benediction: Va Lois Burnett, President of Gleaner Girls.

[OVER]

J. CHRISTENSEN STATIONERY PRESS, OGDEN

FIRST ANNUAL
GOLDEN GLEANER
BREAKFAST

LION HOUSE
June 7, 1941



This is to Certify that
Lois Ruth Reubnapp
has faithfully fulfilled the requirements necessary to become a

GOLDEN GLEANER GIRL
in the
Y. W. M. I. A.

of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and is entitled to wear the official Golden Gleaner Girl Insignia.

Lussy G. Parnon
General, President Y. W. M. I. A.

Hazel Brockbank
Chairman, General Board Gleaner Girl Committee

Rita Child
Stake President Y. W. M. I. A.

Lucille Bates
Stake Gleaner Girl Supervisor

Stake Gleaner Girl President

Date *June 7, 1941*

M Men & Gleaners

The Mutual Improvement Association (MIA) used to be the social and recreational arm of the church, for adults as well as for the teens currently served by the Young Men/Young Women program. You became an M Man (or a Gleaner, for girls) when you turned 18, or graduated from high school, and you remained an M Man/Gleaner until you were 30—unless you married, at which point you and your spouse joined the Young Marrieds (which followed much of the M Man/Gleaner program, but with additional family, relationship, and child care features). (From ldsliving.com)



Lois, Secretary of the Ogden Stake Golden Gleaner Association—June 1941

From 1928 to 1972, the Biblical Ruth and her gleaning were official models for Church women eighteen years and older in Gleaner classes of the Young Women's Mutual Improvement Association and its successor, the young women organization. By achieving spiritual, cultural, homemaking, and service goals, a woman could earn the Golden Gleaner award, counterpart of the Master M Man award for men. The names of these honors express historical conceptions of admirable female and male roles in the Church. Sheaves of wheat, the Gleaners' emblem, were represented on instructional manuals and cards, and on metal pins. (FRANCINE R. BENNION BYU Harold B. Lee Library)

GOLDEN GLEANER GIRLS				
Lois Palmer Allen	Maricopa	Alene Dalton	Wells	
Louise Andrew	Pioneer	Julia H. Davis	Sharon	
Louella Anderson	Highland	Elma Chambers Deamer	Ogden	
Florence Barker	Ogden	Lucille Devenport	Pioneer	
Eliza Beus	Mt. Ogden	Phyllis Dickerson	Mt. Ogden	
Lois Ruth Belnapp	Ogden	Beyrle LaMonte Felt	Shelley	
Dorothy Virginia		Ruth Iris Gale	Mt. Ogden	
Bishop	Salt Lake	Pauline Gardiner	Wells	
Bettie Blair	Weber	Mable G. Goodrich	Uintah	
Hellie Bolick	So. Carolina	Ethel Graham	Pioneer	
Claire Bolton	Big Cottonwood	Kathleen Graham	Ogden	
Audrey Marie Bowers	Highland	Phosbe H. Graham	Sacramento	
Barbara Bradeson	Inglewood	Merline Grange	Carbon	
Helen Braitmaitte	So. Sanpete	Mildred Greenwood	Alpine	
Geraldine Brown	Tooele	Florence Hacking	Shelley	
Rula Brinton	Maricopa	Verna V. Harding	Sharon	
Alta Buckner	Sharon	Ardelle Hamilton	Rexburg	
Evelyn Burnett	Long Beach	Gwen Hamilton	Rexburg	
Agnes Durt	Pioneer	Blanche Hendricks	Rexburg	
Ruth Carpenter	So. Sanpete	Rueda Hicks	Maricopa	
Alta Christensen	Lahi	Caroline Johannes		
Claire Clinger	San Fernando	Hobson	No. Weber	
Virginia Cotterill	Liberty	Elon Imlay	No. Davis	
Eleanor R. Cragun	Ogden	Clara Jensen	So. Sanpete	
V. Vola Dalling	Rexburg	Ruth Jensen	Ogden	
		Arlene Johns	Ogden	
		Elizabeth Johns	Ogden	



BIRTHDAY CAKE CUT—Pres. George Albert Smith officiates in cutting the Golden Gleaner birthday cake representing ten years of activity. He is surrounded by 20 of the original 47 Golden Gleaners who pre-

sent the cake at the annual banquet and birthday party held during June Conference. Today there are more than 2500 Golden Gleaners in the Church, 478 receiving the award last year.

**Lois – 3rd left from President George Albert Smith
Lois was one of the original Golden Gleaners—June 1950**

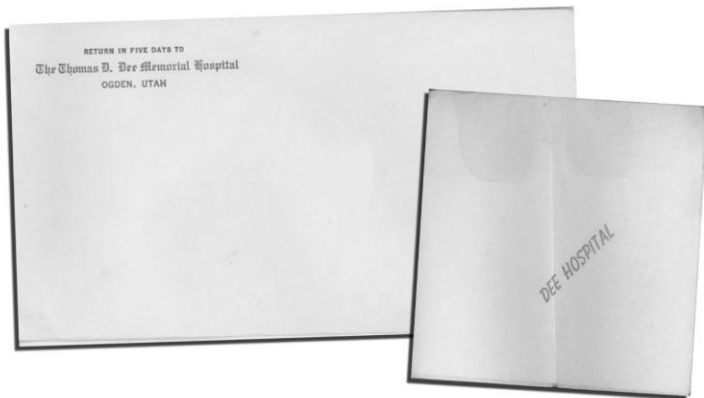


My Men
Ogden State Gleaner Banquet—
Pete and I in charge of all arrangements,
Ben Lomond Hotel—1941-1942

World War II

Dee Hospital

My first job was at the Thomas D. Dee Memorial Hospital, located on 24th Street and Harrison Blvd. I began in 1938 after graduating from the beautiful OHS. I was going to Weber College and the campus was on Jefferson Avenue between 24th and 25th St. and a building on 24th. After class I walked or rode the bus up 25th St. to the hospital. I was working for the nurses (housed just next door to the hospital) but my work was in the basement of the hospital to cut stencils of medical material for a new “Procedure Book” which the instructors, Miss Oetta Browning and Miss Philbrick needed. I finished the “Procedure Book” typing the stencils and running them off on the mimeograph machine and made up about 100 books. Doing so, I learned many things. I used legal-size, blue Ditto stencils, on which I would type the Doctors’ lectures, then removed the solid back cover, placed the stencil on the machine, made sure the machine was well inked, and turn the handle to print 100 sheets. When completed, I removed the stencil and placed it carefully on newspaper to be preserved. I typed 100 stencils, printed them, and made 100 books. A long process, different from the copy machines of today. Some years later they wanted me in the Business Office to help with past accounts and substituting on the switchboard. Mr. Eli Holton, Mr. Claude Wheeler, Hazel Gleason, Mrs. Stratford, Joyce Halton worked there around the office.



Lois describes her work at the hospital: First I worked as secretary to the nursing staff, and was then moved to the business department (at the Thomas D. Dee Memorial Hospital from 1938 – 1944. She was very young to hold such a responsible position! Every day Dr. Mills (an older man) would walk past the office; stop, put his heels together and bow and say, “Good morning, our auburn haired divinity.”

Howard Jenkins was then Superintendent, and gave me much worthy advice. I worked with Eli Holton, L. Claude Wheeler, and as they were older men they were not called to the service. As the war intensified, Bushnell Hospital was built and we at the hospital in Ogden were given assigned duties. I was called a Red Cross Alertman, and if the sirens in the neighborhoods sounded we were to go to the hospital. Ration gas stamps were given us solely for this purpose. A huge red cross was painted on top of the hospital. I performed all duties required: Printing sheets for the charts, relieving at the switchboard, registering patients, sending out statements, receiving and receipting payments, helping with the nursing

department, taking dictation and completing correspondence, sending out insurance claims (which were minimal at this time), typing the monthly Welfare list sent to Weber County, preparing the Elders' prayer list for administrations of patients, and then I became Office Manager, and this position consisted mostly of registering patients and assigning them to their rooms and often escorting them to the head nurse of the floor. My position also was to receive monies and discharge patients. Brother Jenkins instructed us to be dignified; be modestly dressed, and to never give out information about a patient, except what was on the floor lists (good condition, fair, etc.) He was one to never encourage people to come visit "sick" ones and he often said, "Tell them to go scrub their floors for them or bake a batch of bread." Brother Lawrence H. Evans was also superintendent at this time, and he encouraged calmness and peacefulness, as "war talk" wasn't encouraged anywhere and signs and bill boards said, "Shhh!!! The enemy might be listening." Just before I left in 1944 to be married I trained a returned serviceman who was astonished at the amount of work in the business office.

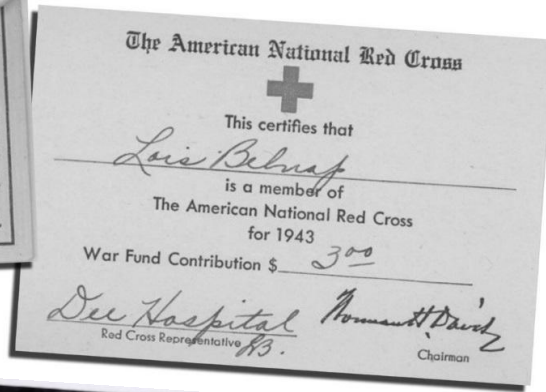
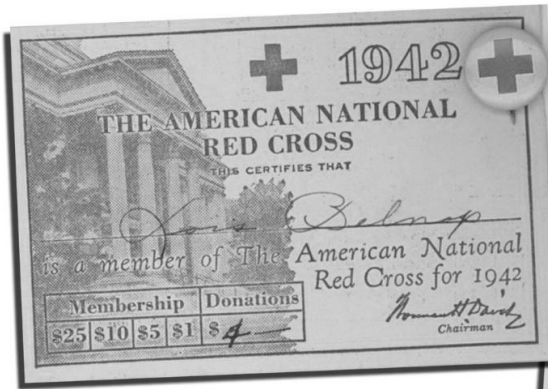
"Pearl Harbor Dec 7, 1941" (from a journal entry written Dec. 7, 1998). I will always remember where I was on this infamous day. It was a Sunday; I went to church and then went to work at the Thomas D. Dee Memorial Hospital in the office. Hazel Gleason was at the switchboard. About noon, the phone rang and Hazel screamed, "No—No, They've bombed Pearl Harbor," and ran down the hall. A phone call came in from Leslie Merrill's wife that she needed to talk with him. He was in Surgery and surgery reported they'd give him the message (and it may have been given to Mrs. Gleason) was that Pearl Harbor had been bombed by the Japanese and sunk the ships Utah and Arizona, and Dr. Merrill's son was on the Arizona. Sometime later I saw Mr. Merrill going out the front door and he was white as a sheet. (*When Lois went to Hawaii in 1997, she went to the Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor – saw plaque with names listed and saw his son's name.*)

Sometime later, also on a Sunday, a package was delivered under guard from Hill Field to Dr. Dumke. It was sulfa for a very ill patient. Sulfa was given only to the armed services but some was obtained for this civilian. I was also present when a guarded package of penicillin was delivered and that was the first I had ever heard of this miraculous medicine.

I also served as a Red Cross Alertman during World War II, and, with my sister Mildred, did our duty during the war by dancing with soldiers at the local Canteen (to the disgust of our steady boyfriends!) It was a very exciting time.

My brother was on a Navy tanker and my folks had the telephone moved into the hallway hoping that they wouldn't miss any of his calls when he did come in to "port." He, on the tanker, went to far-away places for oil; Venezuela, Casablanca, etc. He was a radio man on the Admiral's flag ship in the European invasion. His home "port" was Norfolk, Virginia. My sister's fiancée was in the infantry in Europe, and mine was a Radar Man, and my Sis and I wrote them every night. We took pictures to send them, and we sent them "goodies" although afterward we found out some of them didn't travel well.

Probably the most important thing for the war effort though in our case, was to be thrifty and save money for a future time. I tried to be conservative but each month when I received my pay check (\$65.00), I would buy something for my trousseau (maybe a set of towels) and something for my mother. We went through a time when a brown-out was ordered, and that made the war seem more real.



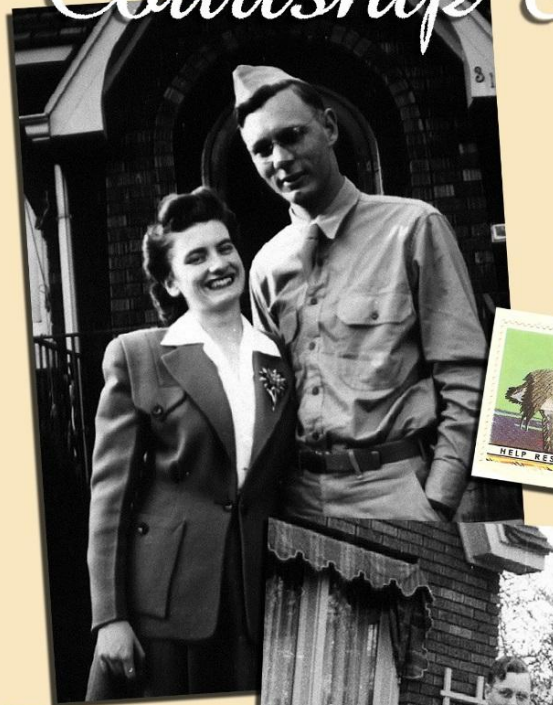
Helen & Lois



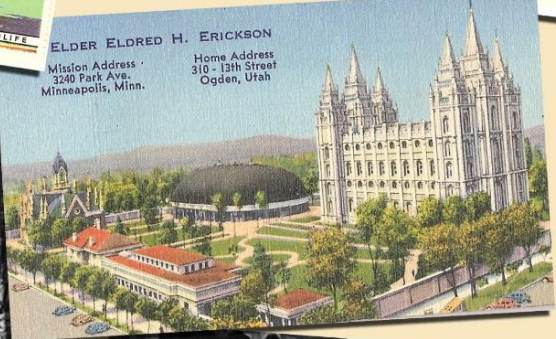
Randalls & Ericksons



Courtship & Engagement



Sept 26, 1941



ELDER ELDRED H. ERICKSON
 Mission Address - 3240 Park Ave. Minneapolis, Minn.
 Home Address 310 - 13th Street Ogden, Utah



STANDARD TIME INDICATED
 RECEIVED BY
 2938 WASHINGTON BLVD.
 OGDEN, UTAH
 DIAL 7884

TELEPHONE YOUR TELEGRAMS TO POSTAL TELEGRAPH

Postal Telegraph
 Mackay Radio
 Commercial Cables
 (35)
 All America Cables
 Canadian Pacific Telegraphs

942 SEP 3 PM 8 49

SX89 24 NL=CAMP MURPHY FLO 3
 MISS LOIS BELNAP=CARE OF THE THOMAS DEE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
 (OGDEN UTAH)=

THE FIRST SERGEANT ADVISES AGAINST PLANNED TRIP SINCE NEW
 SCHEDULES MAKE PLANS AND TIME OFF VERY UNCERTAIN. MAYBE ITS BEST
 NOT TO COME LOVE=
 ELDRED

Boys 551
 Gismark Rd.
 Miss Lois Belnap
 1111-21st St.
 Ogden, Utah



still Bear me in mind

Courtship & Engagement

You have all heard that Eldred didn't tell his folks when he was coming home from his mission (returned March 31, 1942—his birthday), so he got off the bus and walked down 13th Street carrying his suitcase. Blackie, their dog was outside, saw and ran to him and jumped up on him before he reached the house. I got a call that night for a date the next day, and the next, and the next. Then one night he said, "I don't think this is going to work out for us, maybe we should just go our separate ways." I was so surprised, and wondered if I had done something wrong. He said, "No, I just don't think I'm ready." I felt terrible! But no "bells seemed to ring" so we decided to call it quits.

The next day or so he got his draft notice. He had had to register in North Dakota, and since there so few men there, his notice came up quickly; he was inducted at Fort Douglas into the United States Signal Corp, attached to the Air Force and was to leave the sixth of June. Then I got a telephone call: He asked if I would go out with him until he left; Eldred decided that I was the one he wanted and he set out on a whirlwind courtship. So we began dating again, and he sent flowers every week, and brought nuts and treats to Donald and Gordon who were small then. They thought he was pretty special. And one night (a beautiful spring evening) we drove up South Fork Canyon, and he turned into one of the parks and asked me to marry him. Guess what I said: "AFTER THE WAR." It was supposed to be over in a short time! Then he said "There is one condition—you have to let me go hunting and fishing," and I said, "I have one condition – I don't want to go to work; I will live on whatever you make." So we agreed and then he turned on the radio—he'd arranged for KLO to play, at a "certain time," "One Dozen Roses." I had never

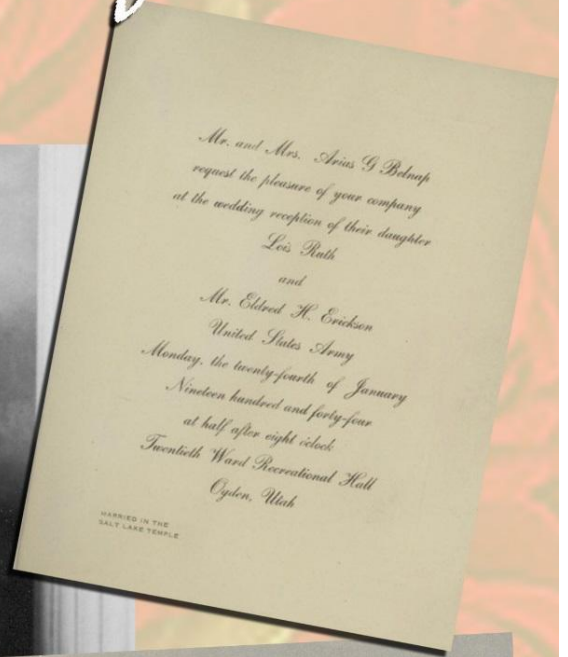
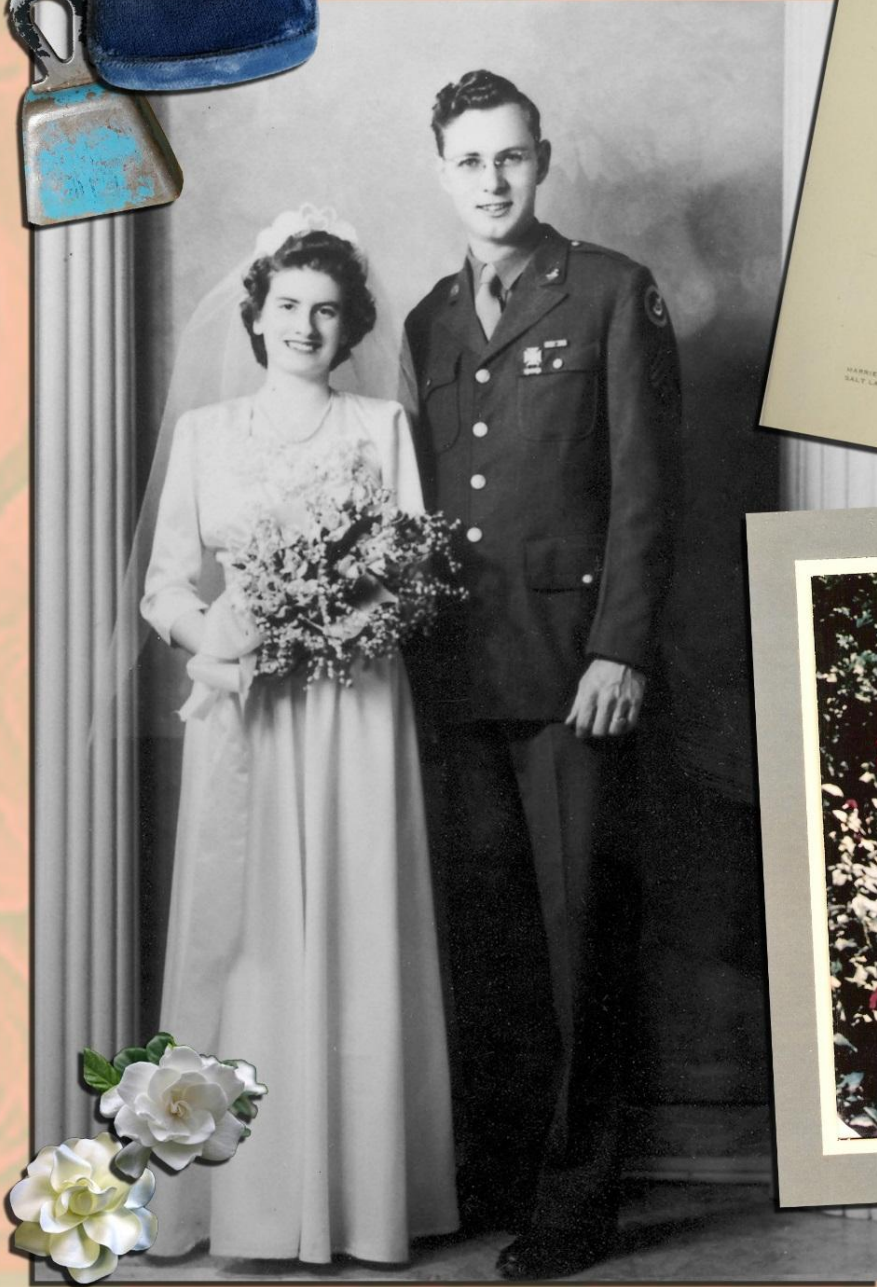
heard it before, so I was excited. It was uncanny—the timing was just perfect. We were engaged! We went right home to tell our folks. (I had never met the Ericksons or Leonard before.)

Who would have thought the war would last 3 years?! Two and a half years later we tied the knot on the 24th of January 1944 in the Salt Lake Temple.



(Later in their courtship he gave her 3 mini bottles of Four Roses Whiskey and it became a private joke between them and she kept them for years in her cedar chest.)

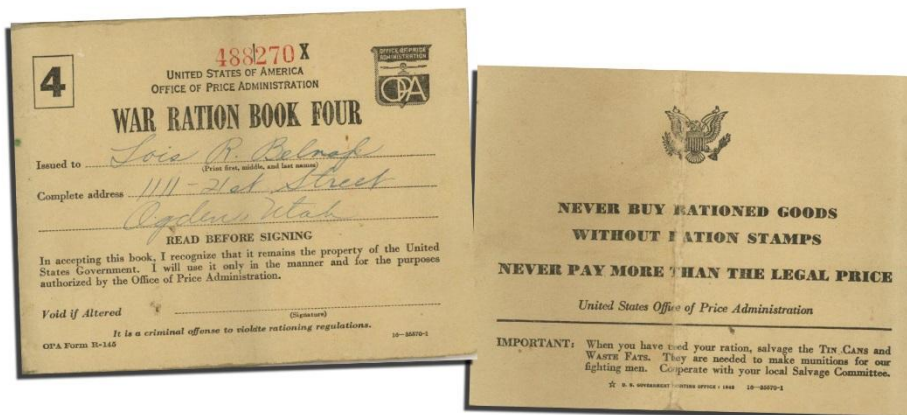
Wedding



Wedding

But it was a long two years and longer courtship by mail. He went to Florida, became a radar operator and maintenance man; shipped out of San Francisco for the Aleutians where we were at war with the Japanese. He served in Adak, Attu and Kiska, and three months later when their radar position was well established they returned to the United States (Fort Lewis). Part of their group was sent to the Marshall Islands and were wiped out – never heard of again. He encountered high winds (the paper said 250 miles per hour and one boat was broken in half and all men on board were drowned), but finally they made it back and we were all so grateful.

He wired he was back in the US, and on January 1, 1944, I wired him and said let's get married as soon as you get your 30 day furlough. I was so weary of waiting (2 years—he ultimately served 3 ½) and I wanted to be sealed to this man – no matter what else happened. They returned them – by train – which went right through Ogden and he got a furlough and came to Ogden about Jan. 18th. In the meantime, I collected ration tickets from a kind and sacrificing pool of friends and relatives and bought satin for a dress and butter for cookies, and picked out my china to be displayed at my trousseau tea. After choosing my china, I saw another I liked better and was sorry I had already bought the first. *Unbeknownst to her, her parents returned the first and replaced it with the Haviland Apple Blossom china. Her parents discouraged her opening it till the tea, and she was delighted and surprised on the day when it was set out for display. (Her mother liked it so well that she bought herself a service for 12, and upon Mabel's death Lois inherited those and had service for 24.)*



In her Christmas stories of 2006 she adds the following: One Doctor said to me, “Going to get married, have a bunch of kids, live in misery all your life?” I replied, “No sir, going to be married, have a family, and live happily ever after.”

Eldred sent me a Western Union Telegram, and it said, “Got a furlough, coming home. Stop.” I sent a telegram back and said, “Waiting for you, let's get married, Stop.” He wrote back, “What day, I can be home January 22, stop.” He arrived on Friday, January 21, 1944. We decorated the 20th Ward Cultural Hall with white streamers on Saturday; went to church on Sunday and were married on Monday the 24th.

(Photos from their wedding were lost and before he went back, they formally posed for the one wedding photo we have.)

I got my recommend from my Bishop, Uncle Volney Belnap. Dad had just been released as Bishop and was in the Stake Presidency and then Daddy handed me “The House of the Lord” by James E. Talmage and said I should read it so that I could understand the temple better. I did this and felt I understood the

endowment. I kept my eyes open looking at everything and trying to remember it – it was all so beautiful and so special. Mother had said, “Don’t be nervous, there are many to help and it will be very lovely.” I had purchased my garments and mother had marked them. (Each person tried them on and marked them for themselves.) We wore long garments during the endowment then. We went to Salt Lake to the Relief Society building and got my temple clothes. I wore the robe and veil until just recently and they are now in my cedar chest. I wore my mother’s veil and apron to be married in and bought white ballet slippers which I’ve used all these years until just recently. A blue ribbon was hidden on my garter and a copper penny was in my shoe for good luck, I put one of Grandma’s beautiful lace handkerchiefs in the neckline of my dress to cover the garments there. (Eldred and I went back to Florida, then Tennessee & Louisiana and at DeRidder/Merrysville, Louisiana Mrs. Hooper had a fig tree. I brought several pressed fig leaves home with us in June and made temple aprons for Eldred and myself by copying the pattern. They are beautiful and mean a lot to me.)

Lois wrote, “It was a cold, stormy, snowy day, and the six wedding guests (Eldred, Lois and their parents), went by automobile to Salt Lake (Hilmar Erickson driving). We got up early as Mother had to press her temple clothes. She had been ill almost all month (she was when Grandma died on Dec. 29th). I fixed fried eggs and salted them twice and they were salty but Mother and Dad ate them anyway. The Ericksons arrived and we started for Salt Lake with Bro. Erickson driving. Mrs. Erickson and Mother were in the front seat; Eldred and I and Dad were in the back. No one else went with us as we were the first of our families married. We went out along Harrison Ave. and down Unitah Dugway, which then was narrow and high; we made it to the temple just before eight. Eldred ran across the street to the Hotel Utah Flower Shop and returned with a beautiful large, white orchid. We entered the temple area through a small arched door on the east side of the Temple Square wall, and to the Salt Lake City Temple Annex, which is not there now. (Dec. 6, 1998, I asked David to take a picture of the street between Temple Square and Joseph Smith Memorial which they were closing as I wanted a picture of the small door on the east wall which was the only entrance to temple when we were married.)

I remember thinking as we rode along—“Is this right; Is this what I really want to do; is Eldred really the right one?” I was so happy I could say, “Yes, yes, yes.” I had a wonderful, calm, happy feeling. We attended prayer meeting and there were only two brides that day: one lady who was married already who was to be sealed and me. We attended the bride’s lecture and there were so few of us, just Mother and Mrs. Erickson and the sister who gave the lecture. The room was beautiful and I felt so “queenly” in my beautiful clothes. I hadn’t had time to make my dress, so I bought a beautiful creamy satin gown in Wolfer’s (next to Samuels on Washington Ave.) for \$35.00 which was a lot of money then. I bought the white ballet slippers for the temple and some white satin slippers for the reception.

Miss Belnap, Sgt. Erickson Are Married

One of the attractive affairs of the winter season was the wedding of Miss Lois Ruth Belnap, daughter of President and Mrs. Arias G. Belnap, to Sgt. Eldred H. Erickson, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Erickson, which took place on Monday, January 24.

The marriage ceremony was performed in the Salt Lake City L. D. S. temple, with Apostle Thomas E. McKay officiating.

The bride wore a long-sleeved, white satin wedding gown, with a sweetheart neckline. Her illusion wedding veil was held in place by a coronet of pearls. White orchids formed her corsage.

The parents of both the bride and bridegroom accompanied the young couple through the temple.

A reception was held in the evening, in the Twentieth ward recreational hall in Ogden.

The bride was attended at the reception by her sister, Miss Mildred Belnap, as maid of honor, and Miss Helen Danielson, Miss Helen Erickson, Miss Louella London, and Miss Eileen Manning as bridesmaids. Miss Belnap wore a long frock of peach taffeta and chiffon. Miss Danielson, Miss Erickson and Miss Manning wore blue chiffon, and Miss London was in pink satin and lace. Their bouquets were old-fashioned nose-gays of rosebuds and sweetpeas.

Donald West, of the medical reserve of the United States navy was the best man.

Mrs. Erickson, mother of the bridegroom, chose black embroidered crepe gown and Mrs. Belnap, mother of the bride, wore blue embroidered crepe. Both matrons wore a corsage of gardenias.

The bridal party stood before a background of seven-branch candelabra, beneath a bower of white ribbons, and wedding bells.

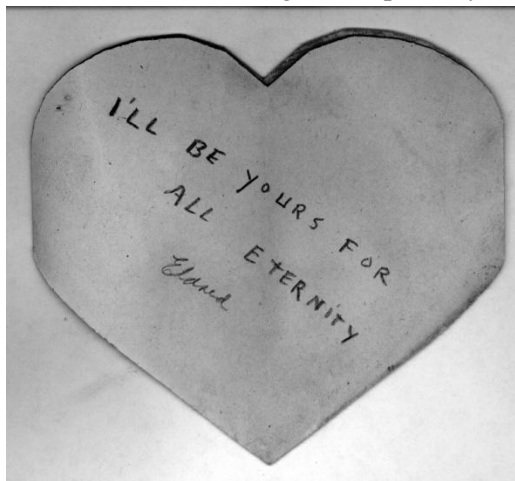
Three hundred guests were present.

Sgt. Erickson who has just returned from five months service overseas, will remain in Ogden with his bride for about two weeks, and will then be stationed at Tampa, Florida.

The dress had some white satin flowers across the front of a square neckline and three-quarter length sleeves. I was a small size 12 (34-22-34—figure sizes are important to people now).

It was a beautiful session with our fathers acting as witnesses. Prior to the ceremony Elder Thomas E. McKay was there to meet us—he was tall and stately. He asked Eldred and me to sit over in a corner with him for a few minutes while he counseled us. (Thomas E. McKay was an assistant to the Twelve and brother of David O. McKay who later became president of the church. He had been President of the Ogden Stake for many years, and he frequently visited the ward when Dad was Bishop. He visited our home many times and we became well acquainted with him and Sister McKay.) He said many things about being sweethearts forever, loving one another, etc. But he said a very important thing which I've always remembered word for word—"always under every condition, trust each other—the time will come when you will be apart/separated and doing various activities in meetings etc., even with the opposite sex – but always trust each other." This has always been treasured advice because many times over the years in the course of our church and civic obligations, we have not been together. We have always had complete confidence in each other by trusting each other.

The temple was very special that day. I was so impressed with the ornateness of the temple and the people. "Eve" was so beautiful and I've remembered so well—she was an "older" woman but lovely. Mr. & Mrs. Erickson were chosen to be witnesses and she sat next to me and was extremely nervous. The water just ran off her hands. This was the first time they'd been back to the temple since their own marriage. When we entered the celestial room I thought, "Here I am finally—the fulfillment of a lifelong dream." Then we went to the "new" (at that time) marriage room off the celestial room (the big new addition with the many marriage rooms have all been built in later years), and along the hallway and we stopped a moment below the big picture where Pres. Lorenzo Snow met Jesus Christ when he received instructions about tithing. Perhaps many others have met him there also – who knows?



When we entered the room, they pinned a beautiful white orchid on me (not through the temple robes) that Eldred had bought for me. At this time flowers were allowed to be taken to the temple and worn for the ceremony. Dad and Bro. Erickson signed the wedding license in advance, and it was rolled up and Pres. McKay was holding it. He performed the marriage as we knelt across the altar—the time was about noon—and I experienced an outpouring of my Heavenly Father's spirit. It was a very sacred and holy day. When standing and Eldred placed the wedding band on my finger we looked in the large round mirror to view "eternity." We could see our images reflected many times, and our happiness has been reflected many, many times

over the years. We both seemed really happy. This was truly a rich spiritual experience, and to me the culmination of a long dream.

After we had dressed in our street clothes we were all hungry and Dad suggested going “down” the street to Beau Brummel’s – a nice restaurant in the center of town. He bought us all dinner—can’t remember now what we ate, but it was nice. Then we hurried home to get ready for the reception. I had purchased a beaded and pearl tiara, and Mrs. Green had gathered the illusion veil onto it (Mildred and Helena both wore it later when they were married). My bridal bouquet was red roses from Eldred tied with white satin ribbon.

The family decorated the recreation hall in 20th ward with white crepe paper and tall white candles behind the bridal party. The cake was on a lace covered table at the south of the hall—a pretty, three-tiered pink and white cake (pink roses & silver leaves) made by Community Bakery. Mildred, my sister, was my maid of honor, with Eileen Manning, Helena Danielsen (she later married Ralph), Luella London and Helen Erickson. It was a dance-reception and we had Bro. Raymond Page’s orchestra in the northeast corner below the stage, and we enjoyed their music. It was customary to have the bride and groom and the wedding party start the dance. Eldred was nervous as he hadn’t danced for over 4 years but he did really well. The gifts, Aunt Della was in charge, were on the stage, and refreshments were served on the west side. We had ice cream, punch, cookies and wedding cake cut into small pieces, wrapped and tied with white satin ribbon. Mrs. Erickson, his mother, made beautiful, tasty fruit cakes for the reception which were cut in small pieces for favors and put on the serving plate.

Many people came and we received a lot of lovely gifts (our parents moved the gifts to the front room of their house and I guess they were weary, it took them until 3 am). Eldred and I went to the Hotel Ben Lomond for our wedding night as we were very tired. We worried about our folks having to handle everything but they sent us off. We went to my parent’s place after the reception while I changed my wedding dress to a brown suit and my brown coat with the fur on the front and then we went back to the church and cut the wedding cake. The “kids” decorated Leonard’s car and I put a blue bell on the steering wheel. That bell has been around all these years. Eldred was in his army uniform as we were at war and he always had to be in uniform. The groom on top of our cake was in uniform, and this cake top ornament has been on our table every year since. It is getting pretty beat up now but we still use it and sometimes floated gardenias (another flower at our wedding) in a lovely blue bowl with round feet.

Note: It has been our tradition to always spend our anniversary at home with a nice dinner with our family – lots of things led up to this—Eldred didn’t like to eat out, and most of the time we didn’t have the money as he was going to school and working nights, and we always seemed to have small children. But it has paid off – our children think of this as a special day even for them and it has helped to cement us together. (p.s. we always had better food too!)

As I’ve previously mentioned we stayed at the Ben Lomond Hotel that first night. I wore a beautiful peignoir set from Bullock’s Wilshire—pale blue (with blue satin slippers to match) on our wedding night and have saved it. The next morning we went to my parent’s home and saw Mother and Dad had retrieved my bridal bouquet. I left the white satin ribbons at home, but took the red roses out to Grandma (Emma) Harris’ grave (Aultorest Memorial Park). She had said she’d be to my wedding and I know she was in spirit; and this seemed a fitting gesture.

We went on to Salt Lake (Hotel Newhouse) and stayed there until Saturday but returned “home” in time for Stake Conference. We surely enjoyed the sessions and I was proud to be there with my new husband – and a lovely white orchid. We stayed with Eldred’s folks and left for Florida in February. I was so grateful to the Lord for his many blessings and for finally making our marriage a reality.

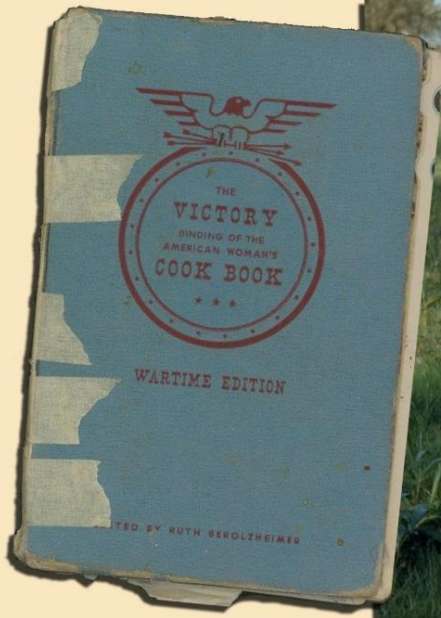


We received many lovely gifts of china, glassware, pitchers, pottery, platters, bowls and 23 vases—but no appliances. As we were at war, anything made of metal was hard to get.



Lois & Eldred – St. Petersburg, Florida 1944

Newly Married



Newly Married

Eldred returned to camp as a radar specialist for the U.S. Army Signal Corp. and I went to my parents' house. Later, he received permission for me to join him in Florida and we finally had a honeymoon and began to live as husband and wife in a tropical paradise. In February of 1944, we left Ogden on the train for Florida, and arrived on a Sunday afternoon. We went to the USO center hoping to find listing for apartments, but the town was overcrowded, and there was nothing. We got a room in the hotel for one day which was all they would allow one to stay, and we went to church.

The next day we got onto the street car and rode out from the city. (Before leaving the hotel that morning he said that we would try to find housing as he had done in the mission field.) As we approached Azelee Street, Eldred said "Let's get off here." It was a location that he liked the looks of so we started walking and looking over the houses. Finally he said, "Let's try here," and we went to the door of a nice looking home. Mrs. Campbell answered the door and said she would have an apartment about six o'clock that evening—the people had not yet moved out. This was truly an answer to our prayers, and it was just the beginning, for we have had answers to our prayers almost constantly since. The Lord has surely been good to us.

Lois had a series of part time jobs and meticulously recorded her Florida earnings:

3-03-44 / Hotel Thomas Jefferson Switchboard operator \$2.80

3-11-44 / Tartler Bakers \$13.40

3-18-44 / \$16.00

3-25-44 / \$16.00

Eldred was moved from Tampa, Florida, and I followed him to Bell Buckle, Tennessee. We lived with Emily and John Meek and had a wonderful friendship with them. We enjoyed living in Tennessee for it reminded us a lot of Huntsville Valley. Eldred was then moved to DeRidder, Louisiana, and I followed him to Merryville, Louisiana. We had a little upstairs apartment in the home of the minister, Mr. and Mrs. Weaver, and their daughter, Elizabeth, and an older son.

From there we moved over into Deridder, Louisiana and had a room with an older lady, Mrs. Hooper. Ruth and Ed Schoenfeld of Salt Lake had another room and we had an enjoyable time with them. Ruth was a niece of Pres. and Sister John A. Widtsoe, of the Council of the Twelve, and a granddaughter of William Clayton who wrote, "Come, Come Ye Saints." One day Mrs. Hooper came into our room and saw a large picture of the Salt Lake Temple and the Articles of Faith were printed on the back.



She asked about it and I explained about the temple, etc. and when she read the Articles of Faith she said, "I believe the very same way," and yet her church didn't even believe in the Godhead, so I believe that individuals have personal feelings of belief, and maybe don't even know what their church might profess to believe.

In June of 1944 we came home on furlough, and I stayed with the folks as I was then expecting Bruce, and Eldred returned to Louisiana. He received leave over Christmas as we were expecting the baby on December 24, 1944 but he didn't arrive till January 1, 1945. While Eldred, Mildred and I were waiting (at the Belnap home), there was a huge accident on the Lucin Cutoff and all the doctors from Ogden were called out including Dr. Conrad Jensen, my doctor. I kept in touch with Louise Scoville, head of OB at the hospital. Dr. Jensen got home but as they were having a dinner party, they took the phone off the hook. The hospital called a neighbor to tell him I was due and Bruce was born at 6pm. Eldred applied for an extension and so remained with us until January 6, 1945 so he so he could get acquainted with his new son.

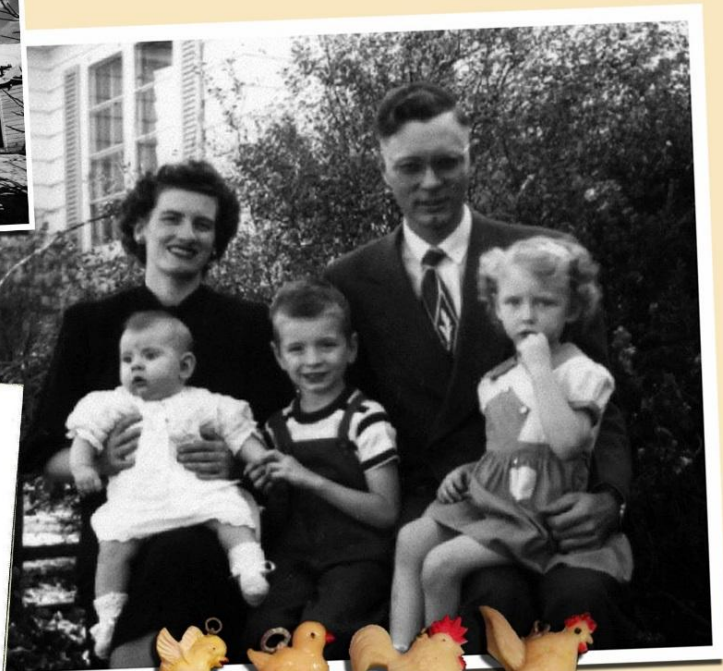
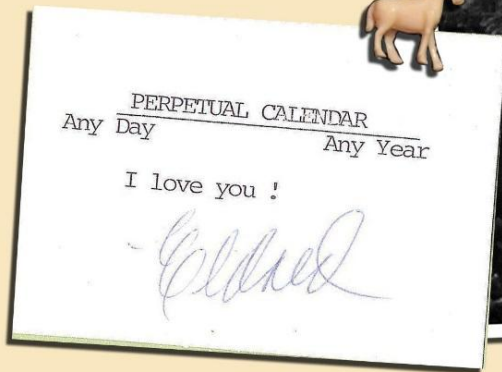
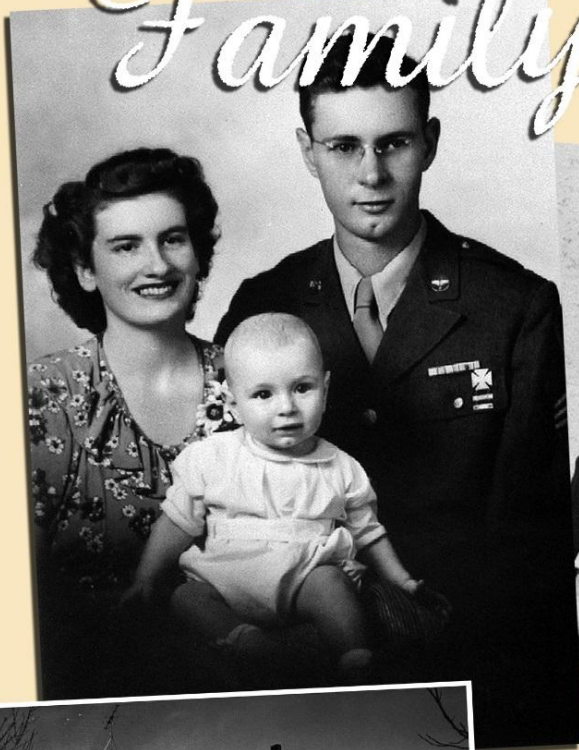


Eldred had many, varied experiences in Adak, and once told me of seeing a Japanese submarine resting in the water. He had just arrived for his shift as the radar monitor, but the machine wouldn't work. Frantically he took two dimes from his pocket, welded them together, and inserted them into the machine, and he had power. He contacted Kiska, reported his discovery, and soon a U.S.A. plane arrived to destroy the submarine. He received an Honorable Discharge at Alexandria Air Force Base in October of 1945, having served for three and one-half years for his country. Bruce was eight months old, and the little one had some adjusting to do, but all worked out well.

(Luetta thought she needed a new dress for his return and bought her a black dress with a square neck. In later years, Luetta would occasionally give Lois her old dresses to cut down and remake—she was grateful as she didn't have the money for new clothes.)

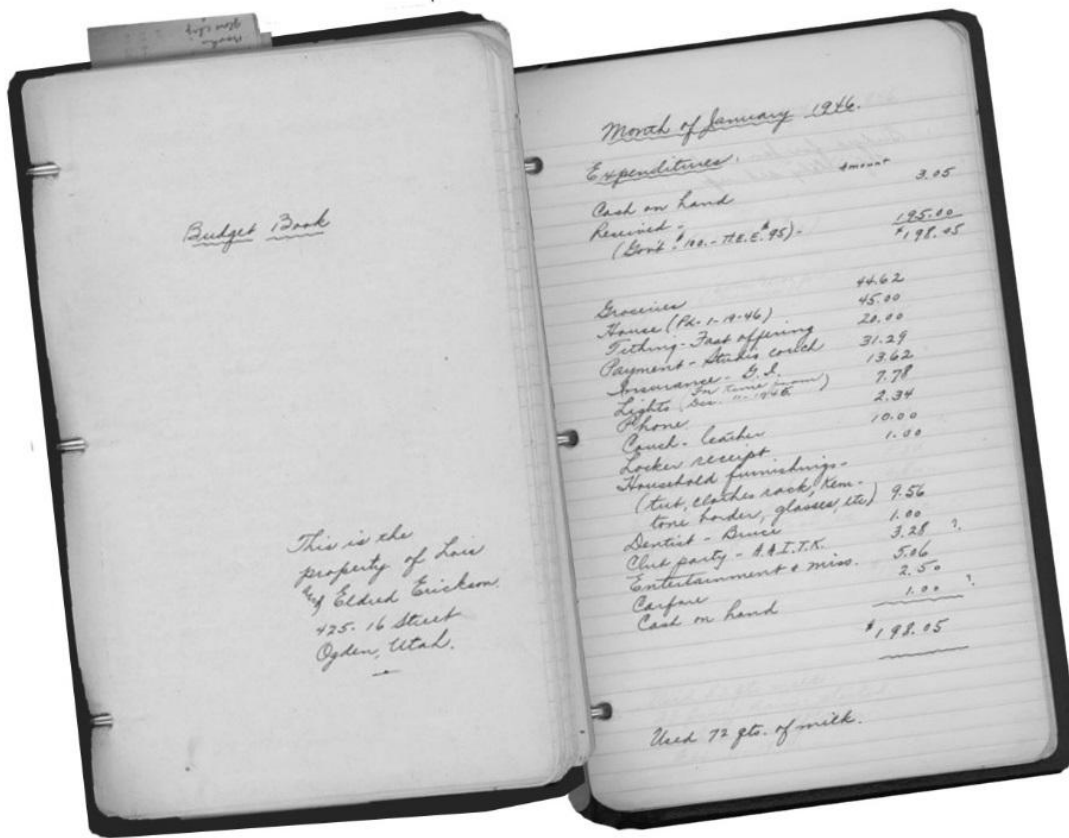
Eldred passed away in November of 1989, but he was always a real patriot and soldier. He always said he was in the Lord's army fighting for our homes and families. Once, just before he died, we were watching a patriotic program on TV and he said, "If we had a war, I'd go and enlist right now."

Family Life



Married Life

After his discharge we purchased a home at 425-16 Street Ogden, Utah. It was a nice red-brick, older home, and we loved it. We had a fun time at the home – building a bedroom on the porch, building fruit shelves, planting a garden in place of the old shed, installing a furnace in place of the big Heatrola in the front room. There was a Safeway store on the corner directly across the street from us, and we watched the rationing. Ten minutes after the store opened in the morning, the sugar, flour, etc. were all sold out. We decided that we needed to leave the city and find a place where we could become more independent and teach our children to work.



Budget ledger of Lois & Eldred 1946

Janet came to us in 1946 and Susan in 1949. Eldred attended school at the University of Utah, and worked with his father, Hilmar E. Erickson, who was a Public Accountant. We were both active in the 7th Ward, and he was a member of the Seventies Presidency (set apart by President Mark E. Petersen, General Authority) and in Scouting. I was Primary Music Director and a Gleaner Teacher.

Our first Christmas, December of 1946, was quite unique. Eldred went out to North Ogden with his folks for the "Tree Cutting Time." The James Enoch Randall home was on a hill and his property extended on up the mountain where pine trees grew. The men folk hiked up the hill to the pines, then climbed up the trees until they reached the height of the tree they wanted. Grandpa Randall insisted that they "top" the tree, so as not to disturb the watershed. Some of the cousins would swing back and forth. Eldred cut two

twin trees from his tall stately pine, one for us and one for my folks. I ordered some plastic white snowmen and red Santa ornaments from the Montgomery Ward catalog and Eldred fashioned hangers from nails. (Because of the war, metal was scarce.) Someone gave us a set of lights, and we decorated the beautiful tree, and used “silver radar chaff” for the icicles. A tin star at the top completed our first Christmas tree.

Pleasant View

One day Eldred went to work at the office where he and his Dad worked and heard his father and Clarence Randall discussing some property in Pleasant View. He interrupted them by saying, “Would you make me the same deal?” His father said yes, so he said just a minute, and called me on the telephone and said, “Would you like to live in Pleasant View?” I said, “I guess so”—it seemed to be one place that we both liked or at least didn’t have any serious objections to it, so he told his father and Clarence we’d take it. We moved to Pleasant View, April 6, 1951 to a little white-frame house now listed as 1071 W. Pleasant View Drive. (We’ve had three different addresses for the same place.) Pleasant View was a small town, had only 258 people living there, we had a 10-party phone line, and water came from a spring.

We left 16th street in Ogden, a fifty foot lot, for Pleasant View (5 ½ acres) where we thought we would have plenty of space and lots of room for children to grow and learn to work. We felt work was the most important thing we could teach them. We didn’t have much time for “play” so work had to fun and exciting. Not sure we accomplished this, but they are hard, tireless workers, and enjoy and love being together.

Life in Pleasant View became very busy as their family and their home grew. The following children were both to Lois & Eldred: Bruce, 1945; Janet, 1946; Susan, 1949; David, 1951; Nancy, 1953; Chris, 1955; Ellen, 1958; and Jeane, 1960. Their life became centered around taking care of their family and home and serving in the church and their community.

In Sept. 1960, we added a utility room, bath, bedroom, recreation room to the back of the house and paid \$61.40 to Reinhart Kowallis for carpentry work (cupboards, cabinets, drawers etc.) We were going to put room in the basement for storing bikes, garden equipment, etc., and one bedroom, but Eldred and Bruce dug by hand an additional 14 feet wide 16 feet long and 4 feet deep overnight.

The home was remodeled again several years later when we extended the living room and bricked the exterior. Bruce was surprised when he returned home from his mission (1966) to find a very different house!

1071 W. Pleasant View Dr.



Edred always said, "It isn't how much money you have - it's what you do with it that counts. Budget your way - It is a plan for deciding where money will be spent. See, discipline and cooperation will determine things budget will have highest priority. We always said we had money for the things we needed."

Edred being an accountant wanted to know where each cent went. In the frame of his wallet he carried a small tape of what had to be paid, to have payment utilization in, etc. and what needed to be set aside for taxes & so forth.

At the end of the month he made a tape of each of the things and added it to the next.

In 1958 he applied for the job as field auditor with the Dept. of Agriculture and when interviewed they said - "Sorry, no one with 10 months to feed called him on this policy," he said "Some months got 13 weeks ago. They got the job and when Billie left on his mission in Jan 1964, he was making \$500. His mission was \$98-99 a month, but there was money to lend him."

APRIL CASH PAID OUT

	FROM BIRTHDAY MONEY	EXPENSES TO CR. FOR TITLES	FOR
CASH	2700-		
CR. FOR CASH	1500-		
-	1500-		
-	500-		
TRAISSER REPT	200-		
TIMOTHY FEEDS + GAS	170		
GLASS SCRAPER	210		
ESTEE & HORRAF	186		
YES NEWS	130		
CHICK FEEDS	556		
WARD CARTRIDGE	200		
STRAW	95		
TEMPLE CLOTHES	40		
GAS	200		
HAIRCUT	125		
DEVELOPER	46		
THREAD ETC	66		
DAY CLEAN	190		
SEEDS	87		
DAY CLEAN	130		
FULLER BRUSH	52		
PRINCE BALL GOLF	150		
GAS	220		
TEACHER GAS	390		
CHICK FEED	310		
FRIGHT ON CR	50		
TAP & PLUGS	90		
SHOW - SHOWS	45		
FIRM	25		
FIRM	51		
GROS	1486	00	
X MISC	1486	00	

Dec

on hand

Checks for Cash

Total

Some buttons
Bible book for
Mach
Pretzels
Prescriptions
Photo supplies
Salt
photo floods
photo paper
Jamboree
knives
Xmas tree
rogs
Bathhouse
Papers, books, stationery
Cards
Baby clothes
day clean
Pants
T-shirt repair
Prescriptions
Prescriptions
den of Papians
Prescriptions
Yarns
Papers & some groceries

8

Chicken - Arrived March 13-1953

	135	25	Total
(Ewing's Hatching)			
Wendell, Mead	\$55.00	\$5.25	\$60.25
Starter - Tazette (Pinn)			8.30
Starter (Pillsbury)			5.94
Starter			5.90
Bromation			9.50
			4.75
			14.00
Lighter			\$108.60
April 28. 6 wks. old - Cornish Hump weighed 1 1/2 - 2 lbs.			9.50
4-28-53 Bromation			9.50
5-6 Bromation			9.50
5-14			2.00
Staw			9.50
5-20 Bromation			9.50
5-27			9.50
5-27			9.50
5-24 - 11 wks. old - Cornish Hump - Rooster 5 lbs.			9.60
6-3 Bromation			9.60
6-14			9.60
6-18			9.60
7-2			9.60
7-10			4.85
Wheat - Bromation			1.00
			4.85
7-16			4.85
7-25 Bromation			4.85
8-3 Laying Meat			4.85
8-20 Laying Meat			4.85
			\$222.60



Budget - Chicken record 1953



**Bruce, Janet (top) Susan, Nancy (middle)
Chris, David (front)**



**Bruce, Eldred, Janet
David, Lois, Susan, Nancy
Jeane, Chris, Ellen**





Arias & Mabel Belnap family 1952



**Helena, Ted, Eldred, Sharon, Joy
Ralph, Mildred, Arias, Mable, Donald, Lois, Gordon**

Belnap family 1956



Belnap family 1963

The following writings of Lois reflect her priorities and values during this time:

The most important person in my life is Eldred, and we agreed at the time of our marriage to always be a team, and to always keep our spiritual goals foremost. Our family is very important to us, and we have always put them first in our lives and every decision has been made with them upper-most in our minds.

I made up my mind early to have as few regrets as possible in my life. I set my personal and family goals within the scriptures and several of my favorite scriptures helped me direct my family: "Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven," "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart." We tried to foresee what might be of benefit in our family. We have always held a "family home evening," long before it was formally established within the L.D.S. church, and all of our children received "Triple Combinations" of the scriptures on their 12th or 13th birthday. Our three sons are Eagle Scouts and served LDS missions, and Jeane served for three years as a tour guide on the Temple Square Mission in Salt Lake. They are all good members of our church, and we believe the family is of prime importance.

Other things we did to promote family:

- Every birthday was celebrated with a birthday party and a "fancy" cake. As a result their best friends are their family and they all love to be at home together. We have always celebrated every wedding anniversary at home with a special dinner together. We keep in close contact by telephone, letter, and visits where possible, and I wrote letters to at least five children per week who were away from home.
- We made our own personal Christmas cards with a picture every year until too many left home. This became our yearly family history and as a result most of the kids take pictures and have interesting records of their own families.

I honestly tried to give each individual child the attention and help he needed. I told each one that I would personally help them do anything that they wanted to undertake, and this alone led me into many different fields and interests and my life became rich and full because of each child and our family experience together. I always tried to hold the baby myself in church, because I felt it was my personal responsibility to teach each individual member. I feel very close to each child, and they were always confiding in me and telling me of their joys and problems.

Through the years, they were all actively involved in family, church, and community service.

These activities kept Lois busy and in 1976 she wrote that she was the family chauffeur for the following::

- a. dancing classes
- b. trips to Provo
- c. taking grandparents to Salt Lake and Centerville
- d. shopping trips to town and to library for children who don't drive
- e. car pool for early morning seminary class at 6:45 am
- f. taking out campaign brochures
- g. 4-H meetings and activities

- h. church events and social activities
- i. a few occasions when traveling
- j. physical exams
- k. dentist
- l. school teacher daughter when car not available

We are proud of our family. It hasn't always been easy to accomplish our goals or desires. Money has always been scarce, but because of this we have appreciated our own efforts, learned to work, learned to be thrifty, make our own bread, pastries, meals, sew our own clothes, can our own fruits and vegetables, learn to build a fruit cellar which would work, economize especially for education. We never could afford allowances, but they always had what they needed to our knowledge. Talking about economizing—I didn't like the way the barber cut Eldred's hair so we bought a set of clippers and I have always cut his hair as well as all of the family. It has saved us a lot of money.

The following entry for an essay contest in 1978 describes her thoughts about family:

“Why I like my Family”

I like my family because they still like me!
 Even after – 35 years of marriage and eight children.
 Even after – childish squabbles and both “offenders” were punished.
 Even after – insisting nutritional foods came first in spite of Grandma's candy.
 Even after – early bedtimes were upheld with only one story a piece.
 Even after – TV shows were monitored after studies were completed.
 Even after – waiting for all to arrive home so we could all eat together as a family.
 Even after – reading the Scriptures together.
 Even after – table manners were insisted upon.
 Even after – baths were taken, and hands always clean.
 Even after – work was completed before play began.
 Even after – 4H books were “perfect.”
 Even after – animals were regularly fed and chickens tended.
 Even after – the garden was weeded and watered.
 Even after – giving up one's bed for company.
 Even after – babysitting younger children, and for no pay.
 Even after – berries were picked and potatoes dug.
 Even after – fruit was bottled, in spite of little hands and cut fingers.
 Even after – flowers were planted.
 Even after – baking 1265 cookies for a wedding.
 Even after – helping to decorate birthday cakes.
 Even after – helping to trim the Christmas tree.
 Even after – not having any spending money.
 Even after – packing for a camping trip.
 Even after – shopping all day.
 Even after – losing a battle over corrective shoes.
 Even after – sometimes having to walk to school.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO ENTER
 FAMILY WEEKLY'S
 ESSAY CONTEST**

On the Theme
**“WHY I LIKE MY
 FAMILY”**



Send in your entry of 100 to 300 words
DEADLINE: NOV. 7, 1978

Here Are All the Rules!
 Enter Now. Don't Delay. No Entry Fee.

Even after – practicing the piano or violin.
Even after – sitting hours on hard benches in church.
Even after – not having their own automobile.
Even after – setting their own goals and standards.
Even after – realizing they were responsible for their own actions.
Even after – – – – –

I love my family, and they love me!

Education was especially important. Eldred said, “We won’t send you to college, but we will help you every way possible if you want to go.” I never worked outside the home even when money was tight, feeling that the kids would be more careful with their own earned money—and they were. They always felt it was a privilege to earn their own money. They put themselves through school, and all the kids have one degree, and some have two or three and all are able to support themselves and their families. I enjoy my children and watching them grow to responsible adults. We figured that they have 48 years of university education together.

Through the years Lois continued to study and learn; she attended many symposiums and seminars offered at BYU, Utah State University, the USU Extension office, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in Los Angeles and San Francisco and Salt Lake City, and church groups. She was an avid reader, stayed current with world events, enjoyed documentaries and concerts on TV, loved her computer, email and indexing. She was preparing to pursue her Bachelors via Independent Study after she moved to Cove Point but changed her focus when she called to be Relief Society President.

Lois was also an excellent seamstress making many clothing items for herself and her family. For a number of years, she also created patterns and made dance costumes for many of the children. At some dance revues, 2 or 3 costumes were required for each person. Her sewing extended to others as well; just before her mother died, she made Mabel an Easter dress.

Susan called one morning, “Mom, I’m up for queen of Heritage Halls, I need that centerpiece I made you for Mother’s Day for my creative exhibit, will you box it up and send it by bus? I have to have it by 3 o’clock.” Instead I made a flying trip to Provo. A year later, when she was to crown the new queen, she called wondering if I thought she could take the pink off her white formal and add a new trim as they had just changed the colors of the invitational to purple and white and her blue or red dresses just wouldn’t do. We did a quick consultation and Eldred decided that if I could manage the sewing, Susan needed a new dress for this probably once-in-a-lifetime event. We telephoned, “Hold everything, we’ll be down tomorrow afternoon with a purple dress.” Upon arrival, we made a few minor alterations and even had a couple of hours to spare! Her roommates couldn’t believe that Susan’s Daddy picked out the material for her new dress, her mother and sister sewed it and brought it down to make her look like a queen. Susan said, “I should have known I could count on you!”

Lois enjoyed photography, gardening, cooking, sewing, reading the scriptures, and associating with many wonderful friends. My special joy is our family and I loved being part of their activities. I’ve been active in the PTA, served as room mother, was treasurer of the Weber High School PTA, and best of all served as a Den Mother!

Through the years, Lois was tireless in her devotion to family and helped in any way needed. She drove kids back and forth to college, she made a road trip with Nancy to take her to UCLA, and she and dad helped move David and family to and from Spokane (Gonzaga), helped with new babies, babysat grandkids, and assisted in the care of her neighbors, parents, aunts and siblings. In her journal, she recorded that after Luetta had a heart attack (Nov of 1978); she helped with meals, spent the night, and sometimes had Luetta and Hilmar stay at their home.

Cooking and Canning

Lois was an excellent cook and made wonderful meals for her family. She describes her mother as a good cook and followed her example making wonderful bread and rolls. She wrote, I guess my favorite meal was roast beef, potatoes and gravy, peas and homemade ice cream. Often we would have bottled fruit for dessert.

Family meals were well made and well balanced. Vegetables and a green salad were always served along with the main dish and many of these came from their own garden. She wanted the plate to be colorful and be nutritious. Spaghetti, macaroni and cheese, hamburger patties with boiled potatoes, roast beef dinners, fried chicken, meat loaf with scalloped potatoes, "meat things" (which were a meatloaf mixture baked inside of biscuit dough), pork chops, beef stew and chili were family favorites. For many years the family raised 50-100 chickens. To preserve them through the winter they were killed and cleaned and then frozen in a rented meat locker in a North Ogden grocery store. She liked pickles and pickled beets served along with meals. Several times a week she made many loaves of bread, rolls, and cookies (oatmeal, chocolate chip, "Washboard" cookies and others.) French Butter Cream cookies were made by the hundreds for several family weddings. Often for Sunday dinner the "Starlight" cake was made in a long pan and sometimes with half vanilla frosting and half chocolate frosting. Chopped nuts or coconut were sometimes sprinkled on top. Bottled raspberries or other fruit were served for dessert. She made waffles for special breakfasts.

The following journal entries are typical of the many that describe some of the meals and food preparation:

"Jan 11, 1983 The juice was good (breakfast). In a gallon pitcher we make – 1 qt. apricot juice, 1 -12 oz can orange juice, 1 – 46 oz can pineapple juice and a little sugar to sweeten the apricot juice and 3 cans water for the orange juice and it fills it right up – it is so delicious!"


"March 4, 1983 Decided to bake bread and pies for Julie and Susan. Baked 11 loaves of bread plus one from freezer gave them both six loaves of bread and I baked each a blackcap pie. Took the pies boiling hot – left here at 4:25 and delivered Julie's first. She had just hurt her back again and was miserable. Went to the Schmidts..."

"1983 – Janet and family visiting for a month – 4 weeks, 1470 meals."

I remember smelling my mother's chili sauce or tomato relish. The children said that they knew I was doing chili sauce when they got about to 1000 West and Pleasant View Dr. They all liked it except Ellen.

Eldred would come home from work and “sniff” and “sniff” the smell. He said once, “If they could just bottle that fragrance it would be worth a million dollars.” I always enjoyed making it, but it took many hours in preparation, cooking it etc. I was always glad when I had it done.







Here's what's cookin' *Chili Sauce* Serves 4-6

Recipe from the kitchen of Lois Erickson

12 large ripe tomatoes
 2 large onions
 4 green peppers
 2 Tbl. salt
 1/2 cup sugar
 1 tsp. cinnamon
 1 tsp. ground cloves
 2 1/2 cup vinegar

Peel the tomatoes & onions, remove seeds from peppers and chop them





What I remember about my Mom.
 David Erickson

If I were to mention just one or two things, it would have to be her diligence and her great cooking. She would always wake early, work hard, and be incredibly busy all day long. I never remember her idle. She seemed interested in everything and was constantly reading and learning. Meals were always timely prepared for the whole family and were delicious. I would rather eat one of my Mom's meals than at any of the finest restaurants.

Canning 1987 *This is just one year listed. While it shows the variety of the items, some years, many more times these amounts were canned for the family.*

Blackcap-raspberry and apple jam – 29 pints
or glasses (June and July)

Apricot and pineapple jam – 19 pints or
glasses (July)

Raspberries – 15 pints (June & July)

Blackcaps – 8 pints (June and July)

Cherries – 25 pints

Cherry pie filling – 6 pints (July)

Apricot juice – 12 quarts 4 pints (July)

Green beans 13 – pints (July)

Applesauce – 30 pints (July)

Pickled beets – 4 ½ pints (used spice recipe in
Blue Book) July

Pickles – 23 pints sours (July and Aug)

Dill – 13 quarts (July and Aug)

Apricots – dried 9 quarts (July)

Leather – 10 trays

Peaches – 18 pints 7 quarts (August)

Prunes – dried - 6 quarts (August)

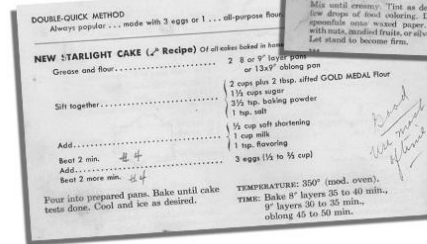
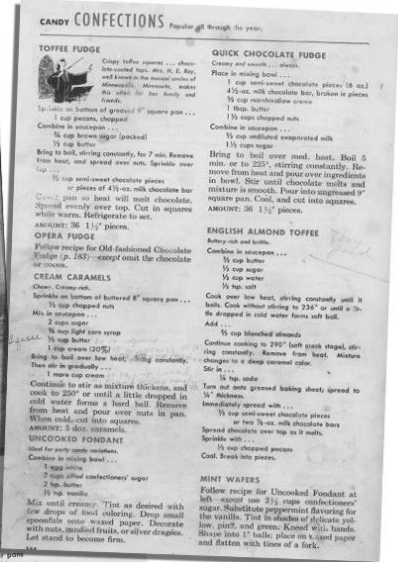
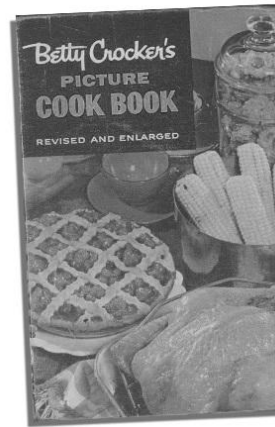
Chili sauce – 32 pints (Sept) Oct 13 pints

Cincinnati plums juice – 23 ½ quarts
(August)

Grape juice – 50 quarts 3 pints (Sept)

Tomato juice – 30 ½ quarts (Oct)

Pumpkin – 10 pints (Nov)



Holidays

Christmas was a very special time for our family. *Many years Lois worked hard making special Christmas dresses. She always planned wonderful meals and Christmas treats; making and decorating sugar cookies was one tradition we all enjoyed.* When the family was complete with our eight children, we would open presents at home, hurry to visit the Belnaps, and hurry back to the Ericksons for Christmas dinner. It was a full, but happy day!



Christmas 1978 we were altogether as a family!

**Jim, David, Chris, Eldred, Randy,- Keith,
Bruce – Cindy, Susan, Julie – Michael,
Nancy, Ellen, Lois – Amy, Jeane,
Janet – Karl, Jo – Heather, Darren,
Brent, Rachel, John, Kevin, Kent, Karen,
Kendall, Lara, Michele, Heidi**



These journal entries describe the holiday: December 25, 1978 Christmas day!



“December 25, 1978 – Monday - a wonderful day! Got up at 7:30 a.m. Separate piles for Bruce's and Janet's families and our kids. A large group of Santa's gifts extended from the tree - across the fireplace and in front of the TV were all the stockings. Each group opened theirs.”

“December 26th 1978 – Tuesday – got up about 8 a.m., cooked bacon and ham, waffles, juice and milk for 31 – everyone here – doubled my waffle batch – and filled up everyone. Used two giant bottles of Log Cabin Syrup – ha! Also apple syrup, chokecherry jelly, grape jelly, apricot jam and honey etc. Everyone seemed happy.”

Lois described their Thanksgiving celebration in November 1981 – “Got our turkey 30.4 lbs. – just short of \$25 – then the total cost of the groceries was \$91.76, the most I have ever bought at one time and the largest turkey we have ever had. Chris and Eldred went in to the folks’ place to get the table. When they got back we put up the two matching tables in the room and they stretched from the fireplace almost to the east wall. ...We all helped do 45 cups of bread for the dressing. Thanksgiving day Nov 26, 1981 – The kids helped fix the tables; used our Haviland and new Newport China and set for 30 people – Jeane fixed place cards. We had quite a group: Annie and Emil Johnstun (Jo’s folks) Bruce, Jo, Michelle, Lara, Cindy, Heidi, Heather and Mark; Susan, Jim, Brent, Darren, Amy and Andrea; Mother and Dad Erickson (ages 87 & 86), Helen, Eric, Barbara, Cori, Kathy, Debby (Dana and others at home) Chris, Ellen, Jeane, (2 roommates from BYU). We all gathered at this beautiful long table and Eldred asked the blessing – it was wonderful. Our dinner was: apricot, orange & pineapple fruit punch, turkey, gravy, white mashed potatoes, corn and green beans, white rolls, dressing, candied yams and pumpkin pies from Helen, olives and celery from Barbara, blackcap and apple pies from Susan, whole wheat rolls from Jo – also butter, olives, ham for Lara; chips, cream pies. It was lovely – the folks seemed happy to be here.”

Family Trips



We have tried to take at least one trip each year with the family. Many years it was just two or three days to Yellowstone, but we learned so much together. We purchased a Volkswagen bus for all ten of us and went to the Seattle World's Fair in 1962; and then Grandma and Grandpa and others went to make 16. Finances were close but we picnicked all the way, played on the beaches and saw everything at the fair. Since then we have had more "expensive" trips. We took 8 into San Francisco after David's wedding and stayed in Holiday Inn in the center of town

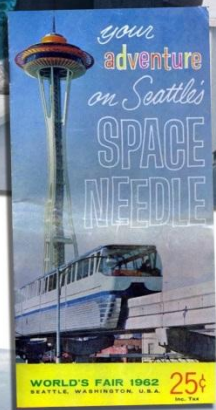
and all went into Chinatown and Fisherman's Wharf, etc., and this was a treat from a tent or small cabin.

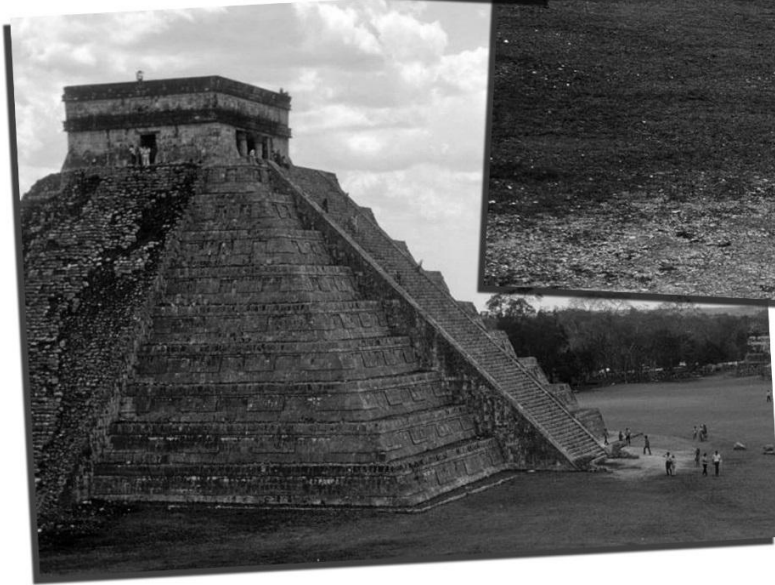


Southern Utah

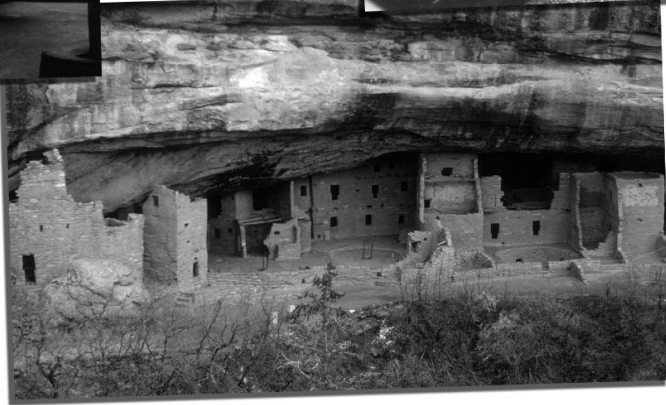
In 1975 we went east to visit Janet who lived in Ohio. Nine of us drove cross-country, stayed in motels. It was expensive, but very enjoyable, interesting and we learned a lot. Janet and her family joined us and we toured Canada, the east coast, New York, Boston, Washington D.C., Gettysburg, and visited the birthplaces of our church and nation. Because of it, we enjoyed the Bicentennial celebrations in a new light. The remark around here is, "If you're going on a trip, can we go too?" No one wants to be left home.

Eldred and I had only spent one night away from our family until 1974 when we had the opportunity to go to Texas and on to Mexico. It was a wonderful trip!





In July 1979 we had gone as a family to follow the old pioneer trail and ended up in Yellowstone Park. In the dark and around the campfire with the ukulele, we started singing. Soon voices from around other campfires joined in and the peaceful night air was filled with melodies. One song we remember was “The Yellow Rose of Texas” requested from our new unknown Texas camping neighbors. Request after request was called out and spontaneous applause broke forth as favorite state songs were sung. “Green Green” and “You are my Sunshine” are typical of this memorable evening and many others.



Church Callings and Experiences

Within a few years of moving to Pleasant View in 1951, Eldred was called into the Bishopric. Lois supported him in his calling and worked hard in hers. She was the Primary chorister for many years when Primary was held during the week. She was enthusiastic and made very creative visual aids that helped the children learn the songs and enjoy singing them. We can remember fun Halloween songs with pumpkins, "5 Little Speckled Frogs" that could jump up and down, "If you chance to meet a frown," "Once a little Puppy," "Jumbo Elephant," and many more. One special primary, arrangements were made for Clara McMaster to visit and the primary sang her new song, "Teach Me to Walk in the Light."



Pleasant View Chapel



Pleasant View Ward Bishopric & Wives

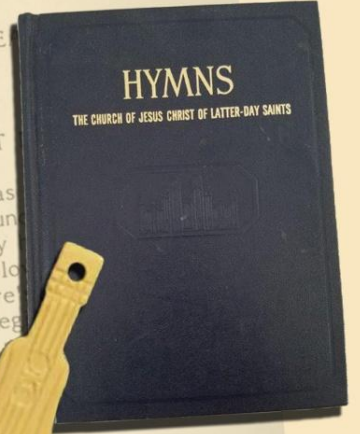
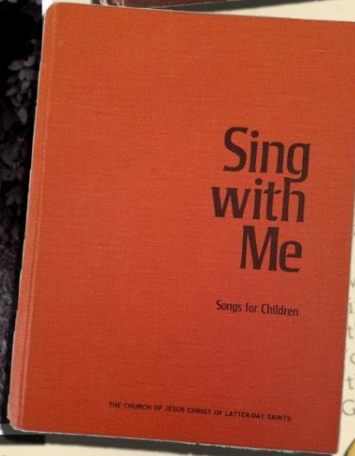
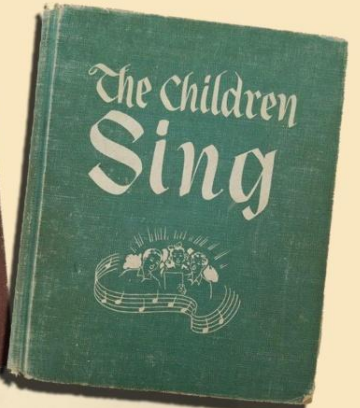
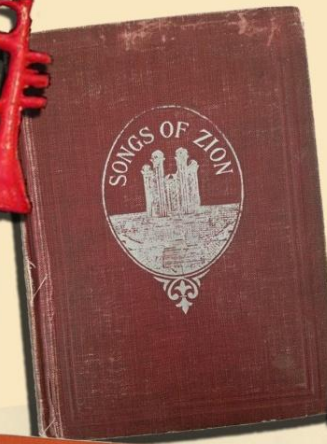
In the early 60's I was asked by the bishopric to organize a youth chorus, and we had a large attendance even when we had to meet in homes since there was no room in the building. We had very good accompanists and also sang with the organ as did our choirs later on. We selected officers and members from each part to notify others, if necessary. We decided on a time for practice not to exceed 45 minutes, and started and stopped on time. With cooperation from the bishopric we would sing a vocal prelude, one special number, and maybe the closing hymn if suitable to the program. We sang many hymns of the restoration, and cantatas until the wards were not encouraged to use cantatas.

Lois wrote the following article about Ward Choirs and Music in the church:

Many times I've been asked "Why doesn't the choir sing songs like they used to?" or "Why don't we have a choir now?" A successful choir requires complete dedication to it from the priesthood brethren. Some men are not interested in music in spite of the recommendation from the First Presidency as stated in the 1985 hymnal.

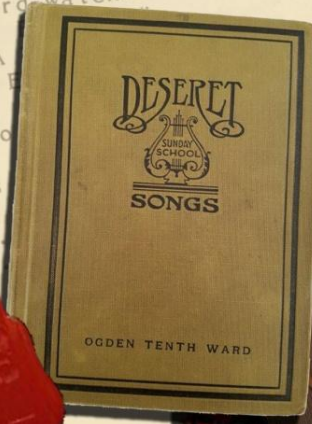
I was a music director for many years for a youth chorus (which performed many beautiful Easter and Christmas cantatas with special written messages), Sunday School Music Director, Primary, and also YWMIA, and Relief Society. In following the Music Handbook carefully I found many suggestions, and we had ward and stake organist and directors classes. We were blessed to have such people as Spencer W. Cornwall, Frank Asper, Alexander Schreiner, Richard P. Condie, Lester Hinchcliff, and many others to give us instruction.

Music

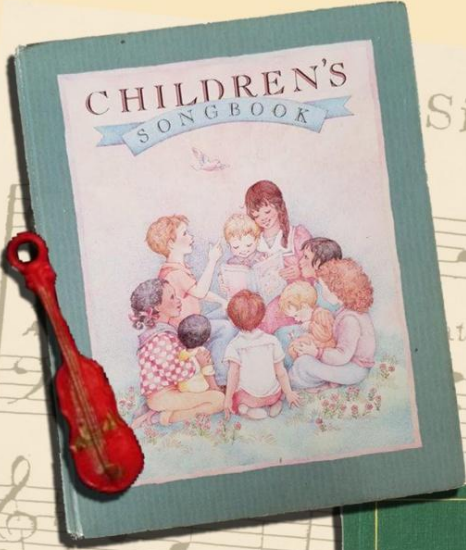


Organ
Vocal
Welc
Open
Invo
Bus
Sac

"Jesus Christ"
Sacrament.....
CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE
Reader.....Lloyd Hawkes
Recitation Participants.....Matt Robinson,
Janet Barker, Jennifer Barrow, Alicia Wells,
Danielle Christensen, Dacia Mathis, Brian Lee
Music:....."Joy To The World"
"O Little Town of Bethlehem"
"When Joseph Went to Bethlehem"
"Mary's Lullaby to the Infant King"
"While Shepherd Watched"
Page 33- "Far
"One Within A



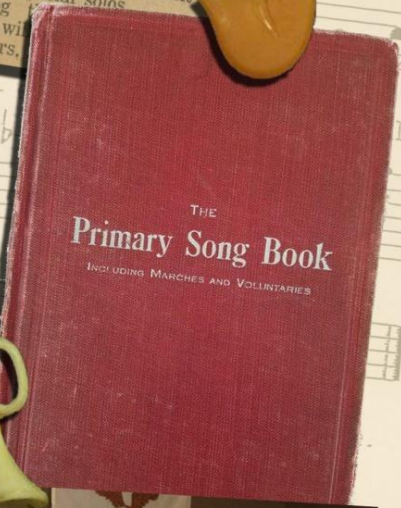
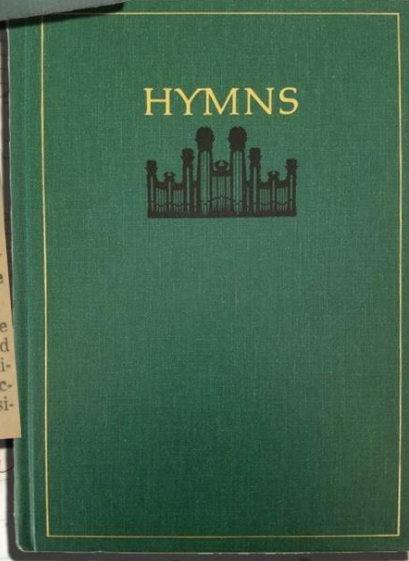
Music



Sing Your Way Home
(S.A.B. or S.T.B.)
C7

Max 26 1965
Pleasant View Ward
Will Hear Cantata
PLEASANT VIEW — "Sunrise over Calvary," an Easter cantata, will be presented Sunday at 5 p.m. in the Pleasant View Ward Sacrament services.
The ward youth chorus, directed by Mrs. Lois Erickson, will sing. There will be a reading text by Cragun and special solos. Following members will sing: Mrs. [unclear]

April 17 - 1960
Pleasant View Ward
Will Hear Chorus
PLEASANT VIEW — A youth chorus of 25 voices will present an Easter cantata, "Sunrise over Calvary," tomorrow at 7 p.m. in the ward chapel.
The young chorus members are from 12 to 20 years of age and have been practicing under the direction of Mrs. Lois Erickson. Accompanist is Mrs. LouJean Pulsipher.



Pleasant View 7th Ward
August 1985.

President - Earl Harris 9675
Librarian - Loby Harris 8076
Social Chairman -

Bishop Rodney Garner 782-4088
Michael Wright - 616
Lynn Maycock - 4

James Laughton 782-7522
Mad Phone 782-5670
Jean Pulsipher - 9324



My daughter Susan and I have attended many church music workshops at BYU and I read carefully every “staff note” article that came. I have tried to keep learning about music; I am not an accomplished music director, but I make up for it with enthusiasm and dedication.

After moving to Pleasant View, Bishop Jay Rhees asked me to organize a youth chorus with the help of Weldon Cragun and Jean Pulsipher (both played piano and organ). Our youth group continued through several bishoprics, and we had great enjoyment. Often we would have refreshments or an ice cream party, and sometimes, the youth created pastel drawings for Christmas, and Easter which were hung at the front of the chapel over the choir.

We sang hymns of the restoration, cantatas (till they were discouraged), and favorite songs of Christmas and Easter. It was suggested that all choir music come from the new 1985 hymnal, but later we were given permission to sing songs and hymns such as “Thanks be to God,” “The Lord’s Prayer,” and various numbers from the LDS choir book. We eventually sang Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus” with Weston Harris (later a student of Alexander Schreiner) as organist. We had large choirs made up of devoted and dedicated people of all ages, and our music contributed much to our ward services. I am especially grateful for the blessings of love and friendship that have come to me through my callings as music director.

Throughout the years I served as music director in Sunday School, Primary, YWMIA, and choir director. My philosophy has been to encourage all to sing if they have the desire...I have always said, “What we lack in musical ability, we make up in enthusiasm.” *She especially enjoyed working with the youth, and once, in speaking about music she quoted an old advertisement, “If you teach a boy to blow a horn, he’ll never blow a safe!”* Music was beneficial in so many ways.

In December 1985 she tells in her journal of preparing for a musical program: “Practiced songs for Christmas program. I am very impressed with it. I had a dream one night and heard the first part of it and the theme, ‘Jesus Christ, the Son of God is born.’ I had to read and work up all the scriptures, but it has been a thrilling experience –songs just came to me or I would open a page and there would be a song to fit the particular part or place. I hope it will turn out well...”

As a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Lois found many opportunities for learning, teaching, and leading. She has had callings in all of the auxiliary organizations. These callings include: teaching Sunday School at age 16, serving as a Gleaner teacher and as President of the YWMIA, Cultural Refinement teacher, Education counselor and President in the Relief Society, Primary teacher, Sunday School Coordinator and Cub Scout den leader. She was a member of the Ogden Stake Sunday School Board and the Pleasant View Utah Stake Relief Society Board. She was an original Golden Gleaner (1940), a dance director, wrote road-shows with original music and directed the stage production of Promised Valley in Pleasant View. She especially enjoyed the many years she served as a chorister and choir director, and she wrote many original programs. She was excited to direct a hymn at a stake conference when Joseph Fielding Smith, Jr. and his wife, Jessie Evans Smith were present.

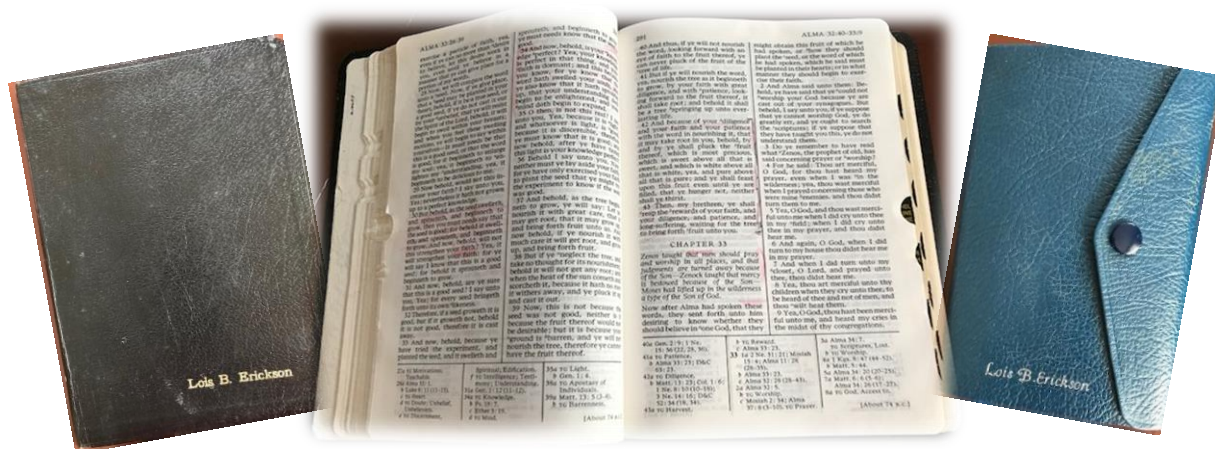
Lois was active several days a week with church activities. Until the early 80’s, Primary was held on Tuesdays and Relief Society was held on Thursdays. She also kept busy with going to the temple, visiting teaching, holding Family Home Evening, studying the scriptures and watching General Conference.

One Sunday in 1978 when it was her turn to conduct Relief Society, she shared her testimony: “I bore my testimony to the goodness of God in blessing my life—cited part of my patriarchal blessing which stated, ‘I can accomplish every task assigned, if I but pray to the Lord for help.’ Stated I had to do my part... Thanked Lord for our wonderful family and for the people (sisters) of the ward who mean so much to me and have helped me and our family so much.”

While waiting for Sacrament meeting to start (1978) Bishop Jimmie Hill asked me to give the Opening prayer in Sacrament meeting. I am the second woman in the ward to pray in Sacrament Mtg. (Marilyn Hill was first) just since Oct conference and Pres. Kimball announced women could now pray in Sacrament Meeting. I was nervous—not so much at giving the prayer, but all my life I have just expected men to do this. I have never resented men’s authority anywhere, and especially not in the church so it was quite an occasion for me. I was grateful for the opportunity and grateful to be able to publicly thank my Heavenly Father by praying for the congregation.

In 1979 when they were honoring the newly released RS Presidency in the Pleasant View ward they said, “The following statement reminds us of Sister Lois. ‘What more beautiful proof could there be that life is meant for sharing. Kindness and compassion, understanding and encouragement, trust and joy—these are the gifts that add purpose to living.’ Sister Lois is very knowledgeable in the gospel, and civic affairs. She loves to study and learn. She is a stalwart defender of church and state and is not afraid to speak out on issues that are important to her. It takes one like her to prod some of the rest of us to be aware and to care. Sister Lois is not afraid to tackle anything. She is always prepared. She is thoughtful and does many kind things for others, yet does it quietly and without thought of recognition or praise. She enjoys expressing love to others and is a very successful Mother and wife!”

Lois loved the scriptures and spent time daily reading and studying them. I received my own Bible from Eldred in 1989 when the scriptures were revised and reprinted with the chapter headings and the Topical guide. I had always used our family Bible before but had not one of my own. Years ago members were not urged to read the scriptures as they are now. I had a Triple Combination given me by Mildred before I was married, and I used it, and as I’ve grown older the scriptures, all of them, are very dear to me. They are a great comfort to me—I can never get enough of them and the words of the living prophets.



“President Harward visited me and asked me to be the Cove Point Relief Society President.” (April 24, 2004) *She attended Correlation meetings and Sacrament meeting on Sundays and Sunday school in the afternoon. Relief Society was held on Tuesdays. She conducted, taught lessons and frequently bore her testimony and attended the temple. She also led the choir at Cove Point. She was released as Relief Society President in June 2009 after being hospitalized and in rehab for several weeks.*

General Conference

I always said that conference time was my vacation time—just to relax and listen. I have also tried to take notes, but often on the Friday and Saturday I’d sew on things or make a dress etc. Sometimes I’d work on my “quilt”—I never expect to get it done, ha! But it has been a symbol of keeping busy doing something for me. I appreciate this opportunity of being together—the children are all so dear—this includes grandchildren too. *(The quilt to which she refers was one she bought as part of her trousseau and required both appliqué and embroidery; Susan eventually finished it for her and mother got to enjoy it for several years.)*



Conference was wonderful and we all appreciated being together (written April 1981). It was just like old times. We sat together and listened to every conference, sewed or painted on Fridays and Saturday and did scrapbooks or quiet things on Sunday. We always wore dresses and acted as though we were in church. I am grateful to the Lord for these choicest of moments. I am impressed to write of my grandmother, Emma Oakason (Harris). I remember her sitting in the front room at 1080 – 22nd Street on Sunday, best dressed and her hair all combed and sitting in front of her Atwater Kent radio listening to conference. She never missed and mother did the same thing, except in the fall (and generally on my birthday, Oct 7th) then we would go to Salt Lake and attend in the Tabernacle. We liked to sit in the balcony near the entrance and the smallest ones (Donald, Gordon) would play on the steps when they got tired. We loved it, and I have always remembered it as a very special treat. I have taken notes of the talks for many, many, years – helps me stay awake and remember better. Ha! Most of all it helps me stay close to the spirit.

Frequently Lois bore her testimony, “I know God and Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior live and I am so grateful for this knowledge. I try to live so that I might have his spirit to be with me at all times – once I said in a testimony meeting, ‘I try to live so that I might receive a spiritual experience every day – and I can truthfully say, God does live; hears and answers our prayers – even little ‘insignificant’ desires and helps almost immediately, and helps me through each day.’ I can’t remember when I received a testimony. I feel I have always had one. I remember as a young girl sitting in the Twentieth Ward Chapel and feeling, ‘Yes, I can say I know God lives.’ I am so grateful for a loving Father and his kindnesses to me.”

Community Service & Volunteerism

4-H

4-H really blessed our family. It is a college course on a child's level, and we gained great knowledge about preparing food, clothing, canning, childcare, photography, gardening, chickens, pheasants, pigs, steer, weeds, grains, electricity, public speaking, demonstrations, tours, home and community beautification. Eldred started the first photography club in the state. Our children and others of the community were involved in over 103 clubs, and many community beautification projects were completed with pride. We received grants for the city to plant trees, flowers and shrubbery; parents and the community were involved and friendships were strengthened.

All eight children were involved in the 4H program and earned honor trips to Chicago to the National Conference.

Eldred presented the Eldred H. Erickson award in 1978 for neatness of records – 2 \$10 awards. He wore his new grey suit with the vest and looked sharp! I received a state certificate for health – actually for our health program last year when we did the foods booth on July 4th.

We had been involved with all of our children in 4-H and Jeane's last year was 1979. *On Oct 6, 1980 she records*, "Eldred and I went to Wahlquist School for 4-H Achievement Night. We presented the Erickson Family Awards - \$10 to a boy and \$10 to a girl for good record books...then I received my 25-year pin."



PLEASANT VIEW WOMAN CITED FOR 4-H SERVICE

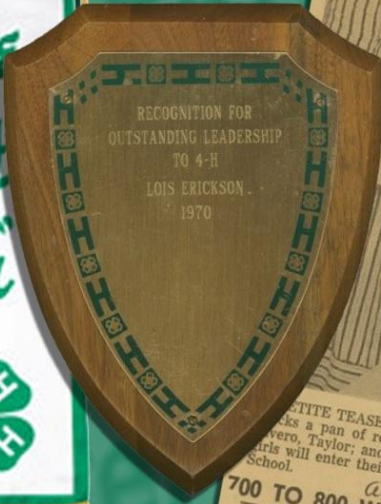
PLEASANT VIEW — Mrs. Eldred Erickson of 1071 W. Pleasant View Drive was one of six Utah 4-H leaders to receive the 1972 Utah Farm Bureau leadership award.

Mrs. Erickson has been a 4-H leader for 17 years including roles as project leader, community supervisor and key leader.

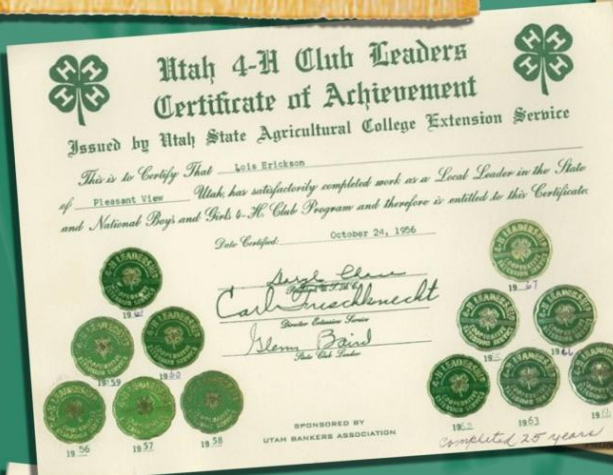
She has initiated several citizenship and community service projects involving scores of youth. She also is active in PTA, multiple sclerosis and Farm Bureau affairs.

Six of her eight children have earned trips to the National 4-H Congress and the other two are working toward that goal.

Lois and Eldred were honored for twenty-five years in 4H, and she was 4H community supervisor for eleven years. She spent several years working as the chairman of the community beautification committee and she and the city received state awards. Lois was the recipient of the Farm Bureau Award, and the Community Service Award from the Standard Oil Company, and she obtained various grants for their projects.

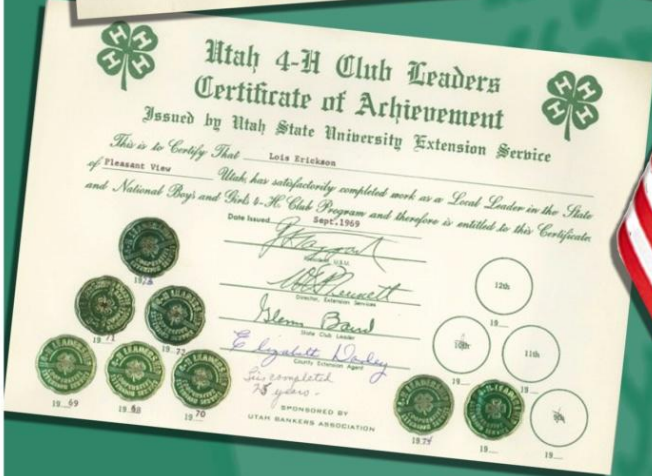


SMALL TEASERS — Mrs. Eldred Erickson, 4-H Club leader in Pleasant View, makes a pan of rolls made by Carol Erickson, 4-H Club leader in Pleasant View, Taylor, and fruit bottled by her daughter, Janet Erickson (left to right). The girls will enter their articles in the annual 4-H Club exhibit this week at Weber High School.
 Aug. 23, 1960
700 TO 800 WEBER GIRLS



Summer 4-H Exhibit To Be Shown Friday

Articles are being judged today and tomorrow by visiting judges from Davis and Cache County Extension Service. On Thursday from 1 to 3:30 p.m. the 4-H Club...

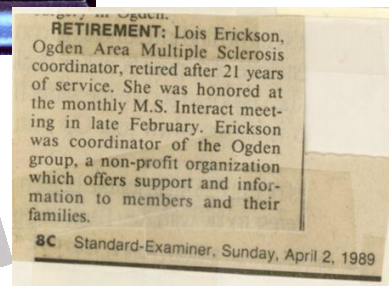
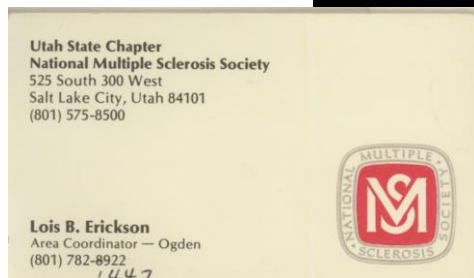
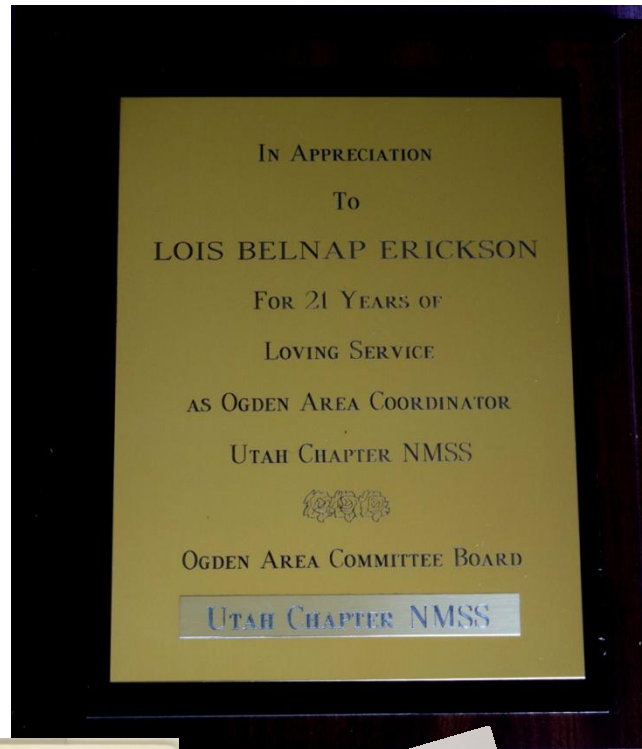


Community Volunteer

After Eldred completed his term as Mayor he became the Justice of the Peace (1970), and Lois served as Bail Commissioner. She also served in Pleasant View on various committees such as Transportation and Urban Development Committee, of which Perry Barker was chairman.

Later, she served for 14 years with Marjorie Strand as RSVP volunteers (1990s) at the Senior Citizen's Center in North Ogden.

Multiple Sclerosis Society



Eldred was a field advisor for the state of Utah and had a desk at the Employment Security Office. A call came in for someone who had medical knowledge and could type, and they approached him to see if, as

Bishop, he might know someone in his ward who could fill the position. Eldred came home and said he thought this was a job for me, and I said, "No, thanks, we have our last child in school and now I am going to have some time to paint, take organ lessons, finish baby books, and do some other things I have been waiting to do." Eldred persisted saying that I should get out and see how the other half of the world lives. Reluctantly, I applied and was interviewed by Glenn Child and Dean Christiansen and was hired. My first problem was that I couldn't even spell "multiple sclerosis," but I learned that and many things from the doctors, nurses, therapists, patients and staff and they truly opened the world to me.

Lois wrote in her "Life Stories" Christmas 2007: I was always thinking up things to do to help to make these MS people happy... We had a nice group of chairmen and board members. I would prepare the newsletters, type business letters, prepare the food for our parties, and I got them to send the Ideals Magazine for our people. We did lots of interesting and fun things on a very small amount of money. When the office was moved to our home in Pleasant View, the children would help fold letters and help at seminars and parties.

Originally I was the Ogden Chapter Director, and after we merged with Salt Lake, I was named the Ogden Area Director. For a time I was invited to meetings in Salt Lake and became acquainted with Sterling W. Sill, a General Authority of the Church, who was a Salt Lake Board Member. He was friendly and very interesting to talk with. I remained with the NMSS for 21 years. I had many experiences and made many friends.

When we were an Ogden Chapter several National Conventions were held, and the board always felt that I should attend. I had never been away from my family before that, but I went on three that were very special. One was in Los Angeles, and Marjorie Strand went with me. My first plane ride was a new experience; checking into an elaborate hotel and then going to the meetings with "celebrities" were all memorable. One was to the 25th Anniversary Conference, October 15-18, 1971 in Los Angeles, CA. Sylvia Mowry, the founder of the National MS Society was present, plus many of the National Board, and the guest was Shirley Temple Black, who was not only a famous child movie star at the time but was appointed Ambassador to Czechoslovakia from 1989 to 1992 for the United States. We had a daytime visit to tour the elegant Queen Mary luxury liner which is docked in CA. We enjoyed the beauty of and the elegance of the liner.

Another day we went to La Jolla to meet Jonas Salk, director of the Salk Institute. He has a most unique building at which every disease and aspect of man is studied. He is known for creating the vaccine for Polio. He spoke to us and said, "We have conquered Polio, now it is time to defeat MS." He walked around and I shook hands with him. It was a special opportunity.

One evening they held a party at the top of Bel Air; it is a private home area. The road wound around and around up to this high point from which one would view all of Los Angeles. In the outside area of the garden was a champagne fountain flowing continuously. We looked to the west and there stood the brilliantly-lighted beautiful LDS Los Angeles Temple, the view was spectacular...Memorable evening. Didn't drink champagne!

The 1979 National Multiple Sclerosis Society Chapter Conference, Western Region, was held from October 29-November 1, 1979 at the Jack Tar Hotel, In San Francisco. There were lots of meetings on various subjects, very interesting. We also had tours around San Francisco. At a dinner meeting one evening I was alone and not drinking so wandered toward the live orchestra. The conductor walked over to me and said, "Wouldn't you care for a drink," and I said, "No thanks." "Where are you from?" "Utah" "You must be a Mormon—my daughter-in-law's a very good one—she doesn't drink either." I've had such an interesting life! We never know who might be watching us, and what our example might cause them to think of us.

The following excerpts from her journals describe some of the activities she planned: Tomorrow is our MS summer picnic. I get to make the barbecue for 120 people. I've spent a while buying paper plates, cups, napkins and tomorrow will be a big day; I'll make a cake and take it too. (September 1979)

Started in on cakes – made a whole egg cake, colored pink and sprinkled with colored decoettes; one all chocolate with chocolate butter frosting and a whole egg cake with chocolate frosting; they looked and tasted good. Had ham, baked potatoes, corn, carrot and celery sticks, tossed salad, ice cream (with Christmas tree in center), and cake...about 75 attended. Was a nice MS Christmas party. (December 1980)

Got up very early 6 am and did MS all day. Got a call from Plain City Elementary to come get some (Read-a-thon) cards and bring some more kits. I took 50 and gave out 35. I left the others there. Came home and did more MS—working on letters; straightening up things, semiannual report to do and it is really something! It is very complicated and it has to have lots of details made and phone calls made. I have to do the patient list; a new board member list etc. I also need to compile the data on the Read-a-thon—about 6823 people attended the assemblies and I made over 255 calls for it. All I know is that I spent a lot of time. (October 1982)

We got to Sand Ridge Junior High school at 7:30 to begin assembly at 8 a.m. sharp! The Student body President and VP helped us and we gave an assembly and did pretty well I think. It was a nice experience but I was glad when it was over. Oct 16: Roscoe Child and I went to Washington Terrace Elementary and gave an assembly. I was glad when it was over too—hurray!! We are through for this year. I really feel I am let out of prison—ha!

I retired in March of 1989 after 21 years and was blessed to not only become acquainted with victims of this dreaded illness, but to have the opportunity of meeting prominent people throughout the United States who were working to eradicate it.

I hesitated about working for the MS, but it has opened a whole new world for our entire family, and given us a good attitude toward our own little handicapped grandchildren. It has helped us all become more loving, interested and compassionate toward others. It has helped us appreciate the many wonderful, completely dedicated people who spend their lives in the service of others. I was hired to spend eight hours a week, but with the office in our home it is practically a 24-hour-a-day job—it was worth everything.

Mother of the Year

One evening the children and Eldred announced that they were entering me in the American Mother of the year Contest. They had wanted to do it and surprise me but found that I had to make contributions. It took me by surprise! I was so pleased at their thoughtfulness, love and consideration, and the thoughtfulness of the State 4-H organization for sponsoring me. The children have all come through so magnificently and are excited—mostly just to have taken the time to reflect on their happiness at home.

Pleasant View Woman Named Mother of Year

PLEASANT VIEW — Mrs. Eldred H. Erickson of 1071 Pleasant View Drive has been chosen as the Weber County Mother of the Year.

She will be honored at a luncheon on March 27 at 1 p.m. at the Hilary House by the Ogdan-Weber County Mother of the Year Club.

On April 17 she will compete for the state title of Mother of the Year in Salt Lake City.

A graduate of Weber State College, Mrs. Erickson formerly served as secretary and business manager at the Thomas D. Dee Memorial Hospital School of Nursing.

PTA OFFICER

She is treasurer of the Weber High School PTA and has served in various offices in that organization and in the Daughters of Utah Pioneers.

She is executive director and secretary of the Ogdan Area Committee of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, and has served as divisional chairman of the Heart Fund Drive.

During the past 20 years, Mrs. Erickson has served as 4-H leader of 62 clubs and received many local, state and national awards for her leadership.

Active in the LDS Church she has directed stake youth choruses, ward choirs, musical dramas and roadshows and has served as officer and teacher in the various auxiliary organizations.

She was married to Mr. Erickson on Jan. 24, 1944.

SONS AND DAUGHTERS

They have eight sons and daughters: Capt. Bruce E.

Erickson of March Air Force Base, Riverside, Calif.; Mrs. Randall J. (Janet) Gee of Bay Village, Ohio; Mrs. James E. (Susan) Schmidt, Nancy Erickson, Ellen Erickson and Jeanne Erickson, all of Pleasant View; David B. Erickson of Roosevelt, and Chris L. Erickson, presently serving an LDS mission in Denmark.

Friends and family members of Mrs. Erickson and all past Mothers of the Year are invited to the March 27 luncheon. Reservations should be made with Mrs. Laverne Poll at 394-1593.



MRS. E. H. ERICKSON—3564; Mrs. Mattie Ray at 394-4233 or Mrs. C. J. Smout at 731-1593.

May 7, 1960

Portrait of a local mother

Ben Leonard Beason

By Carol Jean Shaw
One of the outstanding mothers of our community is Lois Erickson of Pleasant View. In fact, she was named as Weber County's Mother of the Year in 1976.

She and her husband, Eldred, have raised a large family of outstanding children, while giving thousands of hours in community and church service. The accomplishments of the Ericksons are formidable. Lois and Eldred have worked in the 4-H program for many years, and have helped more than 200 kids in 79 clubs. Lois is starting her 25th year as a 4-H leader and Eldred his 20th.

Most of the time, they had several projects going at once. They worked both together and separately to lead clubs in projects such as clothing, tennis, swimming, crops, weed control, feed raising, poultry, rocks and minerals, home beautification, child care, health, horticulture, leadership, electricity, sewing, community beautification, home improvements, food preservation, gardening, small motors, and community pride. Eldred started the first photography club in Utah several years ago.

They have also been involved in 4-H on the regional and county levels. "It really is a terrific program," said Lois. "I am really sold on it. It has really helped our family. It has united us."

All eight of the Erickson children have won trips to the National 4-H conventions in Chicago over the years, along with scholarships for college. Their daughter, Janet, also won the National Presidential Trip.

Lois and Eldred have received several awards for their 4-H leadership as well. "We wanted to give something back to 4-H," Lois said. "To do this, they started sponsoring a 4-H award themselves several years ago."

The "Eldred Erickson Family Award" is given each year to a boy and girl in his or her fifth or sixth year of 4-H for the best record book in the county.

Lois was the 4-H community supervisor for 11 years. In that capacity, she not only worked with other 4-H leaders in the area and encouraged the formation of new clubs, but coordinated projects with other groups as well. She got local PTA's, Cub Scout packs and Scout Troops involved in community improvement projects. They did a lot of things to improve the Pleasant View park and even arranged for Cub packs to take turns flying the new flags they had bought.

Eldred has been the mayor of Pleasant View, a Justice of the Peace, a bishop's counselor and bishop in their ward, and a member of the school board. He is a field auditor for the State Employment Security Office.

Lois has served on the Beautification Committee and has been a hall commissioner. She was a district Mother for the Cub Scouts for five years.

She has been a Primary and Sunday School teacher, the Junior Sunday School Coordinator, Mutual President, and counselor, Relief Society counselor, Primary chorister for 12 years and ward choir director for 10 years. Lois is presently serving on the state Relief Society Board.

Lois has been the Ogdan Area Director for the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation for the past 12 years. This is a job with a little pay and a lot of volunteer work, she explained.

She was also the Executive Director of the region for a number of years. "I have a lot of joy working with these people," she said. She has also been active in getting volunteers to make clothing for handicapped people with the Functional Fashion group.

The Ericksons have eight children: Bruce Erickson, Mrs. Randy (Janet) Gee, Mrs. James (Hans) Schmidt, David Erickson, Nancy Erickson, Chris Erickson, Ellen Erickson and Jean Erickson.

They have 18 grandchildren. Five of their children are attending college at the present time with some of them doing post-graduate work. The others are all college graduates.

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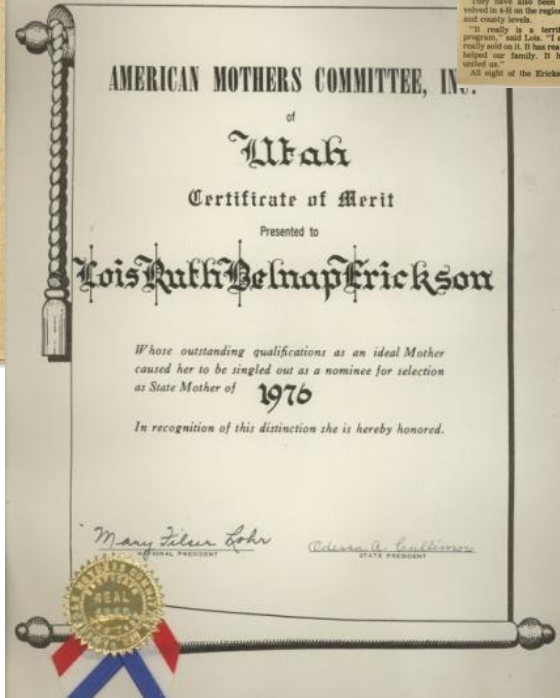
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All three of their boys have achieved the rank of Eagle in Scouting and served missions for the LDS church. "We have taught that lesson well by example."

them to take a project, follow it through, and do the best they can," said Lois. They have taught that lesson well by example.



PLEASANT VIEW resident Lois Erickson is a very special mother to her children and many other youths can testify. Photo by Carol Jean Shaw.



"Mother of the Year"
1976

Mother of Year

Mrs. Eldred H. Erickson has been elected president of the Ogden Weber District Mother of the Year Club, with the organization now seeking nominations for the 1981 Mother of the Year.



MRS. ELDRED
H. ERICKSON

Other new officers include: June Meyerhofer, president-elect; Mrs. Harold Randall, vice president; Mrs. James A. Davis, recording secretary; Mrs. Don Butler, treasurer, and Mrs. Edward W. Anderson, historian.

A Mother of the Year will be selected with one from Ogden and one from Weber County.

Applications, which must be submitted prior to Jan. 20, are available from Mrs. Randall at 392-3275 or Mrs. Lawrence A. Barrett, 731-1579.

Nominees may be sponsored by either a men's or women's organization in fields of religion, education and civic improvement, or by a family.

To be a nominee, the woman should be a successful mother and homemaker, an active member of a religious group and take part in community activities.

She must be married, and not separated or divorced.

She must have one or more children, be over the age of 35, and have no children younger than 15. A candidate will be considered as evidenced by the character and achievements of her children. Adopted and foster children may be included.

Competition is open to women of all races and religions.

The local nominees will be entered in state competition with the winner then competing for the national honor.

Morgan and Davis County applicants may receive applications and further information by calling the above numbers.

She was selected as the Weber County—Ogden City Mother of the Year in 1976, and an Alternate Mother of the Year of the State of Utah by the Utah Mothers' Association. (David spoke at the event and his talk is in the Appendix.)

In 1979, she was Vice President of the Ogden District, Mother of the Year and in 1980 she was elected president of the "Mother of the Year" organization in Ogden, Utah.

She served on the State Committee, and helped to assist in the transition to the American Mothers' Inc. She is a Silver Chair Merit Mother.

SA
Dec. 21-1980
OSE

Church Missions



Lois & Eldred with President & Sister Rigtrup



Friday, Sept 9, 1983: Great Day – Our Mission Calls!

The alarm rang at 5:50 am and we got up and got ready to go to the U. of U. Medical Center. We got to the center at 7:40 and didn't get through until about noon, but when all was said and done, Dr. Rothstein said, "Everything that should be up is up and everything that should be down is down. I'll see you in 9 months." We felt wonderful—Eldred wondered how he was going to tell him we'd be gone for 6 months. We felt wonderful, and Eldred was happy! Went on home, and lo and behold!!! Our missionary call envelopes were there. Eldred wanted me to open mine first—but I said, "No." He opened his and found we were going to the Illinois Peoria Mission. We serve in the mission office under President Brent R. Rigtrup along with doing some proselyting. We enter the Mission Training Center on Oct 12; my letter is signed by President Kimball. I was so thankful that everything worked out so we can go on a mission. I didn't think it would ever happen.

Two days later, Eldred announced it in the ward. He spoke about going to the doctor and getting a good report and then opening the envelopes. “I wanted Lois to open hers first but she wouldn’t. I opened mine and it said I was called to the Illinois Peoria Mission—she opened hers and it said the same. I was glad we are going to the same place.” (Everyone just roared.) We will be the first couple from the PV 7th ward.

We arrived at the Mission Office on November 1, 1983 and the basement apartment prepared for us was at 4700 North Sterling, Suite 100, Peoria, Illinois 61615. It was in a group of several apartment buildings, with electric heat and cost us about \$200 a month, so used it only for a short time in the morning before going to the office and in the evenings when returning home. Yes, the weather was cold and we had snow. *In her 2006 Life Story she tells of an experience meeting a young woman from Iran, Arsena when she went to do her laundry. She describes becoming close friends and inviting Arsena and her family from Iran to church activities. After returning from their mission they corresponded for several years.*

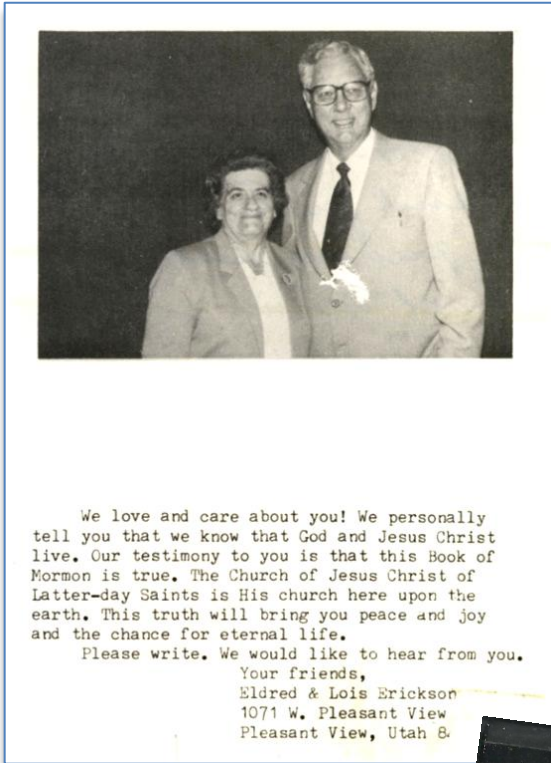
*Lois sent the following into the Church News and it was published July 13, 1995 – **Living by the Scriptures*** “Look unto me in every thought; doubt not, fear not.” Doctrine & Covenants 6:36. We, a couple, were finally here in our mission apartment after many years of anticipation, planning, saving, hoping! That evening doubts came into my mind. I knew the Gospel was true! I had a strong testimony but could I convince someone else—could I “preach” the Gospel? I reached for my scriptures and this verse was my answer. Doubt and fear left me and this has been a guide for life since our joyful and exciting missions.

One lady said, “You’re going on a mission? I could never leave my grandchildren.” Actually our family went with us. Our children made us a quilt to help us remember them and there were calls and letters.

Our mission expenses were \$200.00 a month rent and our utilities were \$200.00 more and Eldred said, “We made money.” One person told him, “Well only you rich people can go on missions.” We sent 3 sons on missions, helped our 8 college graduates. Eldred replied, “It doesn’t take money to go on a mission—It takes faith.”

We were going to remodel the house but decided to put it off and save the money for a mission. Our missionary work together was a most memorable experience. I know God lives and thank him for this opportunity.

From Lois’s 1989 journal, “We went into the MTC for Peoria Illinois Mission Oct 12, 1983. We were released April 1984 and arrived home in May and took his folks here to live with us. They came June 2, 1984.”



Card placed in Books of Mormon



In 1987 we volunteered for a mission on Temple Square in Salt Lake (we served as tour guides) and our Bishop said, "I would never have called you." Just before Eldred's passing his doctor asked that I bring in his records from Peoria, and when he handed them back he said, "I can't believe they'd let him out of the city." We were blessed in every way. From these experiences we have made many new friends and received great joy.

We use to put our testimonies on a card in copies of the Book of Mormon and a man found one in a second-hand book store and compared the Bible and Book of Mormon; he has now been a member 4 years. (written April 6, 2006)

Genealogy and Family History

Lois enjoyed writing histories of her ancestors and doing genealogical work. She was Genealogical Historian for two branches of her family, and for many years compiled a family newsletter, "The Erickson Epistle." She believed this helped to maintain unity and enthusiasm within the family.

Together with Ruth White, an ancestor of the Sargents, our families placed a monument in the Machpelah Cemetery in Lexington, Missouri to mark where the victims of the Saluda (steamboat which exploded) were buried. Marjorie Strand accompanied me to the Dedication (1991). David and Nancy also accompanied me to Lexington, Missouri in 2002 for the dedication of the Memorial.



Marjorie Strand, Lois, Ruth White



David, Nancy Lois—Lexington, MO



Saluda Monument



**Lois – silk dress of Louisa S. Harris
Ogden DUP Museum**

Friends



New Years Eve 1978 -The Carrolls, Jorgensens, Craguns, Larsens, Andersons, Rheeses, Strands, Mittons

Just as we had in our early years, in 1964, Eldred and I invited eleven couples to a Halloween Party and these friendships have continued throughout the years. We usually get together about every two months to dine together on homemade cooking (all of the ladies are very good cooks) and visit or see pictures of someone's recent trip. *They also had "come-as-you-are parties" (they delivered invites early in the morning and caught most of them in PJs) and costume parties. Once dad went as a hobo complete with whiskers, red nose and his bottle of "Old Croak." Ellen helped her host the last official dinner when she left PV and they were thinking it has been about 50 years. These wonderful people became extended family, particularly the Strands. We took turns hosting dinners on Fast Sundays, went camping and fishing, and sometimes cut down Christmas trees together.*



Lois with Marjorie & Harold Strand – 2009



Family

Lois was tireless in her devotion to family and helped in any way needed. As their 42 grandchildren were born, she made each family a beautiful quilted baby blanket. She helped with the new babies, prepared meals, and tended grandchildren locally as well as made trips to Cleveland, California, Maryland and Washington to help take care of new ones.



First grandchild Michelle Erickson - 1968

Lois also assisted in the care of her neighbors, parents, aunts and siblings, and cooked and shared many meals. As parents become older and needed more assistance, she would frequently stop to visit them and take food to share. Lois used to take Luetta each week to get her hair done, helped her and Hilmar with groceries and took them to lunch. She tried to fix meals that they would like and help them around the house, and when it was hard for them to get out, she cut their hair and helped Luetta style hers. Many nights, they slept there enabling them to stay in their own home a little longer, and eventually, they took Hilmar and Luetta into their home and shared their care with Helen. They stayed with Helen the six months while they were on their mission and then took them back to their home. Luetta passed away August 27, 1984 and Hilmar died December 7, 1986.

Countless are the number of events she attended as a mother and grandmother to school programs, Boy Scout Courts of Honor, 4-H Achievement nights, musical programs, dance revues and many Church activities. Through the years she also attended baby blessings, baptisms, high school and college graduations, mission farewells, trips to the Mission Training Center, and to many weddings. She and Dad always loved and enjoyed their children and grandchildren and supported each with a card and check at these milestones.

She also stayed in touch with her children and grandchildren over the years with many phone calls, cards and letters. Legendary are the birthday cards she sent to each child, grandchild and great grandchild for many years up until she passed away which contained photos and a "lucky \$2.00 bill."

She and Eldred were very close over the years and she wrote the following about him: "On our 35th Wedding Anniversary, Eldred bought a dozen beautiful red roses. He is always so thoughtful and remembers. Our song is "One Dozen Roses" from when we became engaged. He gave me a dozen roses and turned on the car radio for me to hear... He is as close to being perfect as any man I know. He is truly a man of God; loves the Lord; is a wonderful husband and father; a special example for all of us. He is so good and kind—never swears—loves our children dearly and is always trying to do something for them. He doesn't enjoy his work too much (Tax collector—Field Auditor to Utah State Employment Security) but does it well. Tries to be fair and honest and be just with people and leave them feeling good. It is full of stress and tension, and will be glad when he can retire. I am so grateful to the Lord for him; for our life together—He, Eldred, has surely helped me improve. I am a better person today because of him."



Lois & Eldred 1979

(We) went down to U of U for tests on May 8, 1979, and Eldred was diagnosed with chronic lymphocytic leukemia—and a bone biopsy and a bone marrow test and a lymphocyte node biopsy. Doctor said he doesn't think he's ever seen anyone so early with as little involvement. Wants to see him in Sept – 3 or 4 times a year—forget about it and live a normal life? Easy for others to say—but we feel blessed and fortunate—just another example of the Lord being near and showering His blessings upon us.



Erickson Family 1985

Lois had surgery (by Dr. Glen Church in December of 1987) for a benign primary meningoma tumor. Dr. Eberhard (her general practitioner) left a note on my bed, “Our prayers were answered.” Eldred brought stacks of cards and letters to the hospital and she went home on Dec. 22 with 17 individual flowers arrangements, and received several more after she arrived home. I can’t believe that people would do such wonderful things. Many have said they have been praying for me and I believe that my name has been placed in nearly every temple displaying the devotion of people. I am amazed—I am very grateful for these friends. May I ever be so concerned about people.”

Just before her surgery, Naomi Randall, Eldred’s aunt, gave her a copy of her new hymn, “When Faith Endures.” Lois said, “This hymn is very dear to me, and I sing it often to myself. It has helped me through many trials and challenges.”

When Faith Endures – By Naomi W. Randall

I will not doubt, I will not fear; God’s love and strength are always near,
His promised gift helps me to find an inner strength and peace of mind.
I give the Father willingly my trust, my prayers, humility
His spirit guides, His love assures that fear departs when faith endures.

When trials come—as come they will, I’ll try the more to do His will
I’ll pray for strength and courage strong, and strive at length to right the wrong.
I’ll cling to hope, give charity, reach out to those in need of me.
Pure love of Christ to me assures, that burdens lift when faith endures.



Eldred & Lois 1989



Erickson Family 1989



**Bruce, Janet, Susan, David, Nancy, Chris
Ellen, Lois, Eldred, Jeane**

**Eldred passed away November 27, 1989 having suffered chronic lymphocytic leukemia,
one month shy of 11 years with the disease.**



**1085 W. Pleasant View Dr.
Pleasant View, Utah**

After Eldred's death, Lois moved in with Ellen while a new home was built at 1085 W. Pleasant View Dr. next door to their old home which was sold to David, Julie and family. She moved in December 18, 1990. She was able to decorate it with lighter colors she loved that didn't have to "hide" the dirt. She held a dedication service at which Bishop Rod Garner officiated.

She loved her new home, planted lots of shrubs, flowers and trees; had a little rose garden and a number of flowering dogwoods. She never lost her love of gardening. The home was very spacious, had a nice office, comfortable living and dining area with fireplace and large bedroom. Downstairs, she had a large food storage room, family room, and a small apartment. The deck off the kitchen afforded lovely views of Pleasant View's sunsets.

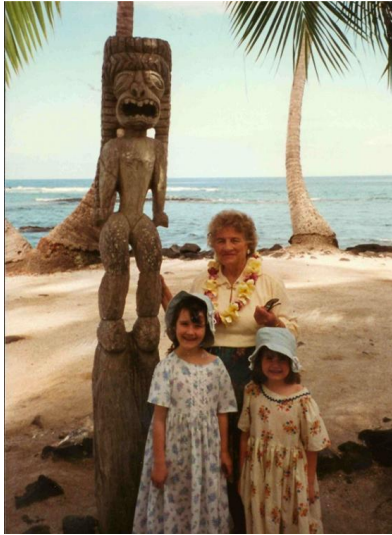
She settled in quickly and in January 1991 hosted an "Anniversary dinner" in her new home, recorded in her journal; Menu: fruit cocktail, fried chicken, potatoes—mashed with cheese and green onions on top relish—pickles and pickled beets, green peas, hot rolls, apricot and blackcap jam and cake roll for dessert.

With David and Julie and family just next door, she developed a close relationship with them. In January 1992, she said Emily came often, and helped her take down her Christmas things and that they made bread together; Steven and Danny came over frequently to take her garbage to the street and to mow the lawn, and Jared helped with gardening, pulling weeds and planting flowers and bulbs. Susan, Jim and family and Ellen also came frequently with meals and to help her with cleaning, gardening, and family history. Jeane and Steve, Chris and Keli, and Bruce and Jo, as well as many grandchildren visited regularly and helped her in many ways. Lois was also able to be a support to David and family when Julie passed away from pancreatic cancer in May 2001.

Ellen and Byron finished her basement enabling her to move Velma Brister in as tenant and they became very good friends. Lois helped Velma with her family history, they ate meals together, and brought the missionaries in to teach her. She had been studying to be a nun but believed in and found joy in the gospel, but wouldn't be baptized because of a promise made to her parents. She left paperwork to have her work done—and that of her parents upon her death. Velma had many health problems and eventually moved back to Louisiana to be closer to her family, and when she died, Lois did finish her temple work.



Tower of London 1993



Hawaii 1997 Melissa & Miriam



Tacoma 2004

These years were also filled with family and friends taking her on trips to England, Hawaii and Canada, as well as traveling to see family in Ohio, Louisiana and Washington.

1991 – Trip with Marjorie Strand to Missouri, and to DeRidder Louisiana to see Nancy & Ray family

1993 – Trip to England—Ellen, Byron, Tiffani, and Keli

1993 – Trip to Bay Village, Ohio, to Janet & Randy and family,

1994, Kent (1995) & Karl’s (1997) mission farewells

1994 – Trip to Canada/Northwest—Chris and Keli & family

1994 – Yellowstone—Traveled with Jeane, Steve & family and rode home with Chris, Keli & family

1995 – Gordon, Joy and Steven drove her to Boise to attend the 50th Anniversary celebration for Mildred and Ted

1996 – Imperial China exhibit at BYU with Gordon and Joy

1997 – Trip to Hawaii— Jeane, Steve, Melissa and Miriam

1997 – Gordon took her to Boise to visit Mildred

1998 – Rode with David and Julie & family, Susan and Jim & family, Rehm family—caravan to Yellowstone for a family reunion

1999 – Trip with Ellen to Shakespeare Festival in Cedar City, Utah

1999 – Vernal Utah Temple Open House with Susan & Jim and family

2004 – Trip to Missouri—Saluda Monument dedication with David and Nancy

2004 – Flew with Russell to Washington to go to Brian Jensen’s mission farewell

2011 – Trip to Bay Village, Ohio with David & Cindy to attend Randall Gee’s funeral



Cleveland 1993 Kurt & Karen

Several Christmases—Bruce took Lois and several of her friends to “Music and the spoken Word” held at the Tabernacle in Salt Lake City. He packed lunches and took them on the special Sunday morning broadcasts.



Lois – 80th Birthday 2000



Erickson
 Lois B. Erickson will celebrate her 80th birthday on Saturday, Oct. 14, 1989.

She was born Oct. 7, 1920, to Mabel Harris and Arias G. Belnap. She graduated from Ogden High School.

She married Eldred H. Erickson on Jan. 24, 1944, in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. He died Nov. 27, 1989.

Her interests included the auxiliaries, road shows, and directing youth chorus. She was Ogden area director of the Multiple Sclerosis, 4H leader, community activist, and active in PTA. She was the Weber County Mother of the Year, and Silver American Mother, a member of Camp Ruth and a RSVP Volunteer.

Her children and spouses are Bruce and Joyce Erickson, Janet and Randall Gee, Susan and James Schmidt, David and Julie Erickson, Nancy and Ray Jensen, Chris and Keli Erickson, Ellen Anson, Jeane and Steven Burton. She has 42 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.



Barbara Noble Whelan



Brian & Karen Belnap family



Donald & Sharon Belnap

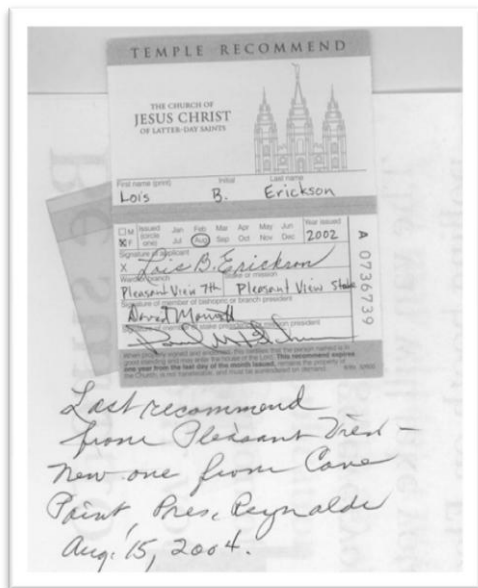
Lois began having a number of health problems—arthritis in hands, feet and, diagnosed as borderline diabetic, but still leading music in Relief Society! Her pain was intense and she decided to have a knee replacement. Harold Strand feared Lois, who was very calm and looking forward to the surgery, didn't know what she was getting into (Marjorie had had her hip done, that she'd never had that kind of pain.) Considering she'd had 8 children, thyroid surgery, broken ribs and other bones, carpal tunnel surgery and several others, she was more prepared than he thought. In March 2001 she had Knee replacement surgery on right knee and Jeane, Steve and girls invited her to come and stay while she was recovering. She wrote the following in between her General Conference notes on March 31, 2001.

“This was a very special emotional session. I sat in the Burton’s front room listening by radio to this session. I wrote and looked at the beautiful snow-capped mountains. I exercised my sore right leg. This is the first day I have been up and dressed all day.”

Lois was always studying and learning about new ideas. She wrote the following, “The computer amazes me. It can do so much. But I realize my knowledge is so small. While Ellen has been here (she moved into the apartment after vacated by Velma) she has helped me a great deal. Steve helped me buy a new Macintosh computer—all in color and I can get internet on it. I paid \$150 for it and the modem. (Her first computer was a PC with a B&W monitor and she bought it while working for MS.) He has surely helped me and they loaned me the IBM printer, and he puts paper in it when they come from Provo.”

Cove Point – Provo, Utah

Lois left Pleasant View and moved to Cove Point Retirement Community in Provo on May 17, 2003. She recorded in her journal that on Sunday, April 20, 2003 she led the music in Relief Society, sang in the choir and gave a talk. “May 11 was my last day in Pleasant View.”



She had the very best apartment—close to the center where they served lunch and held activities, right by the stream and bridges, and nestled between gardens. She loved dead-heading their flowers and we (family members) moved some of her favorite plants (iris, lilies, tulips) with her to enjoy in the little garden space near her new home. She loved her 2-bedroom apartment, her new friends and neighbors and the staff. She was able to get more exercise—in safety—have more regular meals, improved in health and strength, and loved the many amenities the Cove offered: day trips on their van, a library, day and evening activities, temple trips, doctor and store visits and indexing on-site. Being in Provo also put her very close to Jeane and Steve and Chris and Keli and their families—and Ellen when she moved to Springville.

They were all nearby and they, as well as other children and grandchildren, checked in several times a week to offer meals and other assistance.

She had always wanted a Bachelor’s degree from BYU and enrolled in the program for genealogy through Independent Study, but it didn’t seem to work after her new calling. From her journal: It has become a special experience. I had the opportunity to give several talks, direct music, and on May 1, 2004, I was called to be the Relief Society President of the Cove Point Branch—where I was also Choir Director. (Lois was the first RS President who was actually a resident of the Cove—previously, local wards supplied their leadership.)

She attended Correlation meetings and Sacrament meeting on Sundays, Sunday school in the afternoon. Relief Society was held on Tuesdays. She conducted, taught lessons and frequently bore her testimony and attended the temple.

Over the next few years, she made weekly temple trips when possible (last recorded was March 2009), went visiting teaching, attended presidency meetings, created and lead the Cove Point choir which practiced on Fridays and performed on the last Friday of the month. When it become too difficult to attend the temple, she took up indexing records.



Lois –Cove Point Provo, Utah 2003-2011



90th Birthday



90th Birthday



BIRTHDAYS

Erickson



Erickson

Lois Ruth Belnap Erickson celebrated her 90th birthday with a family party held on Oct. 9. She was born Oct. 7, 1920, in Ogden to Arias G. and Mabel Harris

Belnap. On Jan. 24, 1944, she married Eldred H. Erickson in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Salt Lake Temple. The family moved to Pleasant View and resided there for 52 years before she moved to Cove Point Retirement Community in Provo. She and her husband were involved with 4-H for 25 years. She worked with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in Ogden and Salt Lake City, and was a member of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers. She graduated from Weber State College and studied at Brigham Young University.

She and her husband served in the Illinois Peoria LDS Mission and on Temple Square before he died in 1989. Her callings include leading many choirs and choruses, and most recently as Relief Society president and choir director at Cove Point.

Her eight children and their spouses are Bruce and Joyce Erickson, Janet and Randall Gee, James and Susan Schmidt, David and Cynthia Erickson, Nancy and Ray Jensen, Chris and Keli Erickson, Ellen Anson, and Jeane and Steven Burton. She has 42 grandchildren and 54 great-grandchildren.





Family Reunion – 2005 – Lois hosted a family dinner and party at BYU

Children, grandchildren and great grandchildren all have memories of visiting her at “Cove Point.” She hosted many family events either on her patio or in the common area. She kept up with cards for birthdays, anniversaries, new babies, Eagle Scout awards, letters to missionaries, graduations and kept in touch with frequent phone calls.



Many friends and relatives visited Lois at Cove Point. Helena visited Lois in 2008 and they discussed the anniversary of WWI (which Helena well remembered, having been born in 1908), the flu epidemic of 1918 (when she lost her mother), and both recalled their friends and experiences and also current events—was a very lively discussion. Even at their advanced ages, they were very interested in and aware of what was going on around them. Both were still reading newspapers and watching the news. Lois said that while the body ages, the person inside remains young and still itself.



Lois and Helena Belnap



Phyllis & Bruce Belnap

Lois had a bad fall in her hall in April 2009 and broke bone above her right eye and severed the optic nerve which blinded her in that eye. She was hospitalized and then moved to Stonehenge for rehabilitation. She felt well enough to attend Brian and Allison's wedding in SLC, and a week later was able to attend the wedding of David and Cindy on May 1. Unfortunately, that evening she had a sudden and severe headache and was returned to the hospital due to bleeding into the brain.

She had surgery to repair it, had a series of very severe seizures, was twice put into a coma, and spent about 2 months recovering in the hospital and Stonehenge. Sadly (and to her great annoyance), they released her from her position as RS President after 5 years.

Upon her return to Cove Point, there was a great outpouring of love and affection. She had a near-constant stream of visitors bearing small gifts and treats. She had taken the alone, lonely, abandoned neighbors and turned them into a loving and supportive family. She was deeply involved in everything that happened there. She continued to lead her choir (about 5 years), lead the music in church meetings and frequently bore her testimony. She was also very social and entertained visiting family and friends by hosting game nights and sometimes inviting them to join her for a meal or event at the Cove.

2011 was a sad year. Velma died April 5, 2011, Helena died June 8, 2011 (she had wanted to go to the funeral but was unable to attend), and Randall Gee died on August 4, 2011. David and Cindy flew back to Cleveland with her to attend his funeral on August 12.



Gordon & Sharon Belnap with Lois May 2011



Lois at Randy Gee's funeral - Cleveland, August 2011

On a happier note, she attended Andrew and Aubrey Erickson's wedding and Allison and Alex Jepsen's wedding both held at the Salt Lake Temple in May 2011. She also continued working with the Cove Point Choir, and when Evan Witt (her longtime pianist and friend) left, Kurt Gee, and sometimes Matthew Erickson (both grandsons) were able to accompany the choir, as well as some of her granddaughters.

Mom decided to move to the Assisted Living side of Cove Point, so when a nice room became available, family members began moving her things over. She had only been there a short time when she had another fall which cut her leg badly. She was moved back to her apartment, but it was clear she couldn't stay there and plans were being made for her to move to Ellen's house but the leg became badly infected and she moved into a rehab center for treatment and to regain strength, but developed a more serious infection and was soon hospitalized.

Mom's Last Week – (written by Ellen)

When I (Ellen) arrived at the hospital to visit Mother on October 21, 2011, Mom's visiting teacher, Trudy, was sitting with her and a string of nurses and aides were in and out of the room, and Mom was clearly impatient to be rid of them all. She was glowing with excitement and could hardly contain herself. Finally, after the last one left, she asked me to close the door, asked if I had my notebook and if I had time to take some notes. I said I did, so she related to me the following experience and asked me to write it up and distribute it to the family after she was gone or when it was appropriate.

She said she was outside and sitting on a bench in the warm sunshine and surrounded by trees and flowers, and Dad came up and sat beside her, put his arm around her and said, "I've come to take you home." She said, "You mean I can go with you?" And he said, "Yes. Let's go home." She said they then saw her body, saw people pulling the sheet over her head and she knew she had died, and they then saw many places, things and people she could not have seen if she'd been alive. She said, among other things, they saw the earth. When I asked what it looked like, she said "Round" which I took to mean she saw it from a great distance. She was filled with wonder.

She also told me that she had seen many people and knew they were known and loved, but couldn't see them all distinctly—except her parents who were standing by the door. (I asked, so you were inside? And she thought back and said, yes, I guess I was.) They were all across a line (which she took to be the veil and which she could not describe—"it looked like nothing I've ever seen"), and Dad took her across and she also saw Cindy and Heather and lots of family and friends. I asked specifically who was there and she said, oh, everyone. She had also been received warmly by both Father and Son and had a long talk with the Father about each of us, but only saw Jesus for a minute as he was busy and had to run off.

I asked her why she was still here if Dad had come to get her and she said, "To have this conversation and finish things up—but don't say anything until it's appropriate." Her dinner came and she had no interest in food—spirits don't, she said, and she considered herself to be a spirit and dead. She said she never thought the day would come when she would lose interest in food, but she had none at all. When I said she should eat something—because, while she'd had a spiritual / out-of-body experience, she was clearly back in her body ("I know, and I'm so disgusted!") she drank milk shakes and ate ice cream, but had lost her desire for food. She had felt such a lightness, no pain and had freedom of movement. When I showed her the dress I brought (which had been on backorder), she said, "Oh, I'd have loved that" (past tense) and told me to return it; she'd have no need for it. She also expressed regret that she would miss Amy's wedding but I assured her she'd be able to attend and could take Dad as her "plus one"—she was excited at the possibility, laughed and said, "I guess I could."

She was clear, calm, lucid, matter-of-fact and practical, quietly excited and anxious to move on, happy to have seen Dad again and to finally be reunited—she never dreamed she'd live so long after him! For the next couple hours she gave me instructions for her temple clothes and burial, made suggestions as to when we might hold the funeral and the changes she wanted to make to the plans we'd made previously, gave me names of those who needed to be informed and a list of things she'd left undone. She also knew I had other plans for the evening and encouraged me to attend to them—she had no more need of me and her thoughts had turned to her future. When I jokingly asked if she'd miss us, she hesitated, then said, "Yes, but you're all fine;" clearly we were no longer her focus. She asked if I had any questions, but I didn't, really—she was only confirming what I already knew to be the truth—that there is a life after this

one, that the Father and Son live, that we return to our home and those we love, that the gospel is true. She finally told me she probably wouldn't be there in the morning and we said our good-byes.

She began making phone calls at 6:30 the next morning (the nurse, Trevor—who happens to be my near neighbor—having prevented her from starting earlier) and was frantic to get them completed before Dad came back for her; seems she had a special message for each of us from our Father in Heaven. (When she left rehab and went to the Emergency Room, her Branch President gave her a blessing and promised, among other things, that she would have the strength to complete her mission.) When she called me, I went to the hospital and she was able to give me my message in person (testimony and counsel); Chris was already there.

We'd been assured by Trevor and the doctor that the infection she'd picked up in rehab, while very nasty, was finally succumbing to drugs and she'd soon be fine. Mother was patient with them, but still assured us she was going. We hung around most of the day and took turns staying with her, and did the same on Sunday. She would visit with us, but then close her eyes and be off—sometimes she could not be roused, other times she would shake her head and pull away—unwilling to be roused or to interact. During those 3 days, dad was with her off and on and she had many experiences in the Spirit World, and a couple times phoned to ask if I'd called the mortuary. I told her I couldn't—she wasn't dead yet! But to her mind, she was and she was anxious to move on and was annoyed that I seemed unwilling to make her arrangements! At one point, she was talking about Dad and I asked a question and she said, "Ask him yourself—he's standing right next to you!" Again, she told me she was leaving and I jokingly asked her to take me with her and she said, "All you have to say is yes!" I called her later that night to tell her that I'd talked to Marjorie Strand and she asked me to tell her hello, then said she had to go—Dad was coming for her. "And," she said, "we'll be by for you in a few minutes." (And indeed she will--but in her time, not mine.)

Mom was able, with help, to make all her phone calls to us within the 24 hours she thought she'd been allotted, but still she was there and couldn't understand why. Jeane discovered that Janet and Nancy had been unable to hear her message due to noise and distractions, so Jeane helped her call again and Mom was finally able to deliver their messages.

The next morning she was declared well enough to be released, but not well enough to go home, so arrangements were made to put her into another rehab center until we could make arrangements for her to move home. Chris and I met the ambulance about 6pm at Orchard Park and Keli picked up all her possessions from the hospital and joined us there. Chris eventually left, but Keli and I stayed to visit a while. We tucked her in, made her comfortable, asked them to bring her a snack, and left her watching her favorite shows. We told her we loved her and would see her in the morning, and within 12 hours of moving in there, she was gone. They called me at 6:30 a.m. to tell me she'd died.

At her graveside service, I was talking with her old friends Margaret, Mabel, Jean Wells, Melba and others, and Jean asked, "What finally took your mom?" It was with great pleasure that I was able to say, "My Dad." They were delighted to hear he'd come for her and she lived long enough to tell us. In the end, the testimony Mom left us is that our Heavenly Father and Savior live, that they know us intimately, are interested in our lives and what we are doing. She assured us that there is a life beyond this one, that our family and friends love us, watch over and protect us, offer help and support from the other side and await our return.

Lois Belnap Erickson passed away Oct 27, 2011

Lois's Funeral (written by Ellen)

Mom had planned her funeral well in advance, but had to change it several times as she outlived one after another the people who were to take a part. She was very specific as to the songs she wanted sung, who she wanted to speak, and asked that we include Christmas songs because, she said, "Every day is Christmas because every day I celebrate the birth of the Savior." Kent and Kurt Gee, grandsons, played a medley of Christmas songs on their trumpets at her gravesite—it was the perfect ending to the day. We also buried her with four roses and one gardenia.

The funeral was held at a church near Cove Point and was well attended by her fellow tenants, and at Jeane's suggestion, her beloved choir performed the opening number. She would have been so proud of them and the beautiful job they did. The Bishop, in his remarks mentioned that for the year, Mom did more indexing than anyone else in the Stake.

After the funeral, the ward presented us with brown-bag lunches for the journey to the North Ogden Cemetery where a small service was held for her Pleasant View friends prior to the dedication of the grave. The weather was perfect, the leaves were ablaze with autumn color, and she was surrounded by people who loved her.

Leaving Cove Point – We met as a family a few times to go through Mom's apartment and possessions and then to empty and clean the apartment and her presence was often felt. Sometimes it was clear both she and dad were there and I (Ellen) felt she was laughingly apologizing for the "mess" she'd left me. On the last night, Keli and I finished the cleaning, took one last look around, split the last tiny ice cream sandwich in the freezer, and left. Mom was no longer there.

In Loving Memory Of



Lois Ruth Belnap Erickson

Lois Ruth Belnap Erickson

Born: October 7, 1920 in Ogden, Utah
Died: October 27, 2011 in Orem, Utah

Daughter of Arias Guy
& Mabel Harris Belnap

Mother of Bruce and Joyce Erickson,
Janet and Randall Gee, Susan and James Schmidt,
David and Cynthia Erickson, Nancy and Ray Jensen,
Chris and Keli Erickson, Ellen Anson
& Jeane and Steven Burton

Funeral Services
Wednesday, November 2, 2011 at 11:00 a.m.
Grandview 5th Ward Chapel
1555 North 1350 West, Provo, Utah

Interment
Ben Lomond Cemetery
North Ogden, Utah

Pallbearers (grandsons)

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Kevin Gee | Darren Schmidt |
| Kent Gee | John Erickson |
| Karl Gee | Michael Erickson |
| Kyle Gee | Jared Erickson |
| Kurt Gee | Andrew Erickson |
| Brent Schmidt | Matthew Erickson |

Services

- Family Prayer Chris Erickson (son)
Prelude & Postlude Music Tonya Lundberg
Officiating President Ron Madsen
Opening Musical Selection Cove Point Choir
 "In the Garden"
 Conducted by Louise Johnson
 accompanied by Kurt Gee (grandson)
Invocation Steven Burton (son-in-law)
Reading of Obituary President Ron Madsen
Speaker Janet Gee (daughter)
Musical Number Keli Erickson (daughter-in-law)
 "My Testimony"
 accompanied by Matthew Erickson (grandson)
Speaker Nancy Jensen (daughter)
Musical Number . . . Susan Schmidt (daughter) and Jim Schmidt (son-in-law)
 "When Faith Endures"
 accompanied by Amy Schmidt (granddaughter)
Speaker Bruce Erickson (son)
Closing Remarks President Ron Madsen
Musical Number Granddaughters
 "Perfect Day"
 Conducted by Susan Schmidt
 accompanist (music arranged by) Annie Erickson
Benediction Ray Jensen (son-in-law)
 * * * * *
Trumpet Duet Kent & Kurt Gee
Dedication of the Grave David Erickson (son)



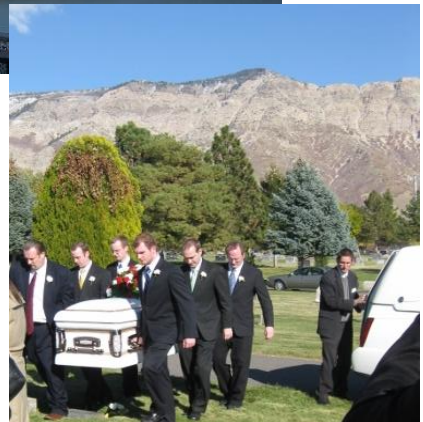
We love and care about you! We personally tell you that we know that God and Jesus Christ live. Our testimony to you is that this Book of Mormon is true. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is His church here upon the earth. This truth will bring you peace and joy and the chance for eternal life.

Perfect Day

When you come to the end of a perfect day,
And you sit alone with your thought--
While the chimes ring out with a carol gay,
For the joy that the day has brought,
Do you think what the end of a perfect day
Can mean to a tired heart,
When the sun goes down with a flaming ray,
And the dear friends have to part?

Well, this is the end of a perfect day,
Near the end of a journey, too;
But it leaves a thought that is big and strong,
With a wish that is kind and true.
For mem'ry has painted this perfect day
With colors that never fade.
And we find at the end of a perfect day,
The soul of a friend we've made.

Send Personal Condolences To The Family At
www.serenicare.com



Ben Lomond Cemetery—North Ogden, Utah



Lois Ruth Belnap Erickson

1920 ~ 2011

PROVO—Lois Ruth Belnap Erickson, 91, passed away peacefully and joyfully the morning of October 27, 2011 after sharing a special message with each of her children. Lois was born October 7, 1920, in Ogden, Utah to Arias Guy Belnap and Mabel Harris Belnap. She was the oldest daughter and second of five children. She was raised in Ogden.

On January 24, 1944, Lois married Eldred Hilmar Erickson in the Salt Lake LDS Temple while Eldred was serving in the military as a

radar specialist. They raised their eight children in Ogden and Pleasant View, Utah, after which she moved to Cove Point in Provo.

Lois attended Lorin Farr School, Central Junior High School, where she was a Year Book staff member, and graduated with the first class of the new Ogden High School in 1938. A graduate of Weber State College (University), she also studied at Brigham Young University and took classes from Utah State University and LDS Literature and Music Workshops. While at Weber she was Vice President of the Weber Club, on the Acorn Staff, a member of Iota Tau Kappa Sorority, and on the Business Typing Team.

She was employed at the Thomas D. Dee Memorial Hospital in Ogden, first with the nursing staff and then the business office, and eventually became the business manager. For 21 years she served as the area director of the Ogden Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Lois was active in many church, school, and community activities, including Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, PTA room mother and treasurer, Cub Scout den mother, RSVP volunteer, and Senior Citizen volunteer. She was honored for serving as a 4-H leader for 25 years.

Pleasant View City asked Lois to serve on various city planning committees, also as its bail commissioner, and she was the City's Community Beautification chairman when it received state awards.

In 1976 Lois was the Weber County-Ogden Mother of the Year, and was selected as the first alternate Mother of the Year of the State of Utah by the Utah Mothers' Association. She served on the state committee and helped transition to the American Mothers', Inc. She is a Silver Chair Merit Mother.

She was an active, lifetime member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She was an original Golden Gleaner, sang in and led many choirs, was a Relief Society president and teacher, Relief Society and Sunday School stake board member, Young Women president, Primary president, dance director, road show writer and director, and sang in one of the first youth choirs of the Church, the Lieder Kranz Chorus.

She and Eldred served church missions to the Illinois Peoria Mission and Salt Lake Temple Square.

Lois was always busy serving her family and friends. Many received her well-known thank you and birthday cards, which typically included photographs she had taken of them. She dearly loved her husband, family and friends and shared with them her interests in gardening, cooking, reading, canning, sewing, scripture study, family history and genealogy.

She is survived by her children: Bruce and Joyce Erickson, Janet Gee, Susan and James Schmidt, David and Cynthia Erickson, Nancy and Ray Jensen, Chris and Keli Erickson, Ellen Anson, and Jeane and Steven Burton. She is also survived by brothers Donald and Gordon Belnap, and one brother-in-law, Ted Evans, and three sisters-in-law, Joy Belnap, Sharon Belnap and Helen Noble. She has 42 grand children and 64 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Eldred, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, November 2, 2011 at 11 a.m. at the Grand View 1st Ward Chapel, 1555 North 1350 West, Provo, Utah, with Cove Point Branch President Ron Madsen officiating. A viewing will be held before the service from 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Interment will be at the Ben Lomond Cemetery in North Ogden, Utah about 3:00 p.m., or soon thereafter, when a graveside service will be held.

In lieu of flowers donations, may be made to the general missionary fund of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 50 E. North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150.

Lois's Favorites:

FLOWERS: columbines, orchids, roses, primroses etc.

COLORS: all colors - pink, blues, greens, browns,

MANY FAVORITE SONGS: "Testimony" "Give me One dozen roses"

BOOK: scriptures

AUTHOR: Jesus Christ (and others)

BIBLE VERSES: Many favorites – Proverbs 3:5 "Trust" D&C Section 6, 4

DESSERT: many – Jell-O, cakes, pies, cookies

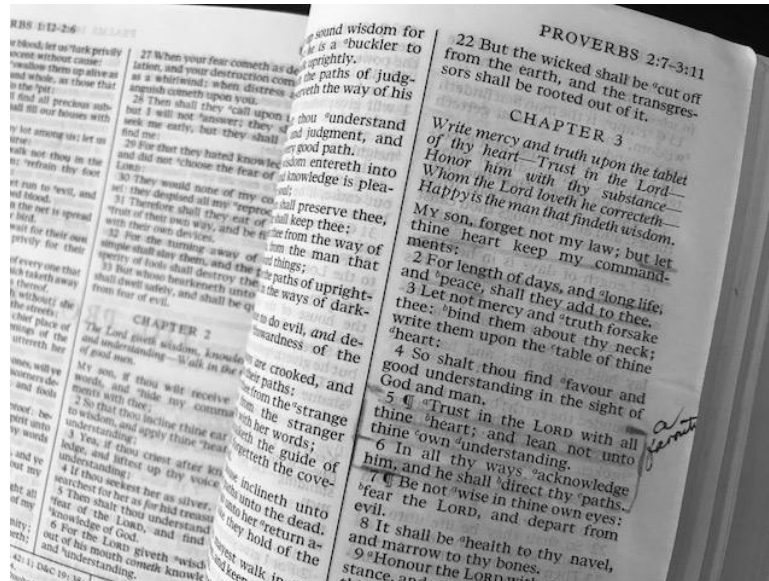
VACATION SPOT: Yellowstone, Ohio, North West etc.

TYPE OF FOOD: beans, my hamburgers

Maybe favorite meal listed frequently in journals: roast beef, mashed potatoes & gravy, tossed salad, pickles, cake

SPORT: basketball, football

LEISURE ACTIVITY: genealogy, resting, photography



IMPORTANT LESSONS YOU HAVE LEARNED IN LIFE:

(written July 1997)

1. To be happy and positive.
2. Listen and obey words of wisdom and commandments of the prophets.
3. Try to be aware of others' needs and desires.
4. Grateful for Eldred and all he taught me – wish I had learned more.
5. God is all powerful and he will keep His promises – either for good or evil.
6. We were always very grateful for our family they, including grandchildren and great grandchildren (who he has become acquainted with before us here) have been great examples. They do us proud! We have learned so much.

No eloquent words—
No profound speech
To praise Thee, Lord,
For
I found Thee in quiet things—
Quiet thoughts,
Quiet deeds,
Sleeping babes
Impressive creeds.

I found Thee in quiet times,
Quiet song
Quiet chords,
Whispered prayers,
Resounding fjords.

My soul delighteth!

—Lois B. Erickson



Painting by Lois B. Erickson

Special Blessings

Shaking hands with every president of the church since Joseph F. Smith. President Heber J. Grant came to our home for dinner and sang and told us stories, and autographed my program.

Martha McBride Knight (wife of Vinson Knight) and my great-grandmother, Adaline Knight, 11 years old, were both at the original organizational meeting of the Relief Society.

President J. Rueben Clark, Jr. spoke at a Youth Meeting in the (Old) Ogden Tabernacle and Lois sang with the Leider Kranz chorus and shook his hand.

Eldred set apart as one of the Seven Presidents of Seventies in 7th ward by Mark E. Petersen. Set apart as High Priest by Elder Stayner Richards and as Bishop by William J. Chritchlow Jr. Assistant to the Twelve.

Elder Alma Sonne came when the Pleasant View ward was dedicated.

My father set apart for Stake Presidency by Elder Spencer W. Kimball, Ogden Stake.

Met and shook hands with Elder Melvin J. Ballard at a June Conference in the SL Tabernacle.

Served dinner to John A. Widtsoe and his wife, Leah. Also Joseph Fielding Smith, Jr., etc. when they came to Stake Conference.

President David O McKay "He was so much a part of my life." He was on Weber Stake Board with Nathan John Harris (Grandpa) and spoke at Hyrum Belnap's (Grandpa) funeral. Sang with the Leider Kranz chorus at a party when the McKays were moving to SLC.

Elder Harold B. Lee (Quorum of Twelve) coming to our Stake Conference and before the meeting shaking hands and saying to our family, "We bring our children with us whether they can understand or not because we are training spirits."

Sat across the table from Elder Bruce R. McConkie and his wife when they hosted our table at a Golden Gleaner & MMen banquet when President J.F. Smith, Jr. received an honorary M Men award.

Also shook hands with Elder Boyd K. Packer and his wife at the Golden Gleaner Banquet and also shook hands after he presided at Aunt Naomi's Memorial service in Ogden.

Elder Gordon B. Hinckley set Bruce E. Erickson apart for his mission. Arias Belnap came from the Capitol Bldg. and when he entered, "Elder" Hinckley said, "Hello, Arias."

Led the choir for the closing hymn when President Joseph Fielding Smith and his wife came to a Stake Conference. After the meeting shook hands with President Smith.

Met Elder Derek A. Cuthbert at a Zone Conference while he was visiting in the Illinois Peoria Mission.

S. Dilworth Young was known to the people of Ogden having lived there for many years and worked with brother Ralph in Scouting. He also presented David with his Scout Star Award.

Met Elder Russell M. Nelson and wife Dantzel at Norma Strasser's 90th Birthday party in SLC. (Her husband Dil Strasser was Eldred's mission companion.)

Met Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin when he came to the McKay-Dee Hospital and gave a blessing to Julie Hill Erickson.

Met the following at either a funeral, wedding, or fireside: Elder Hugh B. Brown, President Marion G. Romney and President N. Eldon Tanner.

Attended Award Assembly at BYU where President Merrill J. Bateman honored Naomi Randall.

Corresponded with Elder Dallin H. Oaks – third cousin. (Mother Mabel and his mother Stella knew each other.)

Appendix

Birth Certificate

Blessing Certificate

Baptism Certificate

Patriarchal blessing

Death Certificate

Talk given at "Mother of the Year" event by David B. Erickson

Eulogy given at her funeral by Janet E. Gee

5126-1		CERTIFIED COPY OF LIVE BIRTH RECORD				143	
<small>LOCAL FILE NUMBER</small>						<small>BIRTH NUMBER</small>	
CHILD		1 CHILD—NAME FIRST MIDDLE LAST LOIS RUTH BELNAP			DATE OF BIRTH (MONTH, DAY, YEAR) October 7, 1920		HOUR 3:00 A.M.
SEX 3 Female		THIS BIRTH—SINGLE, TWIN, TRIPLET, ETC. (SPECIFY) 4a Single		IF NOT SINGLE BIRTH—BORN FIRST, SECOND, THIRD, ETC. (SPECIFY) 4b		COUNTY OF BIRTH 5c Weber	
CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION OF BIRTH 5b Ogden		INSIDE CITY LIMITS (SPECIFY YES OR NO) 5c Yes	HOSPITAL—NAME (IF NOT IN HOSPITAL, GIVE STREET AND NUMBER) 5d 1111 21st Street				
MOTHER		6a MOTHER—MAIDEN NAME FIRST MIDDLE LAST Mable Harris			AGE (AT TIME OF THIS BIRTH) 6b 26		STATE OF BIRTH (IF NOT IN U.S.A., NAME COUNTRY) 6c Michigan
RESIDENCE—STATE 7a Utah		COUNTY 7b Weber	CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION 7c Ogden		INSIDE CITY LIMITS (SPECIFY YES OR NO) 7d Yes	STREET AND NUMBER 7e 1111 21st St.	
FATHER		8a FATHER—NAME FIRST MIDDLE LAST Arias Guy Belnap			AGE (AT TIME OF THIS BIRTH) 8b 27		STATE OF BIRTH (IF NOT IN U.S.A., NAME COUNTRY) 8c Utah
INFORMANT 9a		RELATION TO CHILD 9b					
CERTIFIER		10a CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE NAMED CHILD WAS BORN ALIVE AT THE PLACE AND TIME AND ON THE DATE STATED ABOVE SIGNATURE W. R. Brown			DATE SIGNED (MONTH, DAY, YEAR) 10b Oct. 7, 1920		ATTENDANT—M.D., D.O., MIDWIFE, OTHER (SPECIFY) 10c M.D.
CERTIFIER—NAME 10d W. R. Brown, M.D.		MAILING ADDRESS (STREET OR R.F.D. NO., CITY OR TOWN, STATE, ZIP) 10e Ogden, Utah					
REGISTRAR—SIGNATURE 11a Henry W. Nelson		DATE RECEIVED BY LOCAL REGISTRAR MONTH DAY YEAR 11b October 27, 1920					
DATES OF AMENDMENTS, IF ANY							
CERTIFICATION STATEMENT AND SIGNATURE This is to certify that the above is a true and correct copy of facts recorded on the live birth record of the above named person as registered in this office.							
SIGNATURE OF CERTIFYING OFFICIAL <i>Wiley Henderson M.D.</i>					OFFICIAL TITLE Local Registrar		
PLACE OF CERTIFICATION Ogden, Utah					DATE OF CERTIFICATION January 16, 1973		
STATE OF UTAH, DIVISION OF HEALTH, VITAL STATISTICS SECTION SDH-VS-34 (Rev. 1-1-70)							

This certificate is not valid until it has been entered in Ward Record of Members.
Entered in Ward Record, Line No. 142
By Laurence S. Burton Ward Clerk

THIRTEENTH WARD OGDEN STAKE NO. 142

CERTIFICATE OF BLESSING

THIS CERTIFIES THAT Lois Ruth Belnap
Daughter OF Arias G. Belnap AND Mabel Harris
SON OR DAUGHTER FATHER'S NAME MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME
BORN October 7 1920 AT Ogden Weber Co., Utah
CITY OR TOWN, COUNTY, STATE OR NATION
WAS BLESSED January 2 1921 BY Elder Nathan J. Harris, Jr.
OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS.

Howard Pentzins BISHOP
Laurence S. Burton CLERK

Recorded in the Book _____, Line _____, Ward Record of Members
By Bennett Moore Ward Clerk

Twentieth Ward Ogden Stake No. 63

Certificate of Baptism and Confirmation

Date Oct-7-1928
This Certifies that Lois Ruth Belnap
Daughter of Arias G. Belnap and Mabel Harris
Son or Daughter Father's Name Mother's Maiden Name
Born Oct. 7-1920, at Ogden Weber, Utah
Date City or Town County State or Nation
was baptized Oct. 7-1928, by Chester Anderson Priest
Date Elder or Priest
and confirmed a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Oct-7-1928
Date
by Elder Arias G. Belnap
Signed Bennett Moore Clerk Signed Arias G. Belnap Bishop

A PATRIARCHAL BLESSING

PATRIARCHAL BLESSING GIVEN BY MILES L. JONES, PATRIARCH, UPON THE HEAD OF LOIS RUTH BELNAP, DAUGHTER OF ARIAS G. BELNAP AND MABEL HARRIS, BORN AT OGDEN, UTAH, OCTOBER 7, 1920. BLESSING GIVEN AT OGDEN, UTAH, OCTOBER 14, 1936.

Sister Lois Ruth Belnap, I, a Patriarch in Israel, place my hands upon your head and give unto you a Father's and a Patriarchal Blessing. Dear Sister, you are of the House of Israel, a descendant through the loins of Ephriam and consequently many blessings are in store for you from our Heavenly Father. You have come here upon the earth through a noble lineage. Your father's household are among those who embraced the gospel in a foreign land and have performed and are performing a mighty work here upon the earth. Therefore, lift up your head and rejoice exceedingly in the blessings that have come to you and the blessings that will yet be yours to enjoy.

You will be called from time to time to assist in the work of the Lord here upon the earth and while you may feel your weakness and your inability when these callings come, yet I say unto you if you will be prayerful, if you call ^{upon} to the Lord in secret prayer, He will give you the strength and the power, the wisdom and the understanding to fulfill every calling that may be placed upon you and by so doing you will have joy and happiness both now and throughout eternity.

I seal upon you the blessings of wisdom and with the understanding to resist all manner of evil so that you will have the sweet companionship of the Holy Ghost to be with you and to comfort you through your life's mission here upon the earth. And through your faithfulness, as time goes on you will see and realize more fully the purposes of life and your last days will be your best days here upon the earth. And I seal upon you all these blessings and every other blessing that the Lord has in store for you and I seal you up unto eternal life to come forth in the morning of the first resurrection crowned with immortality and with the opportunity of associating with your loved ones who have preceeded you to the other side as well as with those who have been faithful throughout their administration. And this I do through your faithfulness and by the authority of the Holy Priesthood which I hold as a Patriarch in Israel and in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

SIGNED BY

Miles L. Jones

PATRIARCH.

STATE OF UTAH
CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

State File Number: 2011012820

Lois Ruth Erickson

DECEDENT INFORMATION

Date of Death:	October 27, 2011	Time of Death:	06:40
City of Death:	Orem	County of Death:	Utah
Age:	91	Date of Birth:	October 7, 1920
Place of Birth:	Ogden, Utah	Sex:	Female
Armed Services:	No	Marital Status:	Widowed
Spouse's Name:		Usual Occupation:	Homemaker
Industry/Business:	Own Home	Education:	Associate Degree
Residence:	Provo, Utah	Father's Name:	Arias Guy Beinap
Mother's Name:	Mabel Harris	Facility Type:	Nursing Home/Assisted Living
Facility or Address:	Orchard Park Care Center		

INFORMANT INFORMATION

Name:	Jeane Burton	Relationship:	Daughter
Mailing Address:	1669 North 1400 West, Provo, Utah 84604		

DISPOSITION INFORMATION

Method of Disposition: Burial
Place of Disposition: Ben Lomond Cemetery, North Ogden, Utah
Date of Disposition: November 2, 2011

FUNERAL HOME INFORMATION

Funeral Home: SereniCare Funeral Home, LLC
Address: 12278 South Lone Peak Parkway, Suite #103, Draper, Utah 84020
Funeral Director: Joshua Hunter

MEDICAL CERTIFICATION

Medical Professional: Lawrence K Nobuhara, Central Utah Clinic, 1055 North 500 West, Provo, Utah 84604

CAUSE OF DEATH

Enterococcus sepsis
Tobacco Use: Non-user
Medical Examiner Contacted: No Autopsy Performed: No Manner of Death: Natural

Date Issued: November 8, 2011

This is an exact reproduction of the document registered in the State Office of Vital Statistics. Security features of this official document include: Intaglio Border, V & R images in top cycloids, ultra violet fibers and hologram image of the Utah State Seal, over the words "State of Utah". This document displays the date, seal and signature of the State Registrar and the County/District Health Officer.



Janice L. Houston

Janice L. Houston, State Registrar
Office of Vital Statistics



063293059

Gary L. Edwards

Gary L. Edwards
Director/Health Officer
County/District Health Department



ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

Lois B. Erickson

Weber County Mother of the Year

Notes of a talk given by David B. Erickson March 1976 at the Weber County mother of the Year banquet after Mom received the award.

My name is David. I was asked to say a few words about Mom and our family. I am the fourth of eight children, basically in the middle of the family. I'm not sure whether that stands for moderation or mediocrity.

I would have written this down, but I'm a journalism and English student. This doesn't mean that I can write well. With a permissive trend in education, it just means I know enough to know better.

May I say thank you for the wonderful tribute you have shared about our mother, and for the honor you have bestowed on her. Most of you know her well as a friend, and a community leader of good and useful programs and events. She is also a wonderful friend and leader to her family and children. This is what I was asked to address.

You may find some background interesting. Mom and Dad moved from a home on 16th Street in Ogden to Pleasant View in 1951. In fact it will be 25 years next month. I was born shortly after they moved here and claim the distinction of being the oldest native of the Pleasant View Homestead.

What that means is that I may stand as a credible witness today. I have watched Mom be mom for a quarter of a century. Today I'm going to do what is done more and more today - I'm going to tell you the inside story

Mom and Dad were married January 24th, 1944. Dad was in the military service. First there was Bruce, then Janet, Susan, David, Nancy, Chris, Ellen, and Jeane. They let each of us know as we came along that we were a family.

We did many things together. The most important things I did in my youth were done with my family around me. It seemed we were always singing songs, popping corn. There were many opportunities to get together at holidays, Sunday evenings, anniversaries, and the regular family vacations.

When discussing the cost of vacations – one neighbor said they couldn't afford to take their family on vacations – Mom said you couldn't afford not to take your family on a vacation. Vacations help keep a family together. Dad said you have to eat anyway, so it is just the cost of gas – it can be done. With eight kids in the car we've traveled from Canada to Mexico and from the East coast to the West.

We went through several station wagons and a Volkswagen bus. When my parents were looking for another car, one salesman said, "Buy the kind of car you want. Your kids will never go with you anyway." How far would that car and that attitude get you?

It was often entertaining to watch people as they watched us drive down the road in a car packed with our large family. While we were often counting the foreign and state license plates on cars, other people were counting the kids in our car. Once a couple from Europe stopped to talk with us, "You're from Utah, are you Mormons?" he asked with a thick accent. He then counted the kids. "Eight?"

You have more than one wife? No? Then perhaps, ah perhaps, you are in the Mormon Tabernacle Choir!”

Being in a large family wasn't always easy, but it was always lively, and you usually had someone to look out for you.

As for the mother of a large family, in twenty-five years I have never seen Mom with an idle moment. She is up early, usually five or six in the morning, and always seems to have a major project going, even if it was just making lunches. You could count on her to help her children get ready for whatever they had going that day. For example, the other day I had to leave at 4 a.m. to wallpaper a house in Holden, Utah. Mom fixed my lunch. When I opened it I found ½ gallon of milk, ½ dozen apples, a bag of potato chips, four or five pieces of fruit cake, and four or five sandwiches ranging from rye and cheese to peanut butter and jelly. Plus a handful of old fashioned licorice sticks. I wondered since exactly how long she wanted me to stay away.

Mom was always going beyond the minimum, more than the expected, and farther than you would think.

For example, Susan was selected as Miss Heritage Halls at Brigham Young University. She called home about her dress – how she could change it. Dad said get a new one. Mom called Susan about the color, then picked out material and a pattern. There were only two or three days before Susan's presentation event. Mom assured her the dress would arrive in time, though obviously sight unseen. The afternoon before the event Mom had the dress done and in Susan's hands when she put it on she looked pretty. Actually gorgeous.

Later the word came out. When those at the dorm heard Susan's mother was making a dress in only a couple of days and was selecting the pattern and material without any input other than color, one roommate offered, “You can wear mine in case it's ugly, and you don't want to wear it.” Susan told her mom knew what she was doing, and that everything would be all right. It was, and then some.

Mom has also had to put up with a lot. Once she had to make 9 dance costumes for one dance recital. Another time Bruce swallowed some gas; another time it was sulfa pills. On that occasion they made him drink soapy dishwater to throw them up. Once I wondered how convenient that there just happened to be dishwater in the sink, but with eight kids there's always bound to be some. Another time I remember Mom giving first aid to Chris, who jumped on the end of a board, only to have the other end come up and hit him.

Home was always active and Mom tolerated more than just children. We don't really live on a farm, but you would think we did. We had pets and 4-H projects, puppies, kittens, horses, a cow or two, chickens, turkeys, pheasants, pigs, pet magpies and bottles of ants. The larger animals always seemed to get out when Dad was at work. Many a time Mom led a wayward pig home by walking in front of it with the pan of grain.

Mom is a living tribute to her parents. Her past and Heritage are deeply rooted in the soil of Weber County. Her ancestors settled here – Louisa Sergeant, Martin Henderson Harris, Gilbert Belnap, Adaline Knight and other well-known Pioneers. They worked hard so their posterity could have a better life than what they did.

Her intent has been the same. Make life better for us as children, not necessarily for them as parents.

Mom and Dad could have moved to better jobs. But it meant more to them that the children felt permanence and stability in a rapidly changing world, than that they would enjoy the comforts and pleasures of the world. Clearly to have a Mother of the Year, you also have to have a Dad of the Year.

It is one thing to raise an intelligent child. It is another when an intelligent child wants to follow in your footsteps and live the principles he or she has seen you live.

Mom and dad started us out young. We learn who was in our family by saying our prayers. Every prayer my mother assisted me with included, “bless Dad and Mom, Bruce, Janet, Susan, David, Nancy, Chris, Ellen, and Jeane.” It went on to bless the poor and needy, sick and afflicted and others, which she has.

Mom also taught us to say thank you. In closing, and behalf of your children and for those whose lives you've touched and helped, I say thank you. Thank you Mom, our Mother of the Year.



EULOGY AND TALK FOR LOIS RUTH BELNAP ERICKSON

BORN: 7 OCTOBER 1920 IN OGDEN, UTAH

DIED: 27 OCTOBER 2011 IN OREM, UTAH

FUNERAL: 2 NOVEMBER 2011

GRANDVIEW 5TH WARD CHAPEL

1555 NORTH 1350 WEST, PROVO, UTAH

BY JANET ERICKSON GEE (DAUGHTER)

Wife. Mother. Daughter. Sister. Grandmother. Great-grandmother. Niece. Aunt. Sister-in law. Cousin. And Friend. We're here to honor and celebrate the life of Lois Ruth Belnap Erickson. She's been a righteous influence in our lives.

Today, we feel gratitude, not grief—gratitude for her living, laughing, and loving, as well as her example of service, kindness and love.

Lois was wanting to and was preparing to go home to Cove Point.

Now she is home—she's in a state of happiness in the paradise of God, until her spirit and body are again reunited.

Our memories of her and the associations we had with her will sustain us as we continue this life without her.

She has had JOY in her journey and her Joy is now continuing as she is surrounded with loved ones and friends. Imagine the reunion as she was welcomed Home to our Heavenly Father seeing Eldred, her husband, her parents, and many other family members and friends.

She lived 91 years filled with hope, faith, happiness; she was positive and upbeat, filling her days (and nights) with good works and charity.

She often said, "Trust in the Lord, and things will work out; keep the commandments, read your scriptures and keep praying."

She was born at home at 1111-21st street in Ogden, lived in Pleasant View, Utah most of her life, and moved to Provo in 2003.

Just imagine the many experiences she has had in her 91 years; their family was on a party telephone line with their number being 1149—now there are I-phones. They had an ice box for their milk delivered in glass bottles, with the cream on top, now we have refrigerators and freezers and ice makers.

Think of her thrill of the flashlight, airplane travel, the television, the computer, high-tech cameras, and pizza.

When she was in Junior High School, she heard John Phillip Sousa's band play; this instilled her love for patriotic music; she loved "God Bless America!"

She enjoyed her clerical work at the Thomas Dee Memorial Hospital on 24th street in Ogden and when she'd tell about the hospital, she'd often say, "don't ride in ambulances, they go way too fast and I'm not sure they are careful." In her later years, she rode in ambulances quite a few times, but they did get her where she needed to go.

She and Eldred were part of a large group of youth in the Ogden area; they were married for 45 years and loved the song, "Give Me one Dozen Roses" and used to play the record on the Victrola that we had.

On their anniversary, they'd have a fancy dinner for all of us at home and they would attend the temple, as part of their celebration. Grandma is famous for her "nut cups." We filled them with Spanish peanuts, Eldred's favorite and mints and candy.

She is an example of the Relief Society Motto – Charity never faileth. When we were younger, lots of neighbor kids played in our yard and often ate lunch with us. She'd take grape juice, or apricot jam or recently killed fryers (chickens) to neighbors and relatives, the rest they'd put in the North Ogden Locker—it was a large walk-in freezer with little lockers (ours was No. 127). Lois would say, "There's nothing like young, fresh, fried chicken!"

Sometimes, neighbors would be given a dozen of fresh eggs, or a ½ bushel of peaches or a sack of plums. In the winter, she'd make hot oatmeal cookies for us to "share" at the bus stop. YUM!

Lois exemplifies the 13th article of our faith---she believed in doing good to all men and women, she believed, hoped for, and endured many things and she hoped to be able to endure to the end and she did! She endured with faith and hope and in the last few days of her life, she bore a strong testimony of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to each of her children. It was a special one-on-one experience that we will all cherish.

She sought after things virtuous, and lovely, she loved the scriptures and read and listened to them often. She followed the admonition in D&C 88 "Seek ye out of the best books;" She loved to read, enjoyed Church books and magazines, and poetry and Shakespeare.

She loved the calling in Relief Society, teaching about cultural arts. Often as they studied different countries she'd try the recipes on us; we learned social studies as she drew the maps. She appreciated art, and was thrilled to visit the Huntington Library in California where there were the original paintings of "Blue Boy and Pinkie." She often visited the Cleveland Art Museum; she loved Monet's Water lilies, and enjoyed the BYU art exhibits as well.

She loved the Church's General conferences; it was a special opportunity that she looked forward to twice a year and when we were younger, she worked on a "conference quilt" as we'd listen to conference on the radio.

She loves the prophets, the temples, and the gospel—she knows that families are eternal and can be together forever. On her last Sunday, said "I have a beautiful view, I can see the temple out my window."

Loves her family; worked hard to help us, teach us, and make things special for us. Halloween, she made donuts and shined red apples, she still dressed up even last year. Thanksgiving dinner would often include both sets of families and we'd play afterwards. Christmas Eve was a program at the church, she directed it. We were our live nativity, often with real hay and angels in costumes. We loved singing the carols and visited many relatives on Christmas Day.

We'd have birthday parties with pin the tail on the donkey. She included a \$2 bill with photos she'd taken in the birthday cards for each child, grandchild and great grandchild.

She loved to make special birthday cakes with pennies in the batter, (she'd wash them), whoever found them in their cake would be able to keep them. She would decorate the cakes with fresh flowers and special icing and small decorations.

She made large anniversary cakes for our grandparents' 40th and 50th wedding anniversaries and she made some of our beautiful wedding cakes as well.

We took trips to Yellowstone 5 or 6 times each summer, Mom had her trusty Haines Guide, (we knew all the times the geysers went off, what to look for). To keep us happy, she had a brown, canvas treat bag under her feet filled with cookies and licorice (we took 100 pieces of black licorice and 100 pieces of brown licorice)—stopped at monuments read inscriptions always learning and encouraging us to too.

Southern Utah many times, lots of special memories fishing, picnics up Ogden and Weber Canyons; a favorite was Tony Grove Lake in Logan Canyon. We stayed in a trailer at Fish Lake in southern Utah and played baseball.

She traveled to the west and east coast and lots of places in between. She and Dad enjoyed Mexico; she traveled to England, Canada and Hawaii with family members.

She enjoyed her many different cameras—liked to take pictures, many photo albums – tradition to take family photo every Christmas for 25 years and send to family and friends.

Directed Easter and Christmas cantatas; she'd make corsages for everyone and she and dad would serve homemade grape juice and popcorn for an after program treat.

Wrote a winning roadshow, "All that Glitters is not Gold," and directed Promised Valley musicals.

She directed and Cove Point Choir and loved their weekly get togethers as well as the monthly program.

Some of her favorite hymns were "I Need Thee Every Hour," "Come Ye That Love the Lord," "I Am a Child of God," "Come, Come, Ye Saints," "Nearer my God to Thee," and "I'll be Home for Christmas."

She was a primary chorister for years and loved "I have Two Little Hands, Little Purple Pansies and Give Said the Little Stream." As new primary songs would be written, she'd be so excited that they would be about the Savior, the commandments, the Temple and Families.

She enjoys flowers, grew a variety of gladiolas and roses and really loved the American Beauty Rose. In Pleasant View, she loved looking out her living room window at Ben Lomond Mountain, 5280 feet tall. She loved the sunsets, and took many photos of them as well as the mountains and the flowers.

She was a hard worker; She and Dad had 5 acres in Pleasant View.

Large gardens with fresh fruit and vegetables, berries, (yummy raspberries for breakfast) fruit trees, lots of canning – her blackcap pies were awesome as well as the raspberry jelly.

The large concord grape patch paid the taxes each year on our home and property. The day her 6th child was born she planted 50 poplar trees and multiflora roses to add beauty as well as windbreak to our yard.

Friendly to our animals, though her favorites were the beagle dogs, Boots, Ginger, Pepper and others—and Tippy a black cocker spaniel.

We had a big pig that liked her—would get out of pen—to get it home she'd take a pan of oats and say, "here Pig, pig" and it would follow her home. It would rarely follow us home, but it would her.

She told us to sing to the chickens, so they would lay more eggs and wouldn't peck us. We sold eggs; there was a large sign in front of our house: "*Erickson's Fresh Eggs*" –a white sign with blue florescent letters. Delivered many dozens of eggs to little stores and markets in Ogden; we helped her.

All of her baking was from scratch, including bread, awesome dinner rolls, and the famous "Starlight cake." And she made a great fruitcake, that wasn't given away, it was actually eaten. Our dad liked it full of nuts and some of us did too!

Sewed dresses, curtains, costumes for dancing recitals and for Halloween and taught us to sew and enjoy creating.

She encouraged us to pick cherries and we'd save the money for school – she'd get us up at about 4:00 am to have us to the orchards by 5:00 am. She would make us waffles, Dad called them the "awful waffles" and then he'd tease and say the "awful good waffles—she'd take us picking and then come back in the hot afternoon and bring us popsicles—we were the best loved and cared for kids!

Pres. Hinckley said righteous women, like Lois, have been placed here to help enrich, protect, and guard the homes.

Supported us in our church and school activities, in scouting, and in our jobs. She supported Dad as Mayor of Pleasant View, Justice of the Peace, Bishop and his other leadership positions.

Maybe our house was tight—we shared bedrooms, bathrooms, clothes, bikes, toys, but love was overflowing—we could always find someone to play with, to talk to—it was we, not me, we all worked together, prayed together and played together. Mom and Dad were a team and worked hard together!

Lois had a positive outlook, happy with life, and she is a life-long learner, studying Spanish at the Senior center in North Ogden, learning to use the computer, (quite good at it)! She's indexed many names in the Family History Program; I'm sure she's meeting the people and loving them!

Felt joy as a missionary –she and Eldred celebrated their 40th anniversary in the Peoria Illinois Mission and it thrilled them to serve together as Temple Square tour guides.

Lois often expressed gratitude to family, friends, those she worked with, and to her Heavenly Father for His goodness in her life. She expressed gratitude for her blessings in the many many journals she kept.

Lois enjoyed her association with the Daughters of the Utah Pioneer as she has a great heritage. She has kept many of their lives in our memories, displaying photos, telling and writing stories about them and showing us their genealogy.

As a 4-H and community leader for 25 years, she lived the motto – “make the best better” – whether it was helping to make the Pleasant View park, where we all picked up rocks and raked so we could have a playground and ball diamond, or planting trees or shrubs or being a 4-H leader to many of our friends, she was the “leader” and knew how to inspire youth and get things accomplished.

We learned seams had to be sewed straight, or unpicked; Demonstrations for the county fairs had to be practiced over and over; Fruit had to be of uniform size and placed carefully in the jars, peaches all had to be turned one way; record books spelled correctly (before the days of white correction fluid); and for grain projects, each kernel had to be clean and perfect.

Each Labor day we went to the Hooper Tomato Day displaying our 4-H projects and earning a little money.

She helped us to be the best we could be and to achieve our potential.

Some of her favorites:

- Hallmark movies
- Sound of Music
- Razzle dazzle candy
- Apricot and grape leather
- Parsley (grew outside under the dryer vent) garnish on dinners and she'd eat it
- Making Mayday baskets for dinners
- Salmon, roast beef, potatoes and gravy, French toast with chili sauce, a sausage and rice dish, strawberry refrigerator dessert, applesauce cake, twice baked potatoes, and Farr's green pineapple ice cream
- Rainbow Gardens' restaurant (Ogden Canyon)
- Chuck-a-Rama Restaurant
- Board games, especially Racko
- Evening in Paris cologne in the small blue bottle.
- Watching basketball games
- Rex Morgan and Family Circus comic strips
- Milky Way, Snickers, and Kit Kat chocolate bars, and milk chocolate dollar mints
- Handkerchiefs

- Orchids, gardenias – often she was given a corsage of gardenias by Dad or the children. She'd wear it on the day she received it, like Mother's Day or Valentine's, then she'd come home and pin it to the curtain above the kitchen sink where she'd enjoy it for days.

She has a coat of many colors – gorgeous silk robe with skirt, tie belt and striped colors, used in our Christmas nativity.

Small wooden chest of miniatures: little dogs, elephants, other animals, and tiny foods many from our dad – would let us and the grandchildren look at them.

For many years she enjoyed the “crowd” of 12 couples in Pleasant View that got together 6 times a year to have dinner. Lois started the group. The first activity was a Halloween party at the Erickson's—they used the garage for a spook alley. A few of the people are still alive.

She loved the friends and neighbors in Pleasant View and those she served with at Church and in the community.

She loved being at Cove Point with her friends and loved working with the sisters and leaders when she served as the Branch Relief Society President for five years. She was the first resident Relief Society President at Cove Point.

Thank you to all of you for your goodness and kindness to her. Thanks for your caring and friendship for our Mom Lois Erickson. We appreciate your being here today to pay tribute to her.

A small stone marker in cemetery in Clarkston, Utah (near Martin Harris's grave) in which is inscribed a name and this verse:

“A light from our household is gone, a voice we loved is stilled. A place is vacant in our hearts that never can be filled.”

We honor you today, Lois. We'll miss you. Mom has more than 100 descendents, and today I've shared more than 100 memories of her. At this date, there are 42 Grandchildren and 64 Great-grandchildren. (2 Nov. 2011)

Death cannot take away the memories we have of you, or our love for you, it can't cripple our spirits, it can't destroy faith, it merely separates us for a while.

Lois didn't quit or give up in the face of a variety of medical challenges over many years. Lois met those challenges with strength and patience and tried to learn from her experiences. She looked forward with faith to what awaits her.

Because she believed in the scripture found in Moroni 7:41, she has hope through the atonement of Christ and the power of his resurrection, to be raised unto life eternal.

She loved the words to the song, “When Faith Endures” by Aunt Naomi W. Randall, being sung today by Jim and Susan Schmidt.

May we have faith to endure until we meet her again but until we do, may we have gratitude for her life, and be grateful for the things we have learned from her as we enjoy the fond memories of her!

She's a “fabulous friend;” a “patient person;” and grand and great-grandmother to more than 100 children.

We love you, Lois Ruth Belnap Erickson!

In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

—Janet Erickson Gee

Memories

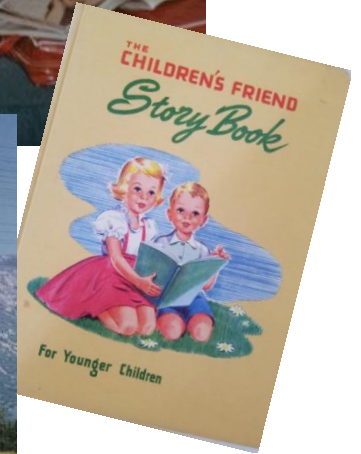
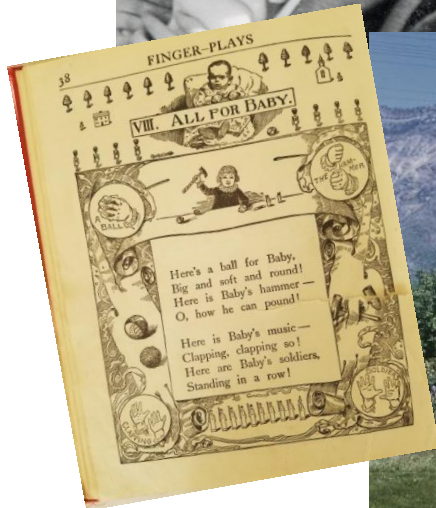
After we've looked at Lois's life, the next question might be, "How would she want to be remembered, and what would she consider her legacy?" It would be very difficult to measure the countless lives she has influenced through her dedication to those she taught and led throughout her life. Studying the gospel, serving others in her church callings, and music brought her peace and strength which she continually shared with others. She worked hard to make a better community through leading 4-H groups and other service opportunities, and developed selflessness and empathy by working with and helping those afflicted with Multiple Sclerosis. If she wasn't happy about something she looked for ways she could make a difference. Throughout her papers there are a large number of copies of letters she had sent to politicians, news networks, corporations, and church leaders giving her opinion or thanking them for their service and influence. She felt she could have an impact with her phone calls and her words.

When Eldred died in 1989, Lois was 69; she lived to be 91 years old. She felt that they were a team even though they were temporarily separated. She missed him every day and occasionally felt his presence as she worked hard on their shared priorities and being together eternally. As many times as she stumbled and fell, she was always working to get back up and get better. Her many medical challenges were just challenges – to work on and improve upon. Never did we hear her say "I give up," "I'm so discouraged," or "I'm bored." Her enthusiasm and attitude inspired all of us.

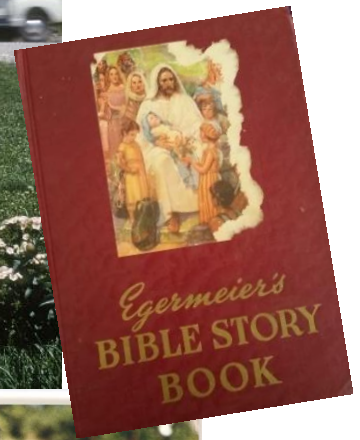
We might try to see some of the effects of her life by seeing what she has passed down to her children and grandchildren. Her love of the gospel and making the church a priority in her life; whether it was attending church each Sunday, daily studying the scriptures or embracing General Conference, was something she would want remembered by her family. The concept being, if it was important to her, then it would be important to her children. We all know how she wanted to serve a mission. Even after Dad became sick, we knew that this was something they had always talked about, and they embraced the opportunity to serve in Illinois and on Temple Square. Some of that conviction and example must have influenced their sons and daughters to serve missions, and 25 grandchildren, and many great grandchildren to serve full time missions, with many others serving in stake, service, and special missions at Nauvoo and "Savior of the World."

Lois was always very involved with her family and loved staying in contact with them. Having a family and making them a top priority were so important to her. She and Eldred raised 8 children – who in turn had 42 grandchildren and they in turn have had 98 (at this point) great-grandchildren. It isn't the sheer numbers that have made that significant, but that their example and love have extended to each one. She continually tried to support each child's special events as they grew up, graduated in school, left for missions, and married and started their own families. She cheered at our successes and prayed harder for our challenges. Her cards to family members were always signed by "Dad" and Mom, or "Grandpa" and Grandma and included photos and a \$2.00 bill. She loved to tell everyone about her family, and that included her extended family of parents, brothers and sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. By phone and letters and cards, she tried constantly to stay close and to make each feel remembered and loved.

The following memories by some of her children and grandchildren describe a number of ways that Lois B. Erickson has had an influence and impact upon her family.



Our wonderful mother...





Steven, Jeane, Miriam & Melissa Burton

Playing Games with Grandma

Growing up, I never saw Grandma Erickson take much interest in playing games. Even when she moved closer to our family in Provo, she preferred to spend our time together in conversation. But after a terrible fall that ended in a coma and weeks of rehabilitation, she unexpectedly developed a fondness for playing games. I was surprised and delighted. My family would go to her house on Sundays, and Dad would unfold the card table while the rest of us perched on a random assortment of chairs. Together we spent hours playing board and card games – Flinch, Rack-O, the Uncle Wiggily Game, Bananagrams – every game she had in her closet and even more that we brought from home. We took advantage of the precious opportunity to spend time with each other, and I will always cherish the memory of those special Sunday afternoons spent playing games with Grandma.

Melissa Burton

Movie Night with Grandma

I remember once, when I was probably about eleven years old, my sister Melissa went to a dance with my parents and I was too young to go. Instead, I got to spend the evening with my grandma, Lois Erickson. My parents dropped me off at her condo at Cove Point. I remember how excited I was to have her to myself for the whole evening. We prepared treats and watched a movie I was very fond of at the time: “The African Queen,” starring Humphrey Bogart and Katharine Hepburn. She didn’t think she had ever seen it before and I was so excited to show it to her. I don’t remember what else we did, but I still remember how excited I felt to have Grandma all to myself.

Miriam Burton

A Few Memories of My Mother Lois B. Erickson—Jeane Erickson Burton

One of my first memories with Mother was down in the big coop—she was rocking me in a large white wooden rocking chair, and singing to me and to the laying hens at the same time—she said singing made the chickens lay better.

In Mom's busy day, one of the times I could have her to myself was in the middle of the night. I'd wake her up, and she and I would go into the kitchen. She would fill a large blue bowl with Wheaties and milk and I'd eat while she'd read her Relief Society Magazine, *Discourses of Brigham Young*, *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith* or *Doctrines of Salvation* by Joseph F. Smith. When I was finished eating, she'd rock me to sleep while singing songs—*Have You Seen My Teddy Bear*, *Now Run Along Home*, *Sing A Song of Six Pence*, *Oh I Love Little Pussy*, etc. This was a favorite time for me.

I was sick a lot as a child, and I have memories of Mother coming in to help me during the night. She would iron hot cloths to put on my aching legs or wrap around my sore throat. I remember her bringing me a small dish of violets to put by my bedside.

When I was too young to go to school, Mother took me with her on weekly outings to visit “the Aunts”—Jewel, Della and Gladys. When Aunt Lel (Luella Harris) came to town, Mom took Aunt Lel and Ellen and I to Fendalls for parfaits and ice cream sundaes.

Mom liked to spend time with the relatives. Mom and Dad made sure we spent lots of time visiting grandparents. Every Saturday Grandpa and Grandma Erickson came to our home for lunch—Mom made toasted cheese sandwiches and pork and beans. On Sundays we went to Grandma and Grandpa's house—we played with toys and listened while the folks talked, then we'd have evening supper—cold roast beef, Wonder Bread, tomatoes, celery, Clover Club potato chips, cold milk in colored metal glasses, flower-shaped cookies, or pink, brown and vanilla colored waffle cookies served with Farr's hand dipped ice cream, and always Brach's candy. I heard lots of stories from these wonderful people. About once a month, we'd go see Grandma and Grandpa Belnap in Salt Lake. I especially enjoyed having them move back to Ogden so I could see them more often. After Grandma Belnap died, Grandpa came to our home every week. Mom gave him a haircut, washed his clothes and made a nice dinner for him. My job was to sit in the front room and keep him company. Thanks to Mom, I learned many stories from him.

Mom was very creative. She made wonderful food—pies, roasts, rolls, fried chicken, etc. She also made lots of clothing and dance costumes. She recovered furniture and wallpapered our bedrooms—she even made the paper's stripes match. She was amazing.

Mom spent many hours driving me to violin and dance lessons, and while she drove she listened to me talk. She was my leader in thirteen different 4-H projects. Mom took a job with the Multiple Sclerosis Society when I was about eight. She often took me with her to meetings and to service activities and had me help feed people who needed help, or had me play my violin for them. Eventually she moved her office to our home so she wasn't away quite as much. Once, Mom went with the Society on a business trip to California and brought me back a hand-blown necklace. She was a busy lady.

One thing Mom and I liked to do was go to the movies. After I read the book, she took me to see *Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. Later she took me to see *Fantasia*, and then at her suggestion she and I went to see the first *Star Wars* right after it came out. Sometimes we went to the ZCMI lunch counter for hot dogs with chips, and an orange pineapple drink.

While I was away at college, she called me frequently and sent letters. There was one time I was so sick at Ricks College that she drove all the way up by herself, made a bed in the back of the station wagon, and drove me home in a horrible rainstorm. She could do anything.

After Mother told me she had a brain tumor I received permission to take my college exams early and went and stayed with her and Dad. I was with her as she was being taken into the operating room. As they wheeled her in, she told me what foods she had in the freezer, where the packages of Jell-O were, how to make a roast for Dad, and what to fix so we wouldn't be hungry—always thinking of others. Fortunately they let Mother come home from the hospital right before Christmas. It was good to have her home. Shortly after Christmas my friend who was a nurse came and helped me take Mother's bandages off and wash her incision. Mom and I put a large puzzle together, and watched some fun movies during that Christmas holiday.

Because of Mom's tumor and Dad's leukemia, my fiancé Steve and I decided to keep our wedding plans simple. Mom worked to make my wedding cake, but Ellen was kind enough to help her finish it up—Mom's arthritis made it hard for her to squeeze the frosting tubes.

Dad passed away the next year, and everything changed. Mom and Dad were so connected that it seemed Mom lost a big part of herself. But Mom was resilient and learned to do so many things again; she also had lots of help from various family members. Mom got back to driving and was able to care for herself in a variety of ways. She was pretty careful—she knew her limits and kept to them. Even so, her balance was off because of damage she'd received from her brain tumor, and she fell a lot. Once when I was expecting Miriam, Mom fell in her garage and broke a few ribs. After she returned home from the doctor, Mom phoned to ask if I would come help her get back on her feet. This was a difficult time for us because I was threatening miscarriage, but we figured out a way that would work. My husband Steve was unemployed, so he and I and our daughter Melissa went to Pleasant View to care for Mother. Steve tucked Mom into one bed, me into another, and he went back and forth taking care of both of us, plus Melissa.

In 1997 Mom asked if Steve and I would take her to Hawaii—she'd always wanted to go. Kendall's wife Carinne found us some inexpensive tickets and the five of us went to Hawaii—eleven days, three islands, three adults, five bags, one wheelchair, a seven-year-old, and a four-year-old. It was amazing.

In Spring 2001, Mom's knee finally needed to be replaced. She had surgery in Ogden then came to convalesce at our home in Provo for six weeks. We rented a hospital bed, and turned my sewing room into a rehab center, each day therapists came. Melissa and Miriam, 11 and 8 ½, were homeschooling at the time so Mom was a good sport to put up with a household of commotion—although I have to say both girls worked very hard to be quiet. Mother had a TV in her room, and the girls liked watching shows and having root beer floats with Grandma. As she got better, Mother showed the girls how to make biscuits. It was a memorable time.

In 2003 when Mom was almost eighty-three, she called me on the phone and said she'd been praying that morning and felt it was time to move. She asked what housing arrangements were available near where I lived. I said there was a duplex, a few condos, and a retirement center that was a seven-minute walk from my home. Mom felt she needed to be as independent as possible while at the same time have someone take care of most of her housing needs and some of her meals. Mother decided the retirement center sounded best and asked me to make an appointment. When she came to Cove Point for a tour, she brought Janet and Susan. They took the tour, and looked at apartment A-1. At the end of the visit, she pulled out her checkbook and said, "I'll take it. How much do I need to give you for a down payment?" The people told me they'd never seen someone who made their own choices and took charge of life like she did.

Shortly after her arrival, she and I decided to throw a birthday party and invite all her new neighbors. She planned the menu and I made the food. We made two kinds of cake, special foods for those with dietary restrictions, and also candy, nuts, punch and water. We printed invitations and she gave one to each resident. The birthday open house lasted for over two hours. By the end of the party, she felt she knew everyone at Cove Point. She loved all her new friends. At lunch she had her crowd of friends and they usually stayed and talked long after the meal was cleared up.

After moving in, Mom said it was a very exciting time for her; she'd "always wanted to live in a dorm." With the move to Provo, Mom decided to go back to college and get a degree at BYU. She wanted my help in making the arrangements. BYU needed her transcripts. "Was she a student in good standing when she last went to school?" "Yes," I said, "she was a good student back in 1938." (!) That really surprised them. They said if that was so, then she could probably be accepted. I called Weber State and they had to go down to some Quonset huts to look through old boxes to find the records—it took a few days to locate the transcripts. Yes, she had been a good student. Mom was accepted to BYU and I helped her with homework. Mom did most of her homework by hand, although she did have a computer that she also used.

About this same time, Mom was sad; she was told she wouldn't be getting a calling. Stake members outside her branch filled all the callings. Mom didn't like that at all. She hadn't moved here to sit and do nothing. She wanted to serve. I talked to my friend who was the stake Relief Society president to see if there wasn't some kind of calling Mother could hold. She recommended I speak with the stake president. They both went to meet and visit with Mom. Instead of a small calling, she was soon asked to be the Relief Society president.

No resident before or since has served in that calling, but Mother served for several years. She did wonderfully. First, she wanted to make sure the residents all knew each other's names, so we got nametags that hung around their necks and she passed them out each week. Mom knew every sister and every brother in her branch. Mom also knew all the workers at the retirement community by name. She even knew many people in our stake. She worked to learn their names, and she went to all the leadership meetings. I was told by others who were in attendance, that Mom didn't sit back but was interested and gave suggestions that were implemented. Her counselors were also called from the Cove Point residents, and they too worked to meet the needs of their branch.

Not only did Mother come to know lots of new people, but she also got to know my family better. Steve was her Sunday school teacher for one year and my family and I were with her every week. She spent most Thanksgivings and Christmases at our home, and we played games at her home on Sunday evenings. My daughters spent time watching shows with Mom. Going on errands, driving to see the leaves and having picnics—there were many fun outings. On one memorable occasion we drove to Manti, singing the whole way down and back. She said it reminded her of when she had all her children at home.

With her new calling, Mom sadly decided her plate was too full, and discontinued her college plans. However, she didn't stop working to make life exciting. She formed a choir at Cove Point that she led for as long as she was able until she passed away. The choir sang at her funeral, and lives on as a legacy. Six years later, "Lois's Choir" still continues, closing each session with *Sing Your Way Home* as a tribute to Mother.

Mother didn't give up, regardless of her personal pride—if something needed to be done to make things work, she would do it. When Mom could no longer sit up in bed, she and I went shopping for a special electric bed with a soft mattress. When she couldn't get out of the chair, we went to a medical store to buy her a chair that would lift her to a standing position so she could keep going. When we found that she had drop foot, in both feet, she refused to be embarrassed and we got leg and foot braces specially made to help keep her from stumbling. She worked to find clothing and shoes that would adapt and she relentlessly took therapy in order to stay mobile as long as possible. Even still, Mother fell and fell. She broke bones, blinded one eye, and injured her head so many times that one doctor commented to me that her head resembled a bowling ball. But she would not quit. She was determined to keep going until she was done. Even though she and I planned much of her funeral in detail, she focused on life.

Mother was a woman of great courage and faith. She had several experiences in her last few years that showed tremendous faith in the Savior and His priesthood. She frequently called on my husband Steven for a blessing. On one occasion she called me to say she'd fallen and broken her nose. She was right.

Blood was everywhere. We sat in the emergency room for over 2½ hours. She didn't complain, but kept needing more and more paper towels pressed against her face. She asked if I'd call Steve for a blessing. Just before he arrived they took her back for the x-rays. The assistant removed the towels and her nose looked so sad—it lay flat over against the side of her cheekbone. Steve arrived at that moment. They put the towels back on her face to control the bleeding during the blessing. Once given, the towels were removed and her nose was completely well. The assistant said he would still take x-rays even though it no longer appeared broken. He was right; no bones were broken. Mom wasn't surprised, just grateful.

Many falls later, Mother had a fall that caused bleeding in the brain. After she was prepped for surgery, and before proceeding, she and I were alone together in the pre-op room. She sang, *When Faith Endures* then bore her testimony to me that the Lord was in charge and all would work out as it was supposed to. She said she trusted the Lord to take care of her.

After surgery and an adverse reaction to medicine Mother was in a coma for 17 days. As a result, Mother's physical skills were depleted. There was little she could do for herself. Again, she asked Steve to come to the hospital late one evening to give her a blessing. The pronounced blessing said she would regain many of her skills and would yet bless thousands of people. Mother was surprised and had no idea what this could mean, but she did not forget it. She worked hard at physical therapy, speech therapy, even eating therapy; she had to learn to write all over again. Eventually she returned to her home. Although still struggling, she looked for ways to serve and help others. One day Mom asked if I'd teach her how to index (I think it was Susan's good idea). I taught her and worked with her until she could do it. It was hard for her, as her hands were no longer quick secretarial hands, but worn and twisted with arthritis. When she tried to hit one letter, her crooked finger hit the key next to it. But she persevered. Every day after lunch she came home and worked on her indexing. In the beginning it took her a whole week to type one batch, and even then, sometimes the batch expired before she completed it. She didn't mind, she just kept working on it. Interestingly, after Mother passed away, a stake indexing newsletter was handed out which listed Mother as one of the top 20 indexers of our stake. She had indexed over 3,000 individuals' names. She *had* blessed thousands of individuals both through indexing and through her example.

One day, while I was coming home from visiting teaching, I had a feeling to visit Mother. I went to the rehab center where she was recovering from a fall and could not find her. They said she was getting her hair done. I went into the beauty shop to discover Mother in a wheel chair with her hands over her face. I asked if she was okay. She said she was not. I had them take her temperature—102 degrees and rising. I called an ambulance that took her to the hospital. By the time we arrived, her fever was over 104 and she was throwing up. They quickly checked her over. The doctor said she was rapidly spiraling downward and wasn't sure if she could last much longer—she had an infection they weren't able to control. I called Ellen and Steve. Just after Ellen came, Mom's branch president arrived saying he felt he was to come to the hospital to give Mom a blessing. In the blessing he said she would recover and live long enough to give her children the messages. After the blessing, Mom's symptoms calmed and she began to revive. Within a few days, Mother had a unique blessing from beyond the veil and was allowed the privilege to impart a special message to each of her children before passing away. Not long after completing her task, she was pronounced well and sent to a rehabilitation center. She died soon after being admitted. The nurse said that after Mother was settled, she and an orderly walked into the room and saw Mother visibly fade as her life went out.

At her funeral, in Provo far from her home in Ogden, ninety-one-year-old Mother had so many people from Provo and Ogden attend that it filled our chapel. She was loved by so many. One thing Mother always did to help keep up her spirits was to listen to or sing Christmas music. As they carried her coffin from the chapel in late October, my pianist friend Tonya Stimpson played *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*. It was a fitting tribute to Mother's testimony.



Chris: Some of my memories of Mom.

One of the earliest things I remember about mom was that she loved flowers. In the spring we would go buy flowers to plant in the yard, and we got to each choose a pack of flowers. When we got home, we would all help plant the flowers in the yard. I remember I always chose the purple petunias. Mom always worked very hard, around the house, in the PTA, 4-H, canning fruit and vegetables, or a myriad of other things. Mom would get up early while everyone else was asleep and read the scriptures and write in her journal; I think she liked the quiet time to herself. Mom always helped us with our 4-H books, and school reports. I remember her helping me write school reports and then she would type it when I was younger.

Keli Erickson: Memories of Lois: I think this experience demonstrates your mom's rock solid testimony of the Savior and her childlike uncluttered faith.

One evening I was over at her place, helping her into bed for the night. She had had another "falling episode" and still needed extra care. As I finished settling her into bed and prepared to quietly let myself out of her apartment, I heard her speaking out loud. I went back into her darkened bedroom to see if there was something she needed but immediately realized she was praying. Unable to kneel by her bed, she was offering a vocal and heartfelt prayer from under her covers. I did not stay to listen to her private prayer...She thought she was alone and I did not want to intrude on a very reverent moment. But she was faith-filled and faithful no matter what her circumstances, to the very last minute of her mortal journey.



Ray & Nancy Jensen family—2015

**Russell (Holly), Nathan (Megan), Brian (Allison) Allison (Alex) Bethany Jensen
Grandchildren: Kate, Logan, Lila, Zack, Landon, Max, Aubrey, Ethan, Isla (not pictured) Brinlee, Luke & Sienna)**



Lois 2011 with Great grandchildren – Kate, Zack, Landon & Aubrey

Memories from the Jensen family:

Bethany Jensen:

She was always serving others

She remembered everyone's birthday (even the great grandchildren). I think she even called sometimes and sang Happy Birthday.

Fun things at her house:

That little wooden cat thing that was by her chair at the house in Ogden.

Tea parties with the plastic tea set and purple pitcher

The white stool in the kitchen with the bear (I think) on the top

Kerplunk and tiddly winks

The old bike in the basement that had a fan

Self playing piano

More personal to me - the morning Mom, Dad and Nate went to the temple when Nate took out his endowments (9/11/01) Grandma called to talk to Mom while I was getting ready for school by myself. Grandma was the one that told me to turn on the TV, sort of explained what had happened, and told me that Brent Belnap (in NYC) was okay and to pass that message on to Mom.

Allison Jensen Jepsen:

- I was also going to say some of those same things - the candy dish (I liked the whoppers and jelly beans), visiting her in Provo at Cove Point and the "Stonehenge" place, and the birthday cards with pictures and the \$2 bills (I still have one of her \$2 bills in my wallet)

- I also remember that white stool with the bear and I remember that Grandma gave me a great back scratch once while I was sitting on it.

- She liked robin's egg blue.

- Right before I left on my mission I went to tell her goodbye (though she later came to the MTC when I left) and she told me that Grandpa would be with me on my mission and that they both cared very much about missionary work.

- She told me I looked like a gypsy once because of my skirt (I think she thought it was from Romania but it wasn't, haha).

- She was serving until the very end - RS president, leading the choir/music at Cove Point.

Brian Jensen:

Never heard her say a mean thing about anybody.

Always sent a crisp \$2 bill and recent photos with birthday cards.

Enjoyed visiting with her at Cove Point in Provo.

Always kept a well stocked candy dish.

Memories of Grandma Lois B. Erickson from Nathan Jensen

Grandma was always very good at writing me while I was on my mission in Colorado.

I left for my mission on October 3rd, 2001, less than a month after the September 11th attacks. In Grandma's first letter to me dated October 22nd, 2001 she alluded to the challenges and dangers facing our country. Here's part of what she said: "Dear Elder Nathan. Grandpa Eldred will be very excited to see you join the great band of the Lord's army. It was interesting as I think of this — When Grandpa was in World War II, he said he felt he was in the Lord's army, trying to conquer "evil and designing men." Things haven't changed much have they, except you will be sharing the true gospel and spreading peace — not evil or hatred."

Love, Grandma Lois

In one of her letters dated March 22, 2002 she said: "Dear Elder Nathan. I was writing letters this morning and decided to answer your letter of March 18th. The pictures you sent were so good and

interesting. At least you appeared happy! But that is what the gospel does — it makes you “blossom”, ha! Your work seems to be going very well. Are most of the people you baptize of various religions? You know some countries are predominately Catholic,etc.”

“Maybe you saw Saturday, Mar. 16th Church News about the Saluda. Our family, the Sargents, were on it and four children survived. My great-grandmother, Louisa Sargent Harris, came to Utah. I’m excited — David and I are going to Missouri April 8-10 for a church monument dedication. Your mother was interested.”

“Remember the harder you work the more blessings, and you’ve already found that out. Keep up the good work and may the Lord bless you every day!”

Love, Grandma Lois

I remember that Grandma and Grandpa served a mission together and how important missionary work was in their lives. It’s reflected in the number of their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren that have served church missions.

Other thoughts:

I remember many summers growing up visiting at Grandma’s house: She loved to laugh. Grandpa was that way as well, always finding humor and things to be happy about. Grandma would sit in her front room and visit with my parents and us and she would often be laughing and smiling about the stories we would share. We would almost always come home from a trip to Utah with apricot jam Grandma had made.

Memories by Russell Jensen:

I remember looking forward to trips to Grandma’s house as a child. We would all load up into the car and road-trip for a week of fun in Utah. We could always expect a warm welcome as soon as we got there. I enjoyed the sugar bowl on the table at breakfast so I could add extra sugar to my frosted flakes. Her kitchen was always busy and smelled amazing from all of the baking and cooking. There were so many heirlooms and curios to explore with stories behind them that Grandma was more than happy to share. Pickup Sticks was a game I’ve only ever seen and played at her house. Her canning collection was unmatched.

In college I was excited that she lived at Cove Point. I was able to come by weekly to bring her the newspaper and take out her trash. Her example of dedication and service to the Lord will stay with me and always inspire me. I will always remember her kind smile as she would say in a tone only she had, “Oh Russell, you are so special.”

Nancy’s memories taken from her talk at Lois’s funeral:

Mom had once told me that she wanted to live her life so that when looking back, she would have no regrets. As the years have passed, I have frequently thought of what she had said, and wondered just how you do that. I think the key was found in this statement from her journal written more than 30 years ago.

“I know that God and Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior live and I am so grateful for this knowledge. I try to live so that I might have his spirit to be with me at all times – once I said in a testimony meeting, ‘I try to live so that I might receive a spiritual experience every day’ – and I can truthfully say, ‘God does live; hears and answers our prayers – even little “insignificant” desires or helps almost immediately and helps me through each day.’ I can’t remember when I received a testimony. I feel I have always had one. I remember as a young girl sitting in the Twentieth Ward chapel and feeling, ‘Yes, I can say I know God lives,’ I am so grateful for a loving Father and his kindnesses to me.” Her faith and testimony were

reflected in the way she lived and the choices she made. She tried to have the spirit each day and I want to just take a few minutes and tell about some of the things she did to have the companionship of the Holy Ghost.

#1 Prayer—To be honest, I don't remember my mother telling or showing me how to pray, but I also don't remember ever going to bed without prayers, or having a meal without a prayer, or starting out on a trip without a prayer. We would all load into the car with the water jug at Mom's feet, the huge box of licorice ready, and Dad would take off his hat, and they would offer a prayer asking for safety and the car to work well. Her prayers weren't "wishful thinking" or a long checklist of wants, but consisted of thanking the Lord and asking for needed blessings. And her prayers were answered, as she knew they would be. A couple of weeks ago, when she was very ill, I asked her over the phone what I could do. Her simple answer was, "Pray for me," She knew it would help.

#2 Reading the scriptures—She had told me that when she was growing up, people didn't have individual copies of the scriptures like they do now. As teenagers, she and her sister Mildred saved their money and bought their first sets of scriptures and gave them to each other as gifts. She was constantly reading and learning from them. As a family, we grew up reading together from the scriptures. Frequently when I am reading the Book of Mormon, I will come across a scripture that I remember Dad or someone else reading and it takes me back to sitting around the living room and reading together. Family home evening was also very important and was started when we were all at home. I remember living at home for a time when I was teaching school and just being there with Mom and Dad – we always held family home evening.

#3 Words of the Prophet and studying the gospel—Mom loved General Conference. She took long lists of notes – I have been scanning her journals and found several pages each conference where she had taken notes on what was said. When October conference comes around I always think back to watching conference and mom sitting there with a big bowl of fresh apples just off our trees and slicing them for us to eat. She loved to learn and study. When she taught the Cultural Refinement Lesson many years ago in Relief Society, by the time she gave the lesson, we all felt like we had lived in the country that was assigned each month.

Music brought the spirit into her life. She loved music and that love was shown throughout her life; singing with our family, in the car when traveling, and leading many choirs,

#4 Attendance at church meetings and the temple—I don't ever remember a discussion in our home when we were growing up about going to church. That is just what we did on Sundays. Whenever we were traveling, we would always look for the nearest chapel to attend. There wasn't ever a time that we took a day off. I can remember some of the tiny chapels we attended in southern Utah on vacation.

– As a small child I remember Mom ironing her temple clothes before she and Dad would leave for the Logan temple (before Ogden temple was built) All through her life she has been temple worthy and one of the things she really loved about being at Cove Point was the weekly temple trips to the Provo temple.

#5 Service—On my answering machine, I have a message from several years ago, "Hi, this is Mom, I just wanted to tell you that I was called to be the Relief Society President" (at Cove Point). She loved her calling and getting to know the sisters. Several months ago in our ward we were having a Sunday School lesson on the Good Samaritan. As the teacher spoke, I immediately felt the impression that Mother was indeed a "Good Samaritan." I raised my hand and described how she had taken someone into her home and provided a place for her in her downstairs apartment. Many of you will remember Velma. She really cared for her in so many ways. Velma wasn't a member of the LDS church but Mom talked with her frequently about the blessings of the gospel and helped her with genealogy. Mom and others spent many months doing the temple work for Velma's family. The caring didn't stop when Velma moved to

Louisiana – she continued to write, sent her church materials and videos, and money. She would lose track of her for a time, but never gave up and would find her and be so happy. This continued until Velma passed away I think earlier this year.

Just two weeks ago, when I called she was concerned and worried that she wasn't doing enough to help other people. She was in a rehab center and was limited in what she was able to do. We started talking and I said something about her paying her tithing and fast offerings indicating that by doing so, it would help a lot people and she admitted that, Yes, she had paid those. As we talked I found out that she not only paid those but usually paid money for the Humanitarian fund, the missionary fund, and for Books of Mormon as well. I guess if I had to describe my mother in one word it would be "Obedient" and by being obedient to the commandments, she did indeed live her life so that the spirit could be with her and direct her.

In my mother's journals I found a Poem from Aunt Naomi – written the day after Uncle Earl died: (Aunt Naomi was our great aunt and wrote "I am a child of God.")

All is not sorrow

All is not sorrow in thy fair house,
Thy faith shall make thee whole,
My love shall give thee strength
And healing to thy soul.

All is not sorrow in thy fair house,
Cast off your doubts and pain,
Let trust engulf your heart
And loving peace remain.

---Naomi Ward Randall

The past several years she has written down her stories and sent them to all of us for Christmas. The following words are from her 2010 Christmas letter – "Please follow President Monson, our prophet, trust in the Lord, pray often together... We love you dearly and look forward to eternal life with each one of you!"

Memories from Ray Jensen:

Optimistic and cheerful – Lois is a key part of my life for the values she cherished and the never-ending efforts to share those values and lift up our family. I am blessed every day by her influence as it continues to be seen in the lives of my wife and her daughter, Nancy, and the lives of my children and their families. She was always cheerful and looking for the good in people and situations and despite any personal struggles she may have been facing, she maintained her tireless pursuit to care for her family and to reach out and serve others.

Even as she knew her time here was nearly over she looked forward with firm confidence of the blessings awaiting her beyond death. She was concerned for her family and made sure that she left no doubt as to her belief and testimony of our eternal nature and the reality of our relationship to Heavenly Father and our Savior. She lived the teachings of Peter: "giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. . . For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:5-7, 11

Her life, optimism, and testimony are a great gift to our family that we can cherish and pass on to others in her memory.



David & Julie Erickson family
Julie passed away May 2001

Pictured in at least one of the group pictures:
David and Cindy Erickson; Rachel, Peter, Sara, Megan, Jeffrey, Julia, Amanda, Stephanie, Lisa and Ryan Rehm; John, Annie, Adaline, Joseph, John David, and Hyrum Erickson; Michael, Jessica, Claire, Joshua, Allie, and Josie Erickson; Jared, Anna, Joseph, Rebekah, Michelle, Heather, and Justin Erickson; Emily, Michael, Jade, and Oscar Strand; Steven, Andra, Austin, Riley and Ava Erickson; Katie Erickson; Daniel, Jessica, Nathan and Amelia Erickson; and Elizabeth and Brian Earl.



A Memory of Mom --David Belnap Erickson

After Mom passed away, I ended up with many of her photo albums and some papers that related to me. Scanning the photos and some of her documents has taught me some things I didn't realize before about Mom. For one thing, she was a careful record keeper. Each one of the about 20,000 photographs has the date, place, and names of people written on the back of the photo or in the margin of the album.

Another thing I found in the materials I inherited were records about my youth. For example, there is a record of my health events like shots, illnesses, and doctor examinations. These records date from the day I was born until long after I had left home for my mission and college. Another record she kept about me is of significant events in my life, things I did in school, on my mission, or in college.

I also found cards and letters of expressions of love and thanks from people she helped. She was a prolific writer of thank you cards. I often met people who told me that Mom had sent them a thank you card or letter.

I know she cared deeply about each of her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Once when I visited her, I saw she kept a notebook of their births and life events. She had an account of each of her posterity. From this information she knew their birthdays or significant events and on birthdays and anniversaries she sent them a timely card each year and included pictures she had taken that typically had them in it, along with a two dollar bill.

I've never met anyone who has so carefully documented her life and the life of those she shared it with, and then shared that information with others with kind thoughts of remembrance, gratitude, money, and photos.

Memories from Cindy C. Erickson

I only knew Lois a few years before she passed away. It was long enough to recognize and admire the grace she showed in dealing with adversity.

Even when I first met her, Lois was experiencing balance and mobility difficulties, apparently stemming from brain surgery years earlier. That did not deter her from attending family events, leading choirs, or serving as a Relief Society President.

My earliest memories are of her smile. I was aware of some of the health challenges she was experiencing, but learned of those through others, not from her. I never heard her complain. Instead, I noticed that when she greeted someone, it was always with a smile.

I also noticed that she made a practice of asking people about themselves, not wanting them to focus on her personal struggles.

Shortly before David and I were married, Lois suffered another fall that resulted in the loss of vision in one eye. I have wondered how I would react to such a loss. Lois chose to move forward with grace, continuing to focus on the joys in her life. She remained grateful to the end, encouraging those around her, and consistently expressing her love to her family. I will always be grateful for her example.

Memories from Rachel Rehm (written for her birthday just a few weeks before Lois passed away)

Hi Grandma! I just wanted to share a memory with you. When I was a teen, I was visiting your house and you taught me how to make mashed potatoes in your Bosch mixer. They turned out so yummy, I couldn't wait until I had my own Bosch mixer. About ten years later, I finally had one. And I've been making mashed potatoes "your way" ever since!

Thank you for your example, your teaching, and your love. Best wishes.
Love, Rachel (Erickson) and the Rehms

Memories from Steve Erickson (written for her birthday just a few weeks before Lois passed away)

I wanted to take a moment and share a few of my memories as a child with you. I am so glad that I grew up next door to you and was able to spend so much of my childhood with you. I have very fond memories of going over to your house every day after school to help you carry things downstairs, put things away, take the garbage out or just sit and chat with you. I loved how you would listen about my day, my friends and my life. It meant a lot to me. And of course, when we were done chatting you would always offer a piece of candy as I left. I loved it.

As I grew my appreciation for you grew as well. As a child you were there to listen to me talk about my day, as a young adult you were there as a shining example of what a faithful member of the church is, and now as a parent you are a wonderful example of what a perfect parent is, I am not sure how you did it day in and day out raising your kids, but I see that you have done it and I know I can do it to. Thank you for always being an example to me and always being there for me when I needed you most.



Memories from Susan Erickson Schmidt

Lois Belnap Erickson, truly a wonderful lady! Bruce, Janet, David, Nancy, Chris, Ellen, Jeane and I loved our Mom and Dad! We are so fortunate to be blessed with such a wonderful family!

Mom worked hard to teach us children the gospel! She had great simple faith! She knew God lived. She prayed to Him, she constantly read the scriptures, loved the hymns, learned His teachings, and was obedient to His commandments. She instilled in us the desire to do the same! She often had Ensign magazine articles on hand for us that she said we would enjoy! She was faithful with our Dad in having Family Home Evening. She helped me write an article about FHE for the Church News from the other side of the veil. She dictated it and I typed it word for word and sent it in with no changes or editing!

She loved her family! She honored her ancestors, her parents and siblings, her husband and her children and grandchildren and great grandchildren. She also loved nieces and nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and other family members. She sent cards with money and photos for birthdays for many years. She sent countless thank you notes to family friends and ward people!

She spent a lot of time doing family history work. Her records were meticulous! When my kids were little I remember Mom and I being in Salt Lake City at the Family history library doing research. One of my little children was asleep in an infant seat on the table, one was coloring, and one was asleep under the table! Mom pursued the records!

Later at the Ogden Family History Center, she and I were submitting names of her great aunts and uncles whose work wasn't complete. A worker was helping us with Temple Ready. A name kept popping up from the 1600's, Henry Tew. That wasn't a name we were submitting. We were doing names from the late 1800's and early 1900's. We told the worker that it was a mistake. "Oh don't worry," the worker said a few times, "at the final entry, it won't be there." But at the final print out of names whose temple work needed to be done, there was the name Henry Tew and his wife Dorcus! When I got home and checked the PAF, Personal Ancestral File, we did have Henry Tew and Dorcus on our line! Mom called me the next morning. She had a dream. She and I were at the Family History Library sitting at computers being helped by a worker. Standing behind us was a man wearing a blue shirt. She knew he was Henry Tew! She said he smiled and was so pleased when his name was printed for temple work! He had submitted his name himself! Doing the work in the Temple, a little opening occurred and we could see the family celebrating on the other side!

Mom loved to entertain! She loved to get out her pretty china, her beautiful table cloths and silverware and goblets! She had parties for every occasion and holiday and general conference so we could all come and eat together! She and Dad belonged to a "Crowd" that sometimes came to dine. Her wedding anniversary consisted of a grand formal dinner on the huge, fold out dining room table with leafs. It was spread out in the living room for us kids, and she and Dad to enjoy. She was the cook! She cooked our wedding breakfasts, baked for our receptions, and brought food when she helped us with our families! Thanksgiving was a feast!

Waffle breakfasts were to die for! Mom made Dad's "awful good waffles!" And she had toppings! Every kind of homemade jam, jelly, syrup and apple butter that you could imagine. All were made from Dad's orchard that had a variety of trees!

Mom sent us off to college with baked goods and a box of canning! She "delivered us" in the big station wagon with the back filled! She came and made our beds in our new apartment!

How delicious were Mom's spur of the moment meals! We could come home late, tired and hungry from a trip, and Mom would feed us. Today people would just stop for a pizza or pick up some hamburgers. Mom would go in the kitchen as we readied for bed and it seemed that in a few minutes she had a feast out of practically nothing! I tried that with my kids, while thinking of her, and in time, I could make a nice quick meal!

She packed very generous sack lunches when we picked cherries or went to work. She made Dad a sack lunch to take to work every day for 40 something years! She had a yellow and brown lunch box that she kept under the seat as we traveled. It was a Christmas gift from Mildred and Ted when they drew names when they were first married. The metal box contained the fixings to keep hungry travelers happy!

With a camp stove, ground beef, onions, and cans of boiled potatoes, Mom could make delicious meals in the outdoors! Fun memories are of her packing up what she was making for dinner and us all heading to Mantua for an impromptu supper and fun! At Yellowstone in the old cabins, she would cook us minute steaks with chocolate striped cookies from Hamilton Stores! Oh and don't forget she read the Haynes guide throughout the trips!

She was a great homemaker! She attended classes, read books and manuals and learned every technique for cooking, baking, canning, candy making, cake decorating, sewing, embroidering, canning, hair cutting, furniture refinishing, flower arranging, florist corsages, gardening..... She taught us kids, and often the neighbors and friends in 4-H as well! There wasn't anything she couldn't do, and she did it well! A saying she loved: "That which ye persist in doing becomes easier to do, not that the nature of the task has changed, but your power to do it has increased!" This quote came from Heber J. Grant; she knew him personally. I do remember her laughing that in the next life she hoped we didn't have to eat or wear clothes ☺!

She was an English major in college, on the newspaper and yearbook staff at Ogden High School and Weber State College, and the office manager at the Dee Hospital. She was a master at writing, penmanship, reading, business, comprehension, letter composition and typing! At age 90 when we checked her into a new facility for nursing care, she read every line of a 10 page hospital contract! Most people would have just scribbled their name.

She was a stickler for well-done 4-H record books! She checked very carefully when I wrote the history of Alfred Randall for the SUP contest. She offered suggestions, checked for grammar and spelling and sentence structure when I wrote a talk for Weber High School's commencement, seminary graduation, Elks Most Valuable Student, college and job applications as she did for all my siblings!

She was very creative! She made treasure hunts when we were little. She did amazing Primary Programs, Primary sing times, Promised Valley, Youth Choirs with mural backdrops! She wrote "No Color," a roadshow with everyone dressed in white, then the color wheel came to life! She had us singing in church on a program to raise money for a new building, "I don't want to play in your yard." We sang, "Du, Du Liegt Mir Im Herten," with Bruce and his accordion and lederhosen for a family reunion, and at a stake Family Home Evening with our theme, "The family that plays together, stays together!" (In the rush we left Jeane at the Stake Center!)

She converted her family room to a dance studio! She sewed countless costumes from mere drawings! She sewed by hand thousands of sequins! She had a big costume bag with costume accessories! We loved to show her our costumes on Halloween. She painted, did crafts, took pictures and did tons of photo books! She and I taught a bread making class in Relief Society together!

She helped us with every kind of 4-H project “under the sun!” She helped us “Groom our Rooms” helping us sew bedspreads, curtains, rugs and pillows!

She helped us with ideas to model at 4-H fashion shows, with themes and posters for 4-H demonstrations, with ideas for exhibits for county and state fairs! We could call Mom for ideas when our kids were doing projects and she always took the time to help!

I remember her patience in trying to help me sew, especially matching plaids. I got a red ribbon on a blue dress after tons of effort! But determined to please Mom, years later for Mother's day I made her a plaid dress that perfectly matched! It didn't quite fit her, but she proudly wore it to church anyway! When I crowned the next Miss Heritage Halls, Mom made me a gorgeous purple formal! Dad bought the fabric and it was delivered to me to wear to the ball!

Active in Daughters of the Utah Pioneers for more than 50 years holding an office for many of them, Cub Scout den leader for a ton of boys, Home and Community Leader in 4-H, American Mothers winner in 1976, Multiple Sclerosis manager, ward and stake choir director, and Relief Society president and Cultural Refinement Teacher for many years, Mom was a great example!

I got to accompany Mom to Church Music Workshops, and be the recipient of her choir music and expertise when I directed the ward choir in my ward and she encouraged me!

Mom taught me to cut hair! She taught me to give her permanents! I loved to be with her, to come to her home once a week and help! I am still trying to be like her!

Mom helped me with my family! My kids loved their Grandma and Grandpa. We were blessed to live within a half hour ride. We got to see her often for birthdays, holidays, reunions, baby blessings, baptisms, court of honors, missionary farewells, temple trips and weddings! We enjoyed ordinary days like working in the garden, canning with her, making fruit cake, cleaning or doing family history, and playing with the cousins in her yard! Mom sewed activity bags for the kids to use on long trips to Seattle to see their other grandparents.

A few days before Mom died, she called from her nursing home in Provo. She asked if Jim and I would take her to a hearing appointment in Ogden. When she finished her appointment we went outside to the parking lot thinking we were heading home. Glynnis Johns was there. Mom had somehow arranged with Glynnis to go to Rainbow Gardens for lunch! She wanted to treat the three of us! At the Green Room, she told us to order anything we wanted. She ordered a \$17 grilled salmon. She visited and ate for over 2 hours! Then she wanted to drive to the home she was raised in on 21st street. We drove past the Ogden Temple and Tabernacle. She was as well as ever! She enjoyed her final outing! We took her back to the nursing home in Provo and she returned to her bed! Everyone was worried where she was. And shocked that that feeble lady had not returned after a one hour appointment! We had been gone most of the day. Yet she had a great time and was her old self!

A few days later, I awakened suddenly I felt some fluttering, or sound or movement. Later they said she passed away at that time. It was almost like she passed by, saying goodbye!

Memories from Jim Schmidt:

Some thoughts:

Your mom (Lois B. Erickson) had the best fried chicken/pheasant anywhere! It wasn't greasy, just yummy.

One time she told me to enjoy my kids while they were young. She told me how fast that they grow up and that I should treasure my time with them while they were with me. How true!

And there was the time we traveled by car from Chicago—Uncle Ralph's—to Ogden in 1975. We traveled straight through all night. I did some of that late night driving and your mother kept me awake constantly talking/asking me questions/ singing so that we stayed on the road. She and I used to laugh about that years after. We made it!! Your Dad wanted to kiss the ground when we reached Utah.

Your Mom and I teamed when Susan was bed-bound with early baby births. She came three times a week to help while I was at work. She was great! I emphasize the word teamed with her. Her help was very much appreciated!

It was fun to help her in the kitchen prior to and after big dinners. She had me carve the turkey more than once.

Your Mom was a very special person to me. She liked me! Over the years I came to admire her qualities and look forward to being with her again.

Memories of Brent Schmidt:

“I remember Grandma always being very busy in the kitchen and everywhere else. She was very industrious! When I was born, she traveled to Monterey California to help my parents. She helped my Mom learn to care for me. She smiled when I at age 4 helped pick long rows of beans in Grandpa's huge garden in PV. She took pictures when I caught a fish at Mirror Lake, also at a dance revue when Darren and I danced a number 'Take Me out to the Ball game' with baseball bats. She attended my state band competition at Weber High when I played the trombone. She wrote me a lot when I was on my mission in Albuquerque, and she greeted me when I got off the plane. I slept in a sleeping bag that stretched from Grandma's front door to her dining/living room table at Cove Point when I had meetings at BYU Provo and Grandma would encourage me in my career. She was excited to read my book when it came out. Grandma sat at the book at my wedding. She loved her Spanish class when she grew up and was excited that Judith spoke Spanish!”

Memories of Darren Eldred Schmidt

I remember being at Grandma and Grandpa's house with lots of fun, food, and cousins. We played games in the yard, we climbed the trees. We camped at Perception Park with all the cousins, we camped at Yellowstone, also we camped in the backyard at Grandpa and Grandma's and rode on the family float in the parade. Grandma was excited when I won Cub Scout of the Year since she had worked in cub scouts for many years. She came to my soccer tournament in Ogden. She with Grandpa encouraged me and Brent to get our Hunter Safety badges. Grandma was excited that I was teaching Seminary. And excited when I spoke at EFY and Education Week! My mom said Grandma loved Education Week! When each of our 8 children were born, Grandma was so excited and had special gifts for them! When Jolynn and the kids and I went to see her at Cove Point, she enjoyed us singing a song to her before we left!

Memories of Amy Schmidt Tolman

“I remember grandma always giving me a big hug and saying the nicest things to me when we would go visit her. She also treated me like I was very special to her and I knew she loved me! Grandma came to a North Ogden soccer tournament when I played. She helped my mom get me ready for my first dance recital at age 4, wearing sparkly pink! Later Grandma cheered for me as I danced on the Weber State

Folk Dance team when we performed in the Pleasant View Stake Center. Grandma and Grandpa babysat when I was newborn so my parents could eat with a visiting General Authority. Grandma gave advice and helped when we sewed shorts, dresses, skirts and tops from infancy to high school, even how to alter readymade clothes for modesty. Grandma was always excited to see our homemade costumes when we'd hurry to her house after school on Halloween! Today I love playing with my kids, doing family history, and making banana cream pie like Grandma!"

Memories Andrea Schmidt Tucker



I was given an interesting gift at a bridal shower. It was from my Grandma Erickson and I was embarrassed to state that at the time I opened it I didn't know what it was. I'm sure I was kind and gracious at the time, and later asked my mom what it was and what purpose it served. I found out it was a jar opener, like when you can't get the lid off of something, this gadget will step in and do it with its many different sizes and grips. I hate to admit it, but I wasn't impressed at the time. I would have a husband around and he could easily help me take lids off jar. The tool ended up in the kitchen drawer without a second thought. And slowly over the years, it's been used more and more. In fact, after 10 years it's my favorite kitchen gadget. Why? Because of the lesson my Grandma taught me. Of all the fancy things you could get for your wedding, her practical tool has helped me in some tight situations, like when impatient kids are fussing for what's in a jar or I'm trying to start dinner ahead. It would be a bummer if I had to wait for Ross to get home to open a stubborn jar lid. And my Grandma lived over 20 years without my Grandpa around to open jar lids for her. She knew it was a handy gadget and thought enough of me to buy me my own. I love it! It's a memorable gift from my wedding and I think about her every time I use it.

Here is a blog post I wrote about her on October 7, 2015: Today is my Grandma Lois' 95th birthday. She passed away four years ago. I used to email her often after I started college, and emailed her for over a decade. My email folder for her contains close to 500 emails. Being her birthday I spent some time re-reading some of them. She would compliment my great efforts as a mom and point out to rest when I could so I wouldn't burn out too early. "Special Lady" was a term she called me. She would bear her testimony and remind me to enjoy every minute with my husband, since she was a widow for over 20 years. She would inform me about things going on in her day and frequently end sentences with "ha", keeping it light and making me smile. I looked to see one of the last personal emails she sent me in response to her concern of my traveling in winter from Texas to Virginia. It was short but touching. And it still applies today even after 5 years. "I'm so glad you made it there and that everything went well. May all go well from now on!" Love, Grandma Lois

My Shoe Story, written 11/2/2011

Grandma Erickson died. Ross and I always planned that when she passed away that I would go out for the funeral. I secretly looked forward to the get-away weekend to spend time with my childhood family and get a break from my recent family. However, with her death on a Thursday, aunts and uncles were eager

to have the funeral done and be able to move on. That made for a weekday funeral, aka an impossible trip for me to make since Ross could not take any more days off work and I could not leave two one-year-old twins, especially with how busy our schedule was. I felt hurt not to be able to go and knew I might regret it, but after I felt total peace.

Thoughts of my Grandma and the life she lived had been on my mind for a day or two. And after I picked up Abby from co-op preschool I had plans to head to the music store (to pick up a fixed clarinet) and try to find a new pair of shoes for my birthday. When we got to the shoe store I found a pair of brown shoes that would be perfect. They would replace the worn ones that I needed to get rid of. But I couldn't spend full price. I told myself that maybe I could find some in the Clearance section. I took the girls back with me and we looked through all shoes in the Size 10 Clearance section. I was almost ready to head out the door, having found no shoes, until Abby needed to use the bathroom. While she was gone I kept searching. I was just about ready to leave, when a box (I swear it wasn't there earlier) caught my eye and were exactly like the first pair I tried on, just a shade lighter and it was marked down to 30% off. I tried them on, but I couldn't tell if they were the right size. I was reluctant to buy it without checking. "I wish I could find a pair in 9 1/2 so I could check how they fit," I thought to myself. And then RIGHT there, on the next rack as I walked by was a 9 1/2 shoe. It was like someone pointed them out to me. And, after trying it on, I knew the 10 was perfect. I also felt inspired to get the black flip flops that I had talked myself out of and then I found a pair of athletic shoes, again which caught my eye and were perfect. I am really careful with money but I had the feeling that since I was not going to be buying a plane ticket, I could spend the money on much-needed shoes. But, three pairs of shoes? Really? I never seem to find anything when I shop. How can I find items (on clearance) quickly and with three little kids? This incident was such a simple tender mercy.

All along I had a feeling that my grandmother was helping me. She knew I wanted to be at her funeral to honor her. She knew how busy and stressed my life was... she helped me find the shoes I needed and feel at peace with staying home and doing my motherly duties. She even assisted in an extra blessing, even if it was just shoes. **I have a testimony that there are answers to prayers all around us and even angels sometimes, if only we take the time to recognize it and appreciate it. God knows our heart and we can be blessed because of our righteous desires.**

Memories of Grandma by Andrea:

- birthday cards with pictures and \$2 and always signed by her AND grandpa
- visiting her on Halloween to show her our costumes
- emailing her often once I went away to college. (I told my roommate I emailed my Grandma. She said, "really? Mine doesn't even know how to turn on the radio!") ☺
- making her video for her 88th birthday
- playing games at her house (pick-up sticks or the can of "peanuts" with the popping worm spring) while my mom was there cleaning.
- her candy dish of jelly beans. Sometimes she had Starburst. We always got to pick one or two before leaving to go home.
- the fun magnets on her fridge
- her jolly laugh
- Grandma was excited I was in the BYU marching Band.
- I accompanied Grandma as she led the Christmas Nativity at Cove Point.
- Ross and I got engaged and saw Grandma often
- Mom and I and sisters picked up Grandma to view wedding dresses at Sweetheart Bridal.
- Ross and I took Grandma to Layton for Thanksgiving
- "my model" or "special lady" are things she called me or wrote in my b-day cards.
- practical gift for my bridal shower that goes with this parable I wrote for a YW lesson (see above)

Memories of Annette Schmidt Shiley

When I was little, Grandma called Aunt Naomi Randall to see if we could meet with her for Mom's Primary Sharing Time. Aunt Naomi told us about writing I am A Child of God, and we had our picture taken with her. Grandma loved music! She encouraged us all to play the piano and instruments in band or orchestra and to sing in the ward choir. Sometimes she would play and sing with us on her piano.

Grandma came to "Bye Bye Elder" (brought by Ellen) to see me as a lead with Bobby Avalon. Ashley and I did Show choir at Layton High. Grandma was excited when I was called as the choir director at SUU and in the Singles Ward in Layton. "Every time I led the choir I thought of Grandma!" I love music and have a music room in my home with piano, cello, violin, guitar, organ and ukulele. I play in musical groups, sing in Sacrament Meeting, or accompany on organ or piano. Caleb and I sing together. Grandma loved and encouraged me. She was excited when I was Vice President at SUU Institute and on the council at Weber State. Grandma wrote me every day when I was on my mission to West Virginia!

Memories of Ashley Schmidt Davis

Grandma loved the family to come sometimes once a week to do family history, and assist her in cleaning. When I was little I was told I napped in Grandma's port a crib after eating Grandpa's BLT's even though he was sick with leukemia. I would play with Polly Pockets on the ride to Pleasant View to Grandma's house. I was in a lot of musicals. Grandma liked hearing about them. I starred as Amneris in Aida in Layton High's and later the Terrace Plaza Playhouse's productions, Grandma offered suggestions as mom sewed 5 fancy costumes. Grandma was excited when the Ogden Standard Examiner showed me singing in a big colored picture! Grandma came to the performance (brought by Ellen) even though it was hard for her to get around. I went to BYU and saw Grandma coming and going. I modeled my wedding dress at Grandma's apartment so she could see it before cousin Russell Jensen took my bridal pictures on campus. When Kelland and I married, Grandma came to the Salt Lake Temple. She sat at the book at our wedding reception. She loved little Claire when we brought her to see Grandma at her 90th birthday party in Layton.



Lois with Gees August 19, 2010 (L to R) Kevin, Kendall, Karen, (Keith), Kent, Karl, Kyle, Kurt and Jillayne at their wedding and entire Gee family, (except Randy who had passed away) Aspen Grove, Provo Utah—2013



Memories of Janet E. Gee:

This morning, I dreamed about Mom:

She gave me her "time," teaching skills to me and 4-H friends, playing games...especially remember being bused home, in the middle of the day, from Wahlquist Jr High, (in Farr West), where there was no power at school, or at home, and fixed us tuna on soda crackers, played games with us and read to us. She was fun to be around!

Our family enjoyed her so much when she visited Ohio! (Monet's "Water Lilies" was one of her favorites at the Cleveland Museum of Art.) We loved the many postcards, photos and newspaper articles she often sent us!

She "trusted" in Him, was grateful for life and often said, "This time, what can I learn from this health challenge?" She testified of God, Jesus, and the Holy Ghost; their influence was evident in the way she lived her life!

January 24, 2017, while in the Columbus, Ohio Temple, I felt very close to her and dad; it was their 73rd wedding anniversary! What a joy to serve in the temple that day!

I look forward to being with them forever!

Janet Erickson Gee, March 26, 2017

Memories of Kendall Gee:

Growing up near Cleveland Ohio meant I didn't get to see or know extended family very well when I was younger. When I was young we would travel to UT almost every year and we often would stay in Grandpa and Grandma Erickson's basement. I enjoyed playing in their large and open backyard and fields. As I started college at BYU I usually would spend a few weekends and holidays; Thanksgiving, Easter, General Conference weekend with her, Ellen and/or others. I started to get to know her not as my Grandma but more as an adult. I appreciated that about her- she talked and treated me as an individual and adult and not "a grandchild". That became more significant the summer of 1995.

I had just become engaged to Carinne and we were planning on getting married in August. I lived with Grandma in her home in Pleasant View for a couple of months, May and June, while I worked construction full time with Ellen/Byron. I helped take care of Grandma's house, yard and flowers. Living with her is a cherished memory because in the evenings we would have dinner together and visit about a whole variety of subjects. Again, she wasn't just interested in disseminating advice as many "older" people are but she was curious to know what I thought about subjects; what I was studying in college, my mission, what it was like growing up outside of UT, etc, etc. She's would tell me about some of her and Grandpa's experiences, my ancestors and she had a fun sense of humor.

I admired her attitude of lifelong learning. Unlike many seniors that I knew or know now, she wasn't content to just rest on what she knew and fade into the sunset. She wanted to learn more about computers, technology, science, did a lot of reading and was curious about new things, and continually improving herself. I remember asking her about it one time and she said something to the effect of "the essence of the gospel is eternally progression- that includes this life as well." Her attitude and dedication to continual improvement has made as big an impression on me more than probably anything else and being a "lifelong learner" is one of our Gee Family values that we regularly talk about with our kids.

Grandma was a neat lady. I look forward to more conversations with her in the world to come.

Memories from Karen Gee Berks

I have lots of memories of visiting Grandma and Grandpa when I was growing up. The player piano was always a big hit and we enjoyed listening to it. I still remember getting to ride the horses in the front yard and swimming in the pool in the backyard in Ogden. My brothers and I would spend hours on the swing in the back. Fresh fruits and vegetables from the garden and no one can forget the best homemade bread and blackcap pie. Grandma always sent us birthday cards with pictures she had taken of us. One memory

I will never forget is when we drove from Ohio to Utah one summer. We told everyone we were arriving on a certain day but actually got there early to surprise them. I remember hiding in the bushes out front and everyone was quite surprised when we showed up at the front door.

Memories from Kent Gee Family: Grandma Lois

Kent Gee—My earliest memories of grandma were at her house in Pleasant View in 1983. I know it was 1983 because we piled in the back of the green station wagon and went to see Black Stallion Returns. I remember black cap pie – still one of my favorites! I remember sleeping on army cots in the basement with the tile floor and her telling us grandkids to keep things clean. I remember getting eggs at the chicken coop. I remember her helping get great grandpa (Hilmar) out of his chair in the living room. I have special memories of visiting her in her new home in Pleasant View while I was at BYU and playing the piano for her. Also of visiting her with Alicia when we were newly engaged and living near her while she was at Cove Point. We loved trick-or-treating at her house!

I thought I'd write down the story of my last visits with her. On the Sunday evening before she passed, I took the bowed psaltery to play for her in the hospital. When I got there, though, she was sleeping so I sat there for a while, said, "I love you, grandma" and left. I went back to visit after work the next day, I think. She was awake and so I sat down to visit. She had an uneaten tray of food there and was watching Wheel of Fortune. I asked her how she was doing and she laughed and said, "These nurses think I'm crazy when I tell them I'm dying and keep trying to get me to eat." She said that she had told the nurses she didn't need to eat anymore. I witnessed firsthand her frustration with the nurses just a few minutes later when a nurse came in to encourage her to eat and Grandma sort of yelled at her to go away – "Can't you see I'm watching Wheel of Fortune?" It was funny to see how genuinely irritated Grandma was, but I was sitting there trying to figure out what was going on and if I should be encouraging her to eat or if she'd tell me to go away, too. After one of the Wheel puzzles was solved, she turned to me and said, "I wasn't asleep, you know. I knew you were there and wanted to play for me, but I was walking with Eldred and I wasn't going to say goodbye yet." She talked about how wonderful it was to see him and how he was coming back for her, and so she didn't need to eat anymore. She said that she had seen Keith and my dad and that they were happy. I wish now I had asked her more questions, but I assume at the time I was just in awe of how thin the veil was and that the Spirit was restraining me. She seemed so frustrated that Eldred hadn't come to take her for good. We visited for a few minutes longer and I sensed it was time to say goodbye. I told her I'd visit her in a day or two, and she laughed and said, "Well, if I'm not here, I'm dead!" She passed away less than 48 hours later, so that was the last conversation I had with her. I'm so grateful to have been able to be part of her final days.

Alicia Gee—I remember when Kent took me up to meet his grandma at her home in Pleasant View. She smiled at me, that way she does with the sparkly eyes, as she held my hand in both of hers, looked up at me and said, "I'm Grandma Lois." I've called her that ever since which, of course, passed on to our kids. It was a long time before I realized most people called her Grandma Erickson. We loved having Grandma Lois so close when we moved back to Provo. We started every Halloween at Grandma's over at Cove Point. The kids loved how she dressed up and how excited she was to see them in their costumes! We loved visiting her and having her over—we loved that our kids got to know their great grandma. My favorite thing, though? Grandma Lois was ALWAYS smiling! I can still see her smiling eyes...

Hallie Gee—I remember going to Grandma Lois' apartment for Halloween. She had a Halloween headband that made her look like a bee. Because our grandma lived there, we took our whole primary over to sing for her and Cove Point one time. I remember her quilts and looking through her "Grandma's Purse" book with her. I also remember the pull toys on her fridge and the spiral wind chimes on her porch. I remember playing with her toll-painted wood kitten. I would go to the corner of her living room

where it sat right away every time we'd go visit and ask her if I could hold it. We also had Grandma over for family home evening and she told us family history stories. She helped me pass off some of my Faith in God as well. She smelled nice and had a good laugh.

Timmy Gee—I remember going to her birthday party one year. I remember she gave us her old blue car. It was a nice car. It helped our family a lot. When my dad was able to get another car, we gave it to a single mom in our ward who needed a car to get to work because we thought that's what Grandma Lois would want us to do.

Emma Gee—I remember going to Grandma Lois' apartment at Cove Point. She always had a pretty glass bowl of candy on the table. She would always give us some. I remember her curly hair.

Adam Gee—I remember getting to walk over a really cool bridge every time we visited her. She always gave us candy. I remember she was short and smiled a lot.

Rachel Gee—I remember giving Grandma Lois a soft blanket with hearts on it. And then Grandma gave me a soft blanket that I still have. When Grandma passed away, I got a little plastic cup from her kitchen and it's my favorite cup.

Memories of Karl Gee:

Grandma Erickson was a fabulous lady. She loved her grandkids and great grandkids. She loved Matthew because he was always smiling. She loved to see our children and always wanted to take pictures of them. She always had fun toys and a bowl of candy. She never seemed to be bothered by her great grandkids. She always seemed to enjoy our visits. From my childhood I remember our summer visits to Pleasant View, hanging out with the cousins, watching the fireworks in the driveway, watching Kent trying to fool Grandma with Chicken Blood on his hand.

She never seemed to be bothered by us.

Memories of Kurt Gee: I loved accompanying her choir at Cove Point.

Raspberries, Lilies, and Rack-O Kyle Belnap Gee

When I smell a raspberry, I'm reminded of my Grandma.

(As a child, my family made the 1,700-mile trek from Ohio to Utah and the scent of fresh raspberries from Grandma's 1071 W. Pleasant View Dr. garden still stays with me).

When I eat tasty homemade pumpkin pie with ice cream, I'm reminded of Grandma.

(I was with her at her newer home at 1085 W. Pleasant View Dr. as she made pie one Thanksgiving below the summit of Ben Lomond peak framed in the front window).

When I hear LDS hymns conducted with technical grace, I'm reminded of Grandma.

(When I helped her move from Pleasant View to Provo, she gave me her out-of-print hymnbooks).

When I see a lily, I'm reminded of Grandma.

(During college, I would visit Grandma at apartment A-1 at Cove Point, Provo and she often had a lily on her kitchen table).

When I need to use my full legal name in my profession, I'm reminded of Grandma.

(Grandma and I share "Belnap" in our names).

When I play the card games "Rack-O" and "I Scream (Ice Cream)" with my children, we're reminded of Great-Grandma.

(Playing with these same cards that Grandma played with helps connect my Grandma to her posterity).

Thanks for the memories, Lois Ruth Belnap Erickson (aka Grandma)



**Heidi, Michelle, Lara,
Joyce, Heather, Mark and Cindy, Bruce Erickson**



**Cory, Michelle, Sara Jane, Jacob, Isaac Leonard, Heidi, Joyce, Bruce, Mark,
Lara, Jereck, Christian, Hannah, Isabella Boss**



Heidi, Bruce, Lois



Joyce, Bruce, Lois, Mark,

Thinking of Mom – Bruce E. Erickson

March 29, 2017

- I will be eternally grateful for Mom, for bringing me into this world!
- I so love and appreciate all of Mom’s love, sacrifice and help in raising me and helping me develop my personality, character, and testimony.
- From my earliest recollection I remember listening to General Conference and watching Mom taking notes. She had a testimony and love for living prophets and the revealed scriptures.
 - Years later, I remember sitting in a duck blind on the opening day of duck hunting while Dad and I listened to General Conference.
- Her love of living prophets influenced my life, and I also have that love and testimony.
- The prophets and the revealed scriptures helped her develop an understanding of the Plan of Happiness.
- Her love of the Plan helped me develop an everlasting love for the Plan.
- Understanding the Plan helped me cope with Mom’s passing!
- So important is it to understand the Plan that the prophet Alma explained: “Therefore God gave unto them [Adam and Eve] commandments, after having made known unto them the plan of redemption. (Alma 12:32) Imagine that! God explained the plan before He gave Adam and Eve commandments.
- Elder Russell M. Nelson wrote, “As I have come to comprehend more about life in all of its phases,” . . . “I no longer feel that death is always that foe to be feared. Instead, I view it as a potential friend to be understood.”
- - I learned from her:
 - We came to mortality to learn how to keep the commandments under the influence of Satan.
 - The commandments are the laws of the celestial kingdom. Living and keeping those laws will allow us to return to our Heavenly Home.
 - The three pillars of eternity are The Creation, The Fall and The Atonement.
 -
- About Mom:
 - Her love of music—music is the song of the heart. I really appreciated her efforts with the ward choir and for helping me to learn to sing the bass part of the songs we practiced and sang.
 - She was an extremely dedicated, hard worker—the Mormon pioneers had nothing over mom.
 - Service:
 - Breakfast at 4:30 AM when we picked fruit, or worked elsewhere.
 - Dedicated her life to serving her family, her Church, others, and her community.
 - Relief Society president of the Cove Point Branch at 88.
 - Set great example in so many areas of her life for all of us.
 -
 - Expressed love for the sealing power of temple covenants—that we can all be together again after this life.

In 1987 I tried to convey some of the many elements of her life in the following poem:

OUR DEAR MOM

I know a Mother-of-the-Year, who is warm and sweet and kind,
Her life is full of music, a better cook you'll never find.

She married her loving sweetheart, in the temple in '44,
It was a fine example during a long and dreadful War.

They had eight wonderful children, Mom took a lot of flack,
She'd say to unthinking people, "Which one should I send back?"

Ten mouths to feed, clothes to wash, diapers and dishes too,
Every day she started early and helped with homework 'til two.

By words and by example, she taught us from our youth,
She shared with us her testimony of Christ's eternal truth.

Not one to harvest without planting, that was her constant call,
Service in Church, 4-H and M.S., a great example for us all.

I used to think that she was strict, but now it's clear to me,
She wanted each of us to be the best that we could be.

And now that all of us are grown and gone out on our own,
She writes us letters, sends us cards and calls us on the phone.

We love you Mom and you dear Dad, thanks for your sacrifice,
To dwell with you in heaven someday will be eternally nice.

B.E.E. 1987

One final comment:

Sometime after Mom moved into Cove Point, in Provo, Utah, she was called to serve as the Relief Society President of the Cove Point Branch. Although Cove Point is for both for men and women, by far the majority of the persons living there at that time were women. I don't know if Mom was the oldest Relief Society President in the Church, but she certainly was one of a few.

One time when I was visiting with Mom, who was in her late 80's at the time, she said her Relief Society calling was very challenging. I asked her why, and she explained, "Because of the age of the people living at Cove Point, a woman dies every couple of months." I asked her why that was a problem? She said that in addition to funeral arrangements for some of the women who passed away, the major challenge, she said with a smile, was having to re-organize her Visiting Teachers' assignments every couple of months!

I am so thankful for Mom and Dad and will be eternally grateful for their love, teachings, examples, and sacrifice.