

Roy Parry “Pug” Urie

This interview was held on July 1, 2008.
The questions were asked by E.J. Leavitt.

Yeah this is Roy Parry “Pug” Urie. I was born April 17, 1920 out in Cedar Valley. Good parents Thomas Roy Urie and Winifred Jemona Parry. We had four boys and four girls in our family and the grandparents were early settlers in Iron County in Cedar City from Scotland and Whales. The Urie’s came from Scotland and the Parry’s and some of their grand folks on the other side came from Whales. They tell a story about Great Granddad Urie that was to the wedding and he looked at the bride and the groom and shook his head and he says “oh the scotch in the Welch what shall the harvest be” and it turned out to be fairly good. But like I said we were born out in the valley and eight kids in our family.

We lived on a farm out there and we always had chores to do and help each other to get the chores done. We had horses and pigs and cows and sheep and rabbits to take care of and things like that. We all had our chores to do after we got old enough to do something. We grew up learning how to do chores and work. And the house was a two story home and the down stairs was the main bedrooms and the upstairs was split in half... half for boys and half for girls so that’s how we were up there for bed and down. But we stayed there for quite a while and this farm we grew up on is now owned by Brent Hunter and he has a nice big home out there.

And our home is still there that we grew up in. And uh it wasn’t tied to the ground very good. The wind storm come up and it had rocked around in its foundation there and so dad had make us all go out in the potato pit and stay there as long as the wind was that strong and it was fun for us kids because we could dig in and find frogs and toads and stuff in the banks and have a good time. We grew up there and each of us took our turns going to school. I was the fifth member of the family. So, we all went to school in the Midvalley school out there. There was one room, one teacher and grades first through six. And I still think that is one of the better systems because the older kids take care of the younger kids and it makes it easier on the teacher. Especially when the teacher’s the disciplinarian, the kids didn’t get out of hand too much because they knew they’d get a paddling from the teacher. Now you can’t discipline the kids in schools because somebody would probably sue you. But we’d go ride horses down to our school there it was about a mile and a half from where we lived and there was quite a few horses that would come Shetlands and all kinds of horses and we would have recess so we would go out and have a horse race or even at noon. Have some left over time from lunch why we’d have a good horse race.

We stayed on this farm and raised those animals for till I was about eleven or twelve as I recall. There was this just rest of the house a little ways was a slew doesn’t exist anymore it’s all dried up from excessive pumping in the valley. But we’d go out there and keep our cows out in that pasture there and then the Munfords lived just across on the other side so we used to visit them. Everybody out there was an aunt or uncle it was a family situation. We’d have a social gathering and all the families would be there from baby age all the way up to eighty or how ever old folks were.

And I might mention while I was there we used to go out in the barn and swing from loft to loft on the derrick rope. The rope tied to the derrick track. We were swing back and forth there one day by my brother Dick, Scott and I and a couple of the girls probably Alice and Winifred and I got weak I couldn't hold onto that rope and I dropped down in the haystack...in the hay below. It was probably about ten or fifteen feet I imagine and I couldn't get up. So the rest of the family took me into the house and mother called dad and went down in the field to get him and took me to town and Doctor McFarlane found out I had polio so I was completely paralyzed from all parts of my body and it was quite a chore to get over that but I am sure through mother's care and prayer of the family and friends that I survived for the most part of it but it was quite an experience. But they'd put me in bed upstairs and I could feel my strength coming back and so I'd get, they'd tell me to stay in bed but I'd get up and first crawl back and forth on my hands and knees finally got so I could walk but mother would hear me walking up there and she'd come up and make me get back in bed.

But we lived on this farm about ten years of course as far as my life is concerned then we moved out to the west of side of the valley west of the Lund highway in a farm that was owned by Chris Wooster. And he and Frank Almond were out there and it was not a bad place and they had a water tank that was fed by a windmill. And there were a lot of rattle snakes out there they used to go back and forth around that tank to keep in the shade where it was cooler. We used to take our dog out there and kill the rattle snakes and we stayed there for while but come to find out that this Chris Wooster and Frank Almond were bootleggers. They were making whiskey out there and selling it around town and after so much time of that dad decided it was better if we get out of that place. So we moved into Cedar and the old Granddad Parry's home on Main Street there 96 South Main Street. Right South where that café is now across from that new furniture store.

Q: What memories do you have of your grandparents?

A: Well its just... Granddad Urie used to come on saddle horse and help dad do the chores and put up hay, and plow the fields and plant corn and other things. He'd come out just...well anytime he was needed. And he'd bring his wife sometimes but not near as often as he'd come. He had this horse called Old Snapp and he was quite a fighty old boy but he'd tie him in the stable down there in the barn and I'd go up on the loft up above and crawl down through the beams there and get on his back and we'd go for a ride. And he was a good old horse.

And Granddad Perry and his family didn't come very often but they would occasionally. And we'd come to town to visit them they'd always take us down to the Zion's Canyon Kitchen to buy us an ice cream cone or something. But they were good strong folks.

And Granddad Urie, he was a town Marshall at one time and also he was in charge of the water systems in Cedar.

And Granddad Parry was a brick or a mason. He laid brick on the St George Temple and the buildings around and homes and built that big home out of brick there on Main Street. But they were good strong folks and they came here because of their belief in the Joseph Smith church from God and their life was governed by the ideals of the church they were very good to everybody.

Q: Was there still a brick yard out by where Cal Ranch is?

A: I don't know. Some of that rock work he did on the limestone kill that's still out there at the foot edge. Have you been out there?

I don't think I have.

It's right east of the south end of the golf course along the foothills where they used to put that lime in there and cook it and make plaster out of it. One of his brothers and his boys took care of that for a long time.

Q: Did you have any pets as a kid?

A: Yeah, we had dogs and cats and rabbits, pet horses, and some cows that were patient enough that we could sit on their backs while dad milked them until we got old enough to milk.

Q: What memories do you have of your brothers and sisters?

A: Good pleasant memories. We all tried to take care of each other and I don't recall any hard feelings and among my family of brothers and sisters the only one that's come to memory right now is, when you're in school down there at Cedar Valley they had a grade captain for each grade one through six and if you didn't behave you'd write your name down on the list and the last fifteen minutes of the school day, you'd get down on your hands and knees and those kids that hadn't behaved would crawl up and down the aisles and the kids would spank them with the English book which is quite small and the teacher would whack us with the geography book which was big. And this one particular day she hit me with that geography book and it knocked me right off my knees. And I was mad I got up and I hit her. My sister, Alice was there and she came and took Mrs. Luke's side and Scott, my brother, he came up and took my side and we had a little...bout there for a few minutes, but it didn't last very long. But it took me quite awhile to get back in school after that because I wasn't behaving like I should've done. We got over it. And Mrs. Luke was a good friend for a long time after that.

Q: Did you spend lots of time with friends...ever?

A: No they were too far away. There wasn't anybody that lived within a mile and a half of us. We'd spend some time when they'd have a social gathering or if there was some work that needed more work than we had they'd come or we'd go to their place and help do the work, the older brothers and parents, but everybody was your aunt or your uncle no matter what their name was.

Q: Do you remember any family vacations?

A: No, we didn't have any vacations. Sunday was Vacation day; we'd go to Enoch to church. Or once a month we'd come to town with dad and his old new Chevrolet. It was a vacation as a vacation's classified. Now we didn't have any of those but we'd go up the mountain and we'd take the cattle and the sheep up there and the horses up there and some time our whole family would go. I guess that could be a vacation. With that much age spread between the kids and the family responsibilities and the farmer responsibilities, there wasn't much time off for what we call a vacation today. But we always did things together. My Uncle Earl and my Uncle James used to come out and Uncle James spent time with us but mostly the wives stayed home. They didn't come out too much. At least I don't remember them being there.

Q: When did you learn how to drive?

A: When I was about thirteen. When we moved into town about that age and we had lived there on Main Street and we had the barn down on 450 West and about 400 North. We'd have to go down there everyday and milk our cows and twice a day. But when dad

wasn't there we'd take the old Chevy Coop and drive it. I never could figure out why I had to push the clutch in when I stopped so I'd always kill the engine by putting the break on and then I'd have to put the clutch in to start it, but I didn't know you had to push the clutch in to stop it. So it was quite a learning experience, but I didn't drive a lot. I just drove when it was necessary.

Q: Did you need a license to drive?

A: Not when you're thirteen. I got one when I was six...seventeen I think or eighteen. I don't remember. But I did get a drivers license and still do have one.

Q: Who did you take on your first date?

A: First date? I don't remember. I didn't call it a date but down there at school I used to...I used to play hopscotch with the girls. That was when I was ten, twelve years old. I didn't date girls very much. When I come up here and I got in to High School, some of my friends were always dating and if one of the girls that they were dating wanted to go to the party and didn't have a date, why they'd call me and take me to the girl and we'd go to the program or whatever it was a dance. But...I used to go with Carl's sister Carmen a little bit and Dorothy Fife, Edith Dix but it wasn't like I'd go asking for a date. I'd get set up to fill in.

Q: Where did you go to High School?

A: Out here at Cedar High. That's when the High School and the College were a unit together and the professors that taught at the college are the same ones that taught high school because we didn't have a high school building as such at that time so we went out to the college which was the BAC then but it was a...it was a good system.

Q: What was your favorite class?

A: I don't know as I had any favorite maybe...I liked history quite well. I still do. But I liked math I liked I'd say history. I liked school. I didn't have anything I didn't like that I recall... some classes that bugged me because I was color blind and I had to identify things and describe them by color and that put me in a bind because I always thought colors were different than everyone else thought.

Q: What was it like in the Priesthood, becoming a Deacon, Teacher, and Priest?

A: It was a good activity. I remember being ordained the Deacon and...and that's when we went to the Second Ward where we go now. And it was good to be able to take part in those activities that the Passion Sacrament and that kind of...we didn't ever go as I recall collecting Fast Offerings. We did go home teaching with the older people. I remember Henry Jones was one of my home teaching senior companions and Josa Fife that lived right next to the church where the parking lot is. And my cousin Edward Parry he was a home teacher who had me it's always the same senior. It made me feel good to feel like I could be a part of the activity in the church through the priesthood.

Q: How did you feel the first time you blessed a sacrament?

A: Oh I felt good. I felt like it was a good responsibility and I had to do it right. But we had to memorize it. The way they do it now is there's a card that sits there so you can read it. And I don't remember them checking us close to see that the words were all right when I started doing it as they do now. They get a nod from whoever is the presiding officer at the meeting if the prayer was done right which is good. I still enjoy passing the sacrament like we do the fifth Sunday where every the high priests and the elders pass the sacrament and it's a good experience. I wobble a little when I walk when I didn't used to. It's just interesting.

Q: Were you active in Boy Scouts?

A: Yes. Yes I was. We had some good scout masters. We didn't have near as much activities as we have now. And after I grew up and moved back into the ward after Hazel and I were married I was scout master in the Ward for quite a few years. I used to take the boy scouts on the mountain and fishing and seeing the country and the historic sites and learning how to build fires and stuff. It's a good experience. I'm glad to see that it's still active. It's really active compared to what it was.

Q: Did you achieve your eagle?

A: I did not. No I didn't get an eagle.

Q: What was life like after you graduated high school?

A: Oh, it was good but it was hard to find a job to keep you busy and earn a little pocket money. But, I was going to mention before that when we moved into town then we had the milk cows and that stuff. We'd go milk and then we put those milk in smaller containers and sell it all over town. And Dad and Mother started a bakery business that we'd take the cake and cookies and bread and pies and whatever they made. Most of them are made on order. We'd deliver them all over town too. So that's kind of what our activity was that way. But I did try to find a job. I worked for Grant and Hunter on his farm. He paid me a dollar a day to do the hay and if he had to bring a load into town for somebody in town he'd give me an extra quarter for driving that team and that load of hay into town and help him load it. A dollar and a quarter would go a lot further than it does today. So it was a good job.

Q: When did you decide to join the military?

A: Well I was working for the Geneva Steel Company and we were building that horse plant...no I mean that steel plant by Provo and that was a vital industry at that time...the steel business. And I'd thought about joining and I asked the supervisors there one day if I could go and...and sign up for the Military because I had two brothers, Scott and Dick were both in it at the time. Scott was in the National Guard and Dick was in the Army Engineers. And I knew I wanted to go. I felt I had a responsibility to my country as well as to my family. But they wouldn't release me up at Geneva because of the industry...the steel business. It upset me quite a little bit. So I waited two or three weeks after they wouldn't let me go. I wanted to go up and help build that Alcan Highway in Alaska, but they didn't think that would be the right place to go. So I waited a couple of weeks and asked them for a day off. They gave it to me and I went to Salt Lake and joined the Navy. And after I joined and signed in they couldn't require me to stay. But I joined the Navy and went back to Virginia for my basic training Norfolk, Virginia. Never saw so much water in my life, as in the ocean, as dry as it is in this country. But I felt good about it and I felt like that I didn't want to be home and have my brothers come home and serve their time serving the nation and me not be a part of it. That was one thing I had going through my mind. But I felt like it was my responsibility to...to fight for this country that I loved and where there was no where like it in the world except this one. I went because I wanted to.

Q: Do you have any favorite experiences...from the Navy?

A: Well...they were all experiences that were maybe not favorite. We went over on a Sea Scamp Ship and I was told that if you get a bunk on the top layer, they were about seven high the bunks, get up there, you'd get advantage of the air conditioner. And it'd be easier to get some sleep up there. So I did and about two days out the air conditioner went

haywire on the ship. So then I was in the hottest place on the ship. And they wouldn't let us sleep out on the decks because we always had the survivor vests on and a little light on it. But we used to take that light off and go out there and sleep anyways. And we stopped at New Guinea there at Bloody Nose Ridge was it and then we moved from there up to Manus and Los Negros Seeadler Harbor there it's supposed to be one of the biggest natural harbors in the world, beautiful country, but it rained every day. We were only a couple days off the equator and it was quite warm, humid. And we built an air strip there on Los Negros, built an addition on a small hospital on Manus, built roads and bridges from one island to another which was all good experience. There was a few Japs on the island when we got there, but not very many and we didn't have much hand to hand fighting or eye to eye but we got bombed quite a little bit in the evenings usually. We'd have to bail out of our beds in order to get in the fox hole. Some of our troops were eighteen years old or in that. They got sent home from battle fatigue that the effect from the bombing even though there wasn't any battle. But that island turned out to be one of the biggest transshipment depots and repair bases in the whole Pacific Ocean. And brings all kinds of equipment from the United States and we'd clear the jungle and make big parking lots for it there. And then they had a big ship repair and it was equipped with one of those big tanks that you could fill with water and slip under the ship and pump the water out and lift the ship up out of the water which was interesting. But it was a not real battle experience there was like I said a few of them. Some of those poor Japanese people indeed would come in and steal some of our uniforms that we'd hang out to dry. They'd end up in our chow lines. But they'd get captured pretty quick after that. And there was a few of them that would end up in the top of the palm trees the coconut trees and they'd try to shoot the troops out of the palm trees so some people were assigned to first thing in the morning is take their sub machine guns and spray all those trees to make sure there wasn't anybody hanging up out there shooting at ya. We didn't have very much hand battle. It was mostly the bombings.

Q: Were you able to send letters home?

A: We could yes but they had a system where you had to turn in your letters and then it was scrutinized by a group and most the information that you'd write would be cut out, the letter would come home like a jigsaw puzzle. They didn't know what it was in it. So they didn't encourage us to write very many letters because the information. I mean it was good because we weren't aloud to tell where we were or what we were doing or anything like that incase it ends up in the wrong hands. I'd be detrimental to us.

Q: What was the food like?

A: Food? Well some time it was pretty good. I used to think at times... we got a lot of food shipped from Australia and New Zealand and there's food still coming out from the states but so many of those ships coming up from through the corral sea there and get sunk on the way an we'd end up with spam or something like that or some of that Australian mutton that we used to think was canned put up with the wool still on it. We did survive alright. But it wasn't near as good as the food you get at home.

Q: How many people were on the ship?

A: Going over there it was about 3,000 of us.

Q: So you never got to sat down...sit down when you eat?

A: Yeah we could sit down. There half the people that were sea sick there wasn't a good place to sit anyway. It wasn't too comfortable sitting trying to have dinner and people throwing up all around you. We used to get my platter and stand outside and eat.

Q: Did you ever use a weapon in the Navy?

A: Yeah we always had a rifle with us, but we stole an anti-aircraft gun in Monersdon our base over there so we could shoot at the Japs. We had so much ammunition and stuff it was scary. We'd load the torpedoes on the submarines and all the ammunition on the battle ships and oh it was scary one day we were hauling a bunch of torpedoes down the ramp one day and one of them rolled off and I thought it was loaded but it wasn't. It scared me to death, but it wasn't charged so it didn't go off.

Q: What would happen if you got sick besides sea sickness?

A: Sick? Well they had this little hospital there and it was right next to the ocean. And it didn't have any sanitation for sellers like toilets or urinals or things. They had a ramp that went out over the ocean. If you had to use it, you went out there. But the care was good. They had good nursing help and doctors there. So from the facilities they had, we were well taken care of. I got Dengue Fever while I was there that took a little time to get over. A lot of people got Malaria, some got wounded, just normally things that happened to ya, appendicitis, or a back ache or whatever.

Q: What was your rank?

A: I was a Seaman Second Class, Second Class Petty Officer.

Q: How many years did you serve?

A: I served for thirty-nine months Forty-two through forty-five.

Q: What was it like getting home?

A: Very wonderful. We came home on the Franklin Carrier and it was wonderful and the flight deck on that thing we'd have two or three baseball games going on up there on the deck and volleyball and all that stuff coming home. And we had bunks five high down on the hanger floor that we'd sleep in and I remember this one night on the way home and they called and thought somebody was overboard, fallen overboard so everybody get out of the bunks and come up on the deck and have a roll call and I don't know why, but I didn't feel like I wanted to go so I stayed there in bed. And the first thing I heard was that it was announced that I was overboard. So I got up and went up on the deck and reported in, got chastised a little bit, but I guess I was to the point where I'd followed orders long enough. I don't know. But it was great to be home. When we came in, we stopped in San Diego and as we came in on that carrier why everybody run to the deck side where it was up against the shore and that old ship started to tilt like so [demonstrates with hands] and they started pumping the fuel from one side of the ship into tanks on the other side to level the ship up so I wouldn't tip over. But it was so great to see so many people there. And they had bands playing and places where you can get any kind of a something to eat that you've ever heard of, just wonderful. And we docked there and we got separated from there to go up to...towards Oakland and were discharged there, Camp [Shoop]...Camp [Parks]

Q: Did you go to college when you got back?

A: I did, I went to two years college.

Q: What did you major in?

A: I started to major in forestry because I liked the outdoors, then it got to a point where the colorblindness was bothering my participation and my ability to recognize things and

do by color, so I changed to engineering. Under Brother Theron Ashcroft he was a good teacher and a good friend. There was only about six or eight of us in the class, engineering and he'd always come right down and sit with us so you didn't know we had a professor or a teacher. But it was a good...good class.

Q: How did you support yourself financially?

A: Well I had jobs around. I worked for different people and then Sevy's...Lymon Heber Sevy kind of took me under the wing after my dad died when I was seventeen and I'd go out to work with them on weekends out to their ranch on Escalante Valley and they'd give me a little money if I needed some and I could go out there and work and I had a job in the summer with the state road for awhile, Engineering Department and I worked for them mainly while I was going to school and then I worked for them after. But Professor Ashcroft, he had a quite a few jobs around like the airport, we'd surveyed the airport and lined it as it is now. We did a few water systems we did one for Enoch...not Enoch, but Summit. It was things like that that kept me in a little money.

Q: How did you meet your wife?

A: Well she came down here from Richfield to school and we got acquainted with each other at that time, but we didn't have any dating or anything. At that time, all of those out of town students felt like the local students were a bunch of duds who didn't want to do with anybody else anyways. And like I said I wasn't much of a dater so I did know her. So when she came back here to teach school the University of BAC went up to Monroe where she was teaching high school and interviewed her and requested that she come down here and teach in the home ec. department at the BAC. So she came down and taught and...and they lived over in Homer Jones' basement on Second East. And Richard Stucki started going with one of them and I'd go over with him occasionally and get acquainted and my brother Scott was dating Ruth Corry and she invited us all to a party one night not as couples but as individuals and there was Scott and Ruth, Richard Stucki, and Gwen Anderson, Hazel Parks and Me, and Jim Dalley and a Heaton girl. And out of that...those four couples, three couples were later married. Scott and Ruth got married; Richard and Gwen got married; and Hazel and I got married. So after that party that Ruth had for us, we went together for quite awhile before we decided to get married.

Q: How was the wedding?

A: It was good. We got married on Homer Jones' lawn in his backyard and neither of us knew very many people at that time so it was a small wedding, but it was great. And we went or we were supposed to go to Yellow Stone, but some of our friends got a hold of us after the wedding and they drove a car and we headed down to Beaver Dam. So we ended up staying down there the first night and then we came back up north to Yellow Stone the next day at our prescribed honeymoon and it was interesting. We stayed up there a few days and we were coming home and we couldn't find a place to stay so we were going to drive into Salt Lake and we pulled into the service station up there in Wyoming and talked to these guys that operated it and asked him if there were any places around there that had rooms to rent where I might stay that night because I didn't want to drive to Salt Lake because it was late and I don't know what prompted him but he says I got an extra bedroom if you wanna come over there and stay. So Hazel and I stayed with them that night and we've been friends for a long time.

Q: What was your favorite part about it?

A: Just being with my wife...and seeing the great country. But that was my favorite part, my wife being there with me.

Q: Where was the first place you lived?

A: We lived in Homer Jones' basement after those girls moved out to go teach school. Why, Hazel and I moved in there and stayed for quite awhile. And Hazel and Homer's wife, Bell Jones become very good friends and right to her dying day. And I still take Homer for a ride. We got acquainted with his kids the youngest boy Danny, I don't know whether you know him or not but he was just this little feller he'd come down and we were in the basement and he'd come down and have breakfast with us occasionally still in his pajamas. He liked Hazel's pancakes. And our first home that we bought was down on six west just south of 200 North.

Q: When did you give birth to your first child?

A: Doug was our first child and it was on April 28, 1948 not quite a year after we'd been married. We'd been married in June and he was born in April of the next year.

Q: How was that?

A: It was fun. I was glad to be a father, especially when it was a boy. I didn't have anything against girls but I thought it would be smart to have a boy for my first child. Then after that we had four girls, and then another boy. But they are all good folks and they love each other. They have a lot of respect for each other and keep track of each other and their folks. That was my daughter Marie who called on the phone. She's coming down to see her mother and I'm gonna meet her out there.

Q: Tell me about each of the kids starting with the oldest.

A: Well Doug was the oldest one. And then Janice came, first girl a little over two years later. And then Marie came a couple years. And then Isadell came in about nineteen eighteen nineteen months, and then Ann a little over two years, and then Wayne two years later. I think he was born in 1961 if I recall. And they all stayed with us until they got married. We got along quite well as a family. We had our differences and luckily we didn't into the point where some of the kids left home because they couldn't put up with us. So I always felt pretty good about that.

Q: Can you share some of your favorite stories about each of them?

A: Oh I don't have any favorite stories...we had a camper that fit on the back of my pickup and we'd take that and go camp out. I used to take Doug fishing and hunting with me and then I'd take the girls separately quite often and we'd go and up to the ranch area and over where we hunt deer and up on the mountain or some other interesting place that they wanted to be and we'd stay two or three nights and come home. And then at times we'd have a...we used to have a family reunion every year with my family and we'd get together and have a good time but we did a lot of things together, not individually. And it was good that we could take them all and they'd enjoy themselves. We used to take most of them up to the deer camp but Hazel didn't particularly enjoy that the atmosphere up there. The hunting, there was too much going on and not enough time to do the things she'd like to do. So she didn't go all the time with us but, sometimes she'd take part of the kids and I'd take part of them with me. But we had some good outings we went to all of the parks and interesting areas around, historic sites and spent time with other people and with ourselves to get the benefit of the horses in the background. We went to Old Iron Town and old places like that you know and visit. We went over into Eastern Utah and down through that country and there are parks and the Indian remnants over there

around Moab and around Monticello and Blanding, up through that country, spent time up through there. It was interesting.

Q: Do you have a story about Janice?

A: About Janice? Well I remember she was quite an independent little pill, but easy to get along with. One thing in particular, she was in school out here she was going with a young man out to Enterprise. I come home one evening and she and her boyfriend were up on the roof of the house running around. And I had to get them off there and tease them a little bit about it. And it was... and I don't remember her reason for being up there, but she thought it was vital. Yup, but we had a lot of fun together. And like I said, I don't remember particular incidents that would separate one from the other, but they all had their individual activities and they were different, each one's different.

Q: Do you have a story about Marie?

A: Marie liked...liked music, liked to be in things like that. So it was interesting to be with her and go to those things and we'd even go to a dance with her when they'd get out of high school, they'd have a graduation dance and they'd always come and get their dad to come dance with them. So I went out and danced with Marie and later on I danced with Abell and we had good times together that way. I tried to do things with them that they enjoyed, but like I said I don't have a lot of individual stories about any of them. It's just, we spent a lot of time together and enjoyed it.

Q: How about Ann?

A: We had a good time, Ann did too. She liked to go out, but she liked to come home at night when we'd go camping or something. She'd rather go home than stay up and camp. We had some disagreements there that didn't amount to anything, but they were all good kids. They liked to sew and they liked to paint and they liked to do house work and especially making goodies that Hazel would show them how to make cookies and deserts and things like that that they enjoyed.

Q: And Wayne?

A: We got... Wayne and I had a good time together too. He got a little bit loose at time or two and I had to reel him in a time or two. I kept visiting with him and try to...he thought he ought to be doing things he shouldn't part of the time, but we got everything reconciled and he surprised the dickens out of me one day when he came in and said, "Dad I want to go on a mission" and my eyes popped open I am sure and I couldn't imagine what prompted him, but he'd been to church and he'd been talking to people and I don't know who it was that convinced them that he should do a mission but it was himself I am sure eventually. But that was a highlight that we had was he did that without much prompting from me.

Q: Umm...what was your work while you were married...your first one?

A: Well, like I said before, I worked for the State Road Commission on the survey crew. We'd do highway alignments, construction supervisions, and things like that. But I was moving around quite a lot then and that was after we were married and Hazel was home alone and I heard about an opening out at the Iron Mines one day. Jim Dalley told me about it. So I went out there and I got interviewed and I got a job there. In uh nineteen...I'd be around nineteen-fifty, forty-eight. Yeah it was forty-eight. And I went out there and I went to work in the engineering department there and I stayed there for twenty-eight years. It was good interesting work. It was close to town and the pay was quite well for this area. So I went out there and stayed twenty-eight years. I did quite a lot

of work away from there that... expiration work up at Atlanta, Wyoming to identify that or body up there and another one out to Herrington, Nevada. Took a survey crew out there and did all of those, layouts and drill holes for expiration. And we did the limestone quarry up by... Santaquin, yeah. Which was good experience but we were at Wyoming for quite awhile at that development and then Yerington also I remember out at Yerington, I had never seen a place that had more jack rabbits than they had out there in Yerington. And we were out in the fields east of town and oh it was about our second trip out. We took our twenty-twos with us. And after working the evening we'd go jig jack rabbits. It took quite a lot of money to keep us in bullets but we killed a lot of jack rabbits... interesting little town. But I stayed there working at the mines until 1976. And that's about when the mines closed down out here. And I had a chance as offered, I could have gone back to Michigan and worked in the limestone back there or I could have gone to Lander and worked in the mines back there or I could have gotten early retirement and stayed home.

So I took the early retirement and stayed here and as a result of that, I set up my own surveying business and did that for several years afterwards to keep busy and keep the family income coming in. They had an interesting program out at the mines that what they call an incentive program that if you had ideas where things that were being done could be done better, you'd submit that idea to the managers and if they accepted it, you got an increase in your pay. And that's how I build this house it was one of the incentives from those programs able to finish paying for it and build it. Which it was a good program, good group to work with, we had people from all over Iron County, we people from Washington County, even Beaver County that worked out at the mine that I got acquainted with.

I always kept a little piece of farm ground down in the valley that I could keep farm animals and graze a few chickens and rabbits and things for the kids to play with which was... I always enjoyed.

I liked to take place in civic activities. I figured I had owed the... owed the town quite a little bit for the good life that I was able to live here so I tried to give back in time and service to help offset what I thought I should do for the community. I listed a few things here that I did that... maybe I can find it [flipping through papers]... yeah just a few things that I participated in was I was Commander of the American Legion and also the Veteran of Foreign Affairs after the war was over and we came home here. And a group of us got together and built the recreation area at Woods Ranch and piped in that spring to feed the water supply there. I remember Ross Glass, he was a plumber and he was in charge of that and we worked on that for two different summers and I was always pleased the way it turned out and gets used. Today, they had an option of developing it into a recreation area or turn it over to foresters to operate. And we chose to do it independently to the foresters. So we built that and then we surveyed and built the race track out where Emerald... not Emerald Point... it's the tower out there by Wal-Mart. But anyways it out where Wal-Mart and that other development is. The race track was there. We had to take most of the nice track and there for a while we would... they'd even allow betting on the races. The law enforcement people are too fussy about arresting everybody so they let them bet. And I was on the City Council for four years that's where I run against your grandpa. And I was on the Cedar City Planning Commission for ten years. I was a member and president of the Rotary Club here in Cedar that did a lot of good around

town and... and well maybe you guess you can't say donation jobs, but jobs that were created and put into action by projects that were done by the Rotary Club like they do now today. And I was an Iron County Commissioner for eight years. I got to know a lot of good people there and I was on the State Board of Water Resources for seventeen...seventeen years which was a real valuable experience. The last...the reason we had just seventeen years, they were just four year appointments, but... we were working on the state water plan and that sixteenth year, your Uncle Mike was Governor at that time and he wouldn't release us until we'd finished that project, which took another extra year, but it was another great experience there. Those friends I still keep in contact with them and it was an opportunity to see all of the state of Utah and experience the great people we've got here. And I was on the Community Impact board for five years that provided funding for a lot of county and city projects. And I worked for three years establishing the Central Iron County Water Conservancy District and your dad was a part of that too. And I've been on the board with the Water District for twelve years. And I was on the City Redevelopment Committee quite a while and I'm still the representative from the Water District on that committee. And while we were there on that Redevelopment Group that's when the parking terrace and Heritage Theater was created. I was good about that.

And I loved to be with the young people in their sports activities. I was a little league umpire for quite a few years and like I said, I was a Boy Scout master for quite awhile. And right now I am on the Aging Council for the county and I deliver Meals on Wheels to the inbound, which I enjoy very much because it gives me a chance to visit with people that are pretty much homebound and they enjoy it and I enjoy it. So like I said, life has been really good to me and I know I haven't done enough to repay the benefits that I've received, but I feel good about being here. And the good Lord let me stay another while.

Q: Is there anything else you'd like to tell for your family?

A: Not that I haven't already told them...just to keep active and continue to love and respect each other and the rest of the families. We get together quite often and we've always tried to help each other. And with mother in the situation she's I right now and it's a Godsend to have the kids and their families that care for us and each other. So it's just great to be here.

Q: Would you like to share your testimony?

A: Yeah I have a testimony...it builds over the years, I've had so many things that have happened through the prompting of the spirit that I've been able to do that has made me feel that the Lord has more of a hand in what we do every day if we listen to his commandments and obey the prompting of the Spirit. And I know that God lives and I know that he hears and answers prayers and I know that Jesus is the Christ. He is my redeemer, my friend, and I know that the Spirit's alive and it prompts me to do things that otherwise I probably wouldn't do. But there have been so many things that have happened lately that couldn't have been handled any other way than through the help of our Father in Heaven. And I know that Joseph Smith was ordained of God to bring forth the Gospel at this time and I know that it's true. And I know that it's a good part of my life. But like I said there are things that happen every day that instill the depth of that in my soul deeper and deeper and without his help, I don't know what I would do right now and I sure feel good about it, about he being a part of my life. But it's been a great life

and I've enjoyed it and made a lot of good friends and met a lot of good people. And I'm not done yet!

Yep!

So do you think that'll do it E.J.?

Yeah.

Ok. Thank you.

Thanks for letting me come.