

**FAY BRASHER ROPER
EMERY COUNTY ARCHIVES
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

**Interviewed by Dottie Grimes, Bernice Payne
Sept. 3rd, 2010, 95 years old**

Dottie: If you can start out by telling me your name, when you were born and your parents and siblings....

Faye: My name is Faye Brasher Roper.

D: When were you born?

F: March the 7th, 1914.

D: Where were you born?

F: Down here in a little house that's not there anymore. We had a home one block from where the church is and that's where I was born, here in Huntington.

D: What were your parents names?

F: Mary was my mother's name and John was my father's name.

D: What was your mother's maiden name?

F: Gillespie

D: Was she from Huntington also?

F: She was born, I think in Glendale or somewhere and she (believe she is talking about her grandmother here) came up here to visit and her husband was coming up and somebody shot him in the back and took his money. So that wasn't so good.

D: Did they ever catch who it was?

F: I don't know. I know that's all the story I heard.

D: What did she do then? Did she stay here?

F: My mother lived here. My dad went on a mission without any money. I don't know how they ever made it.

D: Oh— Brasher. John Brasher. Okay, I've seen his picture. When did his family come here?

F: His family was here when I come.

D: Was he born here in Huntington?

F: Uh-huh. So was I and I've lived here all my life.

D: Tell me about your childhood. What were your siblings names?

F: I had 4 children, 2 boys and 2 girls.

D: What are their names?

F: Fawn and she's Kendrick right now and Joann Fife. Then there's Donald and Clifford.

D: And who are your brothers and sisters?

F: Well there's only 11 of us. I had a sister named Elphie, I had a sister named Flora and had a brother named Reed and it's stupid I can't remember. (Guy, Elphie, Kenneth, Flora, Rueben, Reed, Fawn, Fay, Clara, Clarence, Tempie) Tempie was the baby she always thought she was picked on, boy. Clara and Clarence, they were twins and I was a twin also to Fawn.

D: So she had two sets of twins.

F: Uh-huh but she had older children to help her at home every night.

D: Were the twins together like Clara and Clarence and Fawn and you? Were you right next to each other?

F: Mm-hmm, there were two years apart in em. She had her hands full.

D: I guess! Isn't that kind of unusual for those days?

F: Yeah

D: So all 11 children lived?

F: Uh-huh, yep but they're all gone now, I'm the only left on the Roper side of the family and also the Brasher.

D: You must have really taken care of yourself. You still look like you're young.

F: Oh, I don't know what I done. I eat everything I can get and be as ornery as I can.

D: I doubt that. So do you have any childhood memories with all those children and your twin sister? You've gotta have stories of your twin sister.

F: We used to, we lived on a half a block and there was a big tree. I always remembered that. There was a big tree up to the top of the block and we'd go up there and swing on the limbs. We had quite a time and then we'd go up to the corner at night and play Run Sheepy Run. I remember them two things.

D: Do you remember what street you lived on?

F: No, it was a block from the church.

D: East of the church.

F: Uh-huh

D: So the big tree was at the end of that block?

F: Yeah, we had quite a time.

D: My mother was born in Huntington.

F: Was she? Who was your mother?

D: She was Sammy Rowley. Her mother was Maggie Rowley and she (Sammy) would have been five years older than you. She lived in Huntington and she was the youngest of her family so there probably wasn't anybody you knew. My grandmother was a midwife, Aunt Maggie. So were you delivered by a midwife, do you know?

F: A neighbor.

D: Do you remember who that was?

F: I should.

D: Do you know Addie Richards?

F: Yeah, I knew her.

D: Did she grow up by you?

F: Oh, down in the other part of town.

D: What about Clara and Clarence, were you close to them too or did you and Fawn kind of.....

F: We were close to them, uh-huh, Clarence done a lot of teasing but we lived through it.

D: Do you remember any other friends you had in town?

F: I had a friend down here named Ruth Neilsen and she thought I was the most terrible thing because I wouldn't get me a dog or cat to live with and she slept with her cat.

D: Who were Ruth Neilsen's parents?

F: Peter

D: Oh Peter Neilsen?

F: And I don't remember his last name.

D: I think I've seen a picture of Ruth Neilsen when she was young.

F: Could a done.

D: Was she your age?

F: Uh-huh

D: So you went to school with her?

F: Uh-huh

D: Did Fawn have any friends that weren't yours?

F: We pretty much had a gang. We called ourselves a Rusty Dozen, there were 10 or 12 of us. One time we all henna-ed our hair, oh beautiful.

D: Tell me again what you did to your hair.

F: Put henna on it to make ourselves red.

D: So you were all redheads. That's why you were the Rusty Dozen.

F: Yeah.

D: I love that, how'd you look with it?

F: Reed come to the house and he says, "I didn't know I had a redheaded sister" and I said "well you got one now".

D: Was that when you were in high school?

F: Uh-huh. One kid said, "What did you do to your hair?" and I said "Oh my mother just put pear juice on it". We didn't care.

D: That is so fun. Do you remember anybody else in your group?

F: There was a gal down here named Selma Leonard.

[A neighbor came to visit and Faye said "he takes good care of me". Name inaudible.]

F: Ok, thank you. Can't ask for a better neighbor than that, can you. Last night he brought chopped?, I had for supper. The kids said they have to keep checking on me. I lost some weight and it's about killin' 'em and it didn't bother me at all.

D: Isn't it wonderful to be so loved?

F: Yeah, they keep track of me. Anyway this Jed, he keeps track of me too.

D: Do your kids live around here?

F: No. One lives in Sandy, one lives in Idaho, one lives in Illinois so they don't live around here so Jed takes care of me. He just lives in this next house up here.

D: We were talking about your friends when you were young, your Rusty gang. Do you remember any other of their names.

F: Ruth Neilsen, Selma Leonard and Flo Manchester and Polly Killpack; there were 12 of us.

D: Where you all in the same grade?

F: Uh-huh, we were all the same ages.

D: So was that pretty much all the girls in town that were your age?

F: No, there were more. You just had to pick a group.

D: So where did you go to school then?

F: Down here. We went in this old place for part of the time then we went over in the high school

building when we went to high school.

D: I know there was an elementary school that burned down, I can't remember when. Did you go to that one or did it burn first?

F: Yes, after that burned, we had to go school in some people's homes for a while til they got....

D: Each class was a different place?

F: Uh-huh.

D: Were you there when it burned?

F: Yeah, they scooted us out of the building.

D: Do you remember a teacher playing the piano? Somebody told me there was a teacher that played the piano because you marched out.

F: Verda Leamaster

D: What was her first name?

F: Verda Leamaster

D: Someone told me that she played a march for you so you could march out.

F: Yeah, we had fire drills all the time. Every once in a while we'd go out so we'd know what to do if there was a fire.

D: I also heard that the fire escape was built not too long before the fire; the superintendent and teachers raised money to build it.

F: Yeah, I don't remember what it was they done, but.

D: Were you upstairs when the fire.....?

F: No.

D: You were downstairs. Do you remember any of your teachers names? I don't remember many of mine so I don't expect you to. Do you have anybody that was real special to you in elementary school?

F: I had one and I don't remember a name but I didn't miss a days school that year and she gave me, there was I and a boy and she gave him a pocket knife and me a string of beads and I

held the beads up to show my mother and the string broke.

D: I bet you were so disappointed.

F: Well we gathered them up and restring them the best we could. I never forgot that. (Laughs)

D: So the elementary school, they built a new one?

F: Uh-huh

D: Was it like a year you went to people's houses?

F: They had an old relief society hall down here, don't know what happened to it but we went in there for a while.

D: Then did they build the new elementary school close to that building?

F: Uh-huh. Oh quite some experiences.

D: I think I heard that the high school had their dances at the elementary school building. So what grade did that go to? 8th?

F: 8th, yeah.

D: And that was elementary and then you went to high school and it's the building that's still standing?

F: Yeah and that other one was across the road.

D: To the back of it?

F: No, it was over where, well there's a school there still now.

D: Oh, okay. So tell me about high school, was that fun? That building looks fun itself.

F: That's where I met my husband. He kept on the track.

D: Is he older than you?

F: There's two years difference between us.

D: So you were a 9th grader when you went to high school. So you were high school sweethearts huh?

F: Yep, we had quite a time.

D: What kind of things did you do? Did you group date too?

F: Yeah, one year, if I'd been my mother I'd of killed me. She was bottling peaches, her hands were so full, she had so many to do and she let me go to Ferron for Peach Days with Milton. I'd have said "you stay here and help me". (Laughing)

D: That was sweet of her. What was Peach Days like back in those days?

F: I think pretty much the same only they're blown up, you know, more to them these other years.

D: You had other celebrations here in Huntington, whole town celebrations?

F: Yes, we had a 4th of July and used to have a 24th but seems like the miners always worked on the 24th so they cut that out, because there wasn't, you know, enough participation.

D: Do you remember any of the pioneers? Do you remember them speaking?

F: No.

D: I've read that they would speak during the 24th of July celebrations, talk about their experiences.

F: Um-hmm.

D: You mentioned that you went to the Wilberg Resort, did you do that while you were in high school?

F: Uh-huh, the dances.

D: What did you think about that?

F: Oh, that was lots of fun, we hate to miss it.

D: Was it every Friday night?

F: Every Saturday night.

D: Do you remember the swing that was up there that went around?

F: Yeah, that was fun.

D: Do you remember any of the animals, did you ever go see any of the animals?

F: They had fox out there, I remember that.

D: At one time, they had caged animals too.

F: The foxes, we liked to go see them.

D: Did you ever do anything besides dance, did you ever go swimming up there or rowing on the lake?

F: Nope. Oh me and my brothers and sisters, there was kind of a pond like place where the water would come down in a canal, we liked to go up there and play around. I never did learn to swim.

D: But that was your swimming hole.

F: It was fun.

D: So it was just up to the mouth of the canyon?

F: It wasn't clear up the canyon, it was about I guess about nine miles up.

D: Do you remember any other things you did together, besides swimming and Run Sheepy Run, dancing? Did you have a lot of school dances?

F: Yeah, they had school dances. There was one kid one night, I had a brand new pair of oxfords and he wanted me to change shoes with him so he could go dance. I didn't do it. What the heck was that? He didn't want to dance with me evidently. (Laughing)

D: Tell me about Milton, is that your husband's name?

F: He lived down below town, below us and we used to call 'em names and course they didn't like us.

D: What names did you call them?

F: He belonged to the Harper family so we called them the Harper Roper gang.

D: So you knew him when he was younger too?

F: Yeah.

D: And what was their gang like?

F: Well we, I don't remember just what we did. We played Run Sheep Run up under the light of the street lamp. We had fun doing that.

D: Do you remember when electricity first came to Huntington?

F: Yes, we didn't think we needed it, but we decided we'd get it.

D: Did you then have lights in your house?

F: Yes, when we bought this place it had just the four rooms. We bought it from Byron Howard. He has a coal mine up the canyon, Milt was helping up there, and we got this for a thousand dollars, four rooms. He paid up at the mine, worked up there and paid for it.

D: Was it like a mine camp house and then you moved it down here?

F: Uh-huh

D: What mine was that, do you remember?

F: Byron Howard

D: Oh, Byron Howard's mine.

F: There was a window there and a window in there where the door was, then we had these two rooms built on. And the back porch and the fruit room and little bedroom back there.

D: Did you have electricity then?

F: Yeah.

D: So it came in when you were young?

F: We didn't have a bathroom though, we had a pantry, so we took the pantry out and made a bathroom.

D: When you were growing up did anyone else have a bathroom before you moved out?

F: Nope, we had a bathtub upstairs and they just put a pipe through the walls and the water fell down on the ground.

D: And watered the yard.

F: Uh-huh. There were two sets of twins in our family and mother would wash them and dad

would dry them. (laughing)

D: What a good man to help out.

F: They had a bathtub and a little coal burning stove upstairs where they warmed the room.

D: Is that house still standing?

F: No

D: Is that the house they're standing in front of in that picture?

F: Yeah

D: And it was two story?

F: Mm-hmm.

D: Were you guys the youngest or did you have....oh, you had a younger sister that was four.

F: There was younger twins, Clarence and Clara was younger than we were, and then there was Temple. Dad said, "Oh that poor little lonesome girl, he thought she should have been twins too". (Laughs)

D: Her name was T-e-m.....

F: p--i-e. Temple. Dad, they had a great big baby buggy. I never knew what happened...I guess we just run it to death because after they quit having babies to take to church, why we'd put kids in it and run it up and down the roads before they was busy you know. I guess we runned it to death. They'd put both sets of twins and they'd put Temple across our feet and take us to church. Can you believe that? I can't handle one in church. (Laughing)

D: That sounds so cute. So did you have any running water in your home growing up?

F: Yeah, we had running water.

D: You didn't have a bathroom, you had an outhouse out back.

F: Um-hmm, eventually they did build a bathroom but right at first we didn't have a bathroom.

D: Do you remember.....my mother said people thought "who'd want a bathroom in the house?"

F: Well I thought it was pretty nice.

D: What other things do you remember the first of? Do you remember the first time you saw a car?

F: My sister was there, she got married and she was there one time. I don't remember where her husband was but she was there and the car was there and one of my sister's says, "well are we goin' to walk to school or not or can we ride?" and my sister said "well if you get there guess you're going to walk". Guess we thought she ought to take us, being she had a car.

D: Do you remember riding in a car and first driving a car?

F: My uncle had a car and we thought it was wonderful and he had a farm up the canyon. He took us in his car one day and every turn he'd honk in case somebody was coming this way you know. Every turn.

D: I bet because the roads were probably really narrow, huh?

F: Yeah.

D: They probably had drop offs too. Were you scared?

F: No

D: What about movies? Do you remember going to any movies?

F: We didn't go to many movies. I'd say we was on the poor side but we lived happily ever after, had plenty to eat.

D: Do you remember the Depression at all?

F: Yeah.

D: Did it impact you at all?

F: No

D: It didn't to most people around here. They didn't have money so they didn't lose it. What about during the war, do you remember seeing rations used for tires and things?

F: Yeah, we could just buy so much.

D: Did you raise your own meat?

F: Yeah, we raised our own beef and pork.

D: And then you had dairy things.

F: Uh-huh, my dad had a herd of cows and they sold cream and milk and stuff like that.

D: Do you remember where they sold it?

F: There was a fellow named Andrew Anderson, he'd come and get our...mother made butter. He'd come and got butter and dairy products that he took up to Hiawatha and sold.

D: Did you ever raise bees or anything like that?

F: No, my father-in-law did.

D: What was his name?

F: Oliver Roper

D: I want to go back to the schools for a minute. Did you have any rivalry with Central school or North Emery school or was it too far away.

F: No, we participated for a long time. They didn't have football in our county because there was a kid got killed playing football.

D: You remember that, were you in school then?

F: Yeah. They picked it up again.

D: When the new school was built?

F: Yeah.

D: Do you remember that being devastating when that football player was killed?

F: It was. It was. I don't remember just the in's and out's of it but.

D: It was a game between.....

F: Ferron, I believe.

D: Yeah, North Emery and South Emery (At that time they were called Ferron High School and Huntington High School.

F: Yeah.

D: They just had those leather helmets.

F: Yeah. We come from Price yesterday, noticing guys on motorcycles that didn't have helmets on, quite a few of them. Umm

D: Do you remember anything about Central school? Do you recall when they decided to close it down? (The Huntington Elementary the burned was called Huntington Central --so we're talking about two different schools.)

F: We had to go to school in people's homes and the church house. I remember going to school in the church house.

D: How did you like that?

F: It didn't seem right.

D: Did you know anybody from Castle Dale? Any friends, any people that went to Central High School?

F: Yeah, I knew them. We weren't right intimate with them you know but I knew them.

D: So tell me about meeting Milton and your courtship and when you got married.

F: Well he lived down below town, down below our place and they always went up on this side. We lived on that side and they always went on this side to get to town, what have you. I don't know, we didn't pay much attention to it. I don't know when we started to hob-knobbin' together.

D: Not til high school huh?

F: Yeah, um-hm. Like I say, I went to Peach Days that one time. I wouldn't have thought about going to Peach Days and leaving my mother with that. One time, she went somewhere and she left me to (when I come home from school) bottle that pan of tomato juice. Well, young and stupid as I was, you know these little seeds that come out when you juice your tomatoes, I thought they was little worms so I took and threw the tomato juice out. I'd of killed me. (Laughing)

D: What did your mother do?

F: She was good about it. She didn't get after me or anything. She was pretty patient with me, well with all of us, I'd say. (Laughing)

D: You probably knew to look for worms and thought you found them.

F: I thought I did.

D: Was Fawn helping you?

F: Yeah, we worked together. The root cellar was cement about half as big as that porch. It was cement see and then you went down there. It really was a cement cellar, we had a root cellar out farther for our potatoes and carrots and stuff, but this was a cement cellar and we kept our bottled fruit and stuff down there. It was neat. That Fawn, she broke more bottles of fruit coming up them steps.

D: She never got the hang of it?

F: No.

D: So you could store your potatoes and carrots all winter and apples? Did you have apple trees?

F: Um-hm, yeah.

D: You did a lot of canning, did you have a coal stove?

F: Oh yeah, a lot of our canning, mother would put bottles over a fireplace outside and put her jars in a tub.

D: I have a daughter and son that have big outdoor chef barbecuer and they've taken their bottling outside too.

F: That son and daughter-in-law of mine bottles their stuff outside over a camp stove and it's quicker but he always has to be there to light the fire and carry the stuff in. Handy. (Laughs)

D: You didn't have that I take it.

F: Nope, I boiled mine on the stove.

D: And you're still canning huh?

F: I haven't done any this year but we didn't have any apricots to can. I like apricots. It don't look like we're goin' have any peaches from what I understand, they say they're not very prolific up state to the stands and like that. You have to pay I guess two prices for them. But I'd do it and get a few anyhow if I had a chance to the fruit stands and like that you know.

D: I love canned peaches. There's nothing like home bottled stuff, you can't buy it in the store.

F: That's right. I had a can of pears, they weren't like pears. My son-in-law says to my daughter, "why don't you go buy it and worry about that stuff", she says, "it is better, you get a

better taste and quality” so she always cans there in Sandy.

D: When did you and Milton get married?

F: June the 22nd, 19... 14 is when I was born.... 32.

D: And then what about the war, you got married right in the middle of the depression.

F: He didn't have to go to war.

D: What did he do for a living?

F: Worked in mines.

D: Coal miner?

F: Hiawatha, Mohrland and Hiawatha

D: Did you ever live in Hiawatha?

F: Nope

D: But he did work at Mohrland and Hiawatha?

F: Um-hmm

A neighbor, Jed, joined the conversation.

Jed: Byron Howard was the owner of that mine, they lived right next door west of her in a little modular. It was quite a nice home when it was built.

F: Two story and it was nice but she tried and tried to get him to bring her some coal. He never got it to her so she went and had us bought a load and had it delivered and boy did she blow his can.

Jed: He was the owner of a coal mine and she went and bought it.

D: Well it served him right.

F: Yeah it did. I'll bet it woke him up. Byron Howard had a two story home over here and it burned down.

D: While he was still living?

F: Um-hmm. They lived in a camp house going up to the mine I know that.

D: Were you living here when it burned down?

F: Uh-huh

D: Were you afraid your house was going to catch on fire?

F: No, I stood out there and watched it.

D: I heard everybody gathered because you couldn't do anything about them. There wasn't enough water to put on it, so everybody gathered and watched.

F: We just stood out there and watched it.

D: Did you buy this house right way?

F: It wasn't too long.

D: Where did you first live, do you remember that?

F: Yes, we lived in a home across the street from my mother for a while then we lived in two rooms of a home that my brother had over in the corner, kiddie-corner from there. Then we moved to Mohrland.

D: Tell me about Mohrland.

F: I liked Mohrland. My friend's mother run the boarding house up there.

D: What was her name?

F: Ruth Nielsen.

D: Oh it's her mother?

F: Her mother. When we lived up there, course people went to....they wanted to give us a drink of wine, these visiting teachers. (Laughing) Personally I like wine. I've not had any for a long time, but I do like wine. (Laughs)

D: So they offered you wine when they came visiting? Did they bring a bottle with them?

F: No, we went to their home. We never did accept it but it sure was tempting.

D: Do you remember their names?

F: No, they were from Mohrland and I don't remember.

D: Do you know where you lived? I know there were parts close to main street like Gobbler Knob...

F: Gobbler Knob

D: Is that where you lived?

F: Uh-huh

D: Did you live there year round?

F: Yeah. We lived there about three years.

D: How did people get along? Did they have the community picnics and things like most camps?

F: No, not really.

D: Do you remember mingling with the other nationalities up there?

F: Not very much. My husband and some of them had a pet cat. I always remember this story. The pet cat would come around and they'd give it scraps from their sandwiches and one day they said...the kids always come playing around there...one day, they said "you want this cat?" and he said "you bet" so they gave him the cat. He took it home. One day they said "what'd you do with your cat?" Well they killed it and ate it. (Laughs)

D: What nationality were they, do you remember?

F: I don't remember (Laughing) But they killed it and ate it. Don't sound very good to me.

D: Do you remember any other stories from up there?

F: Well the Relief Society put quilts on and I was there helping them quilt one day. One woman says "you don't want her, she don't know anything about quilting". I really was a good quilter.

D: I've heard that quilters get like that, kind of cliquish.

F: So I didn't help them quilt.

D: So did they have a church up there?

F: Yeah. I think they met in the school house.

D: And they had a big amusement hall there?

F: Yeah, they had dances and stuff.

D: Do you remember any baseball games or was that earlier in Mohrland days?

F: No, they played baseball. A guy lived down here, can't remember his name, he was a big baseball fan. They had games.

D: Did you hate leaving Mohrland?

F: Well they closed down, didn't have any choice. (Laughs) We had some good times up there.

D: Did he like working for the mine?

F: Not really but it was a job. They took some of us ladies in the bottom one day. We didn't go in very far but I wouldn't have wanted to, kind of scary.

D: Do you remember the cars on the rails that would run in and out of the mine?

F: Yeah.

D: What did your husband do, what kind of work in the mine?

F: Loaded coal. One time they had a horse pulling the cart.

D: You remember them having horses in the mine?

F: Um-hmm. It didn't last very long, they soon got motorized.

D: I've seen pictures of horses. They closed in what, 1937?

F: I don't remember.

D: And then you moved here?

F: Down here. We had this house bought, we were renting it and then afterwards, we built the two back rooms and the porch and another little bedroom.

D: Did he go to work for Byron Howard then or Hiawatha?

F: Hiawatha

D: So he worked for Howard first, you bought this place then you went to Mohrland and then he went to Hiawatha?

F: Um-hm

D: Did they transfer him over to Hiawatha?

F: The mines were very very slow, slower in Mohrland than they were in Hiawatha. He kind of switched.

D: Was he off during the summer like all the coal mines?

F: Yeah.

D: So did he farm?

F: Yeah

D: So where is your farm?

F: He didn't have much farming. We owned this corner place up here. We had a cow that supplied our milk.

D: Did he work for any other farms for the summer?

F: He worked for a few other farmers. One of them paid him 25 cents a day. (Laughing)

D: Oh no! (laughing) That is bad wages.

F: Well this guy was kind of tight wad-o too. I thought it was very generous.

D: What was his name, do you remember?

F: I do, Frank Robbins.

D: So then he worked at Hiawatha. Did he like working at Hiawatha?

F: Just more of the same.

D: Did he ever have any accidents?

F: Nope. He helped bring the men out of the mine...what mine was it?

D: Castle Gate Mine?

F: Castle Gate Mine. He helped bring the men out of there. It wasn't a very pleasant job.

D: Do you remember anything he said about it?

F: He wouldn't talk about it, just said it wasn't good.

D: That's scary and then he had to go back and work in a coal mine.

F: He got a job working for the highway department, so he switched.

D: What year was that?

F: I don't remember what year it was.

D: Do you remember when you heard about Pearl Harbor?

F: Yeah. I was up there putting wall paper on that wall.

D: Really?

F: Uh-huh (laughs)

D: Who told you about it?

F: We heard it over the radio. My little girl, she just cried and cried. 'Bout broke her heart.

D: How old was she?

F: About 10. She sure felt bad.

D: I bet it was pretty traumatic.

F: It was. Yep. That's what I was doing when I heard about that.

Door bell rings

F: Oh, it's dinner time huh? Well thank you...

D: You had four children while you lived here. Do you have any stories about raising those kids that you could share with us?

F: I remember one time, I tied my kid by his suspenders out here to this post cause I didn't want him running away. He slipped his pants off and I seen him out the back yard. He out-whizzed

me that time. (Laughing)

F: I told my kids I didn't need this but they insisted on me having Meals On Wheels. It's nutritious, I know.

D: They're afraid you'll starve and you're afraid you won't.

F: I'm afraid I won't. They're always a worried about me. This daughter-in-law that lives here with my son, she wants me to come and live with them so I'll get some food and I eat. (Laughing)

D: It's hard to give up your independence huh?

F: Yeah. I'm not going to until I have to!

D: Good for you. It sounds like you take good care of yourself.

F: (Laughs) I have someone come and do my vacuuming every week. It bothered me to vacuum but I don't know why; a kink in my back or something. So I have somebody come vacuum every week. Then if I want her to dust, she does that for me. She does little jobs that I need her to do. She has a little dog that I cater to. Course I pay her....well she could use a little extra, I know.

D: Before the roads were paved, did Huntington have some bad mud.

F: Yeah. (Laughs)

D: How did you get around?

F: Well it wasn't easy. One time my son-in-law went off the beaten path and got his car stuck out here; it was a mess. He had quite a time getting it out.

D: It's muddy in Elmo and then the mud builds up until you're taller.

F: Aren't the streets black topped?

D: Yeah, now they are. When we first moved here they weren't. But my mother said, when all the roads were dirt, if you were going anywhere, you had to leave early in the morning while the ground was still frozen.

F: (Laughs)

D: Did you do much traveling? Did you go to Salt Lake?

F: No, not very much.

D: Did you travel out to the desert?

F: We went down to the desert, Eastering.

D: What part of the desert?

F: We didn't go down very far, just past the ponds...had our Easter.

D: Did you camp or just go for the day?

F: We just went for the day, mmm-hmm

D: What did you do while you were out there?

F: Sit and watch the motorcycles go up and down the road (Laughs) and have our picnic.

D: Did you hide Easter eggs?

F: Yeah.

D: Did you do that all your married life?

F: No, not really. When our kids got bigger and when they were real small, we didn't do it.

D: Did you go up the canyon?

F: Yeah, we went up the canyon a lot. When we had kids, we'd fix a little picnic and go up the canyon and eat.

D: Did you do any camping up there?

F: Well a little bit, but not much. All did when we went camping is throw a quilt out on the ground and crawl in. I think Ooo, I wouldn't do that now days.

D: You had your four children here in this house and did they go to this new elementary school? Was it built then?

F: Mm-hmm.

D: Did they go to North Emery or did they go to the new high school?

F: They went to the new high school.

D: How did you feel about it when they closed North Emery High?

F: My daughter thought it was fine, she was one of the first students that went over there. (laughs)

D: Was she your oldest child?

F: Youngest

D: So your boys went to North Emery?

F: Uh-huh

D: She was excited to go to the new school?

F: Oh yeah, she thought that was great when it first opened up and everything.

D: What did the rest of the town feel? Was it hard to let go of your high school here in town?

F: Not really, everybody was excited to go over there.

D: It went from having three schools to two schools and then down to one where everybody had to travel. I wondered if there was a problem with that.

F: No, lots of kids had a car so they'd drive. (laughs)

D: Three of your kids went here and just one went to the new Emery High School.

F: They all five...let's see..

D: Did they meet their spouses here in Huntington?

F: No, the one met her's at the college in Price, that was JoAnn. Fawn got introduced to her's by a friend in Salt Lake. Cliff met his in college in Price.

D: Is Fawn your oldest?

F: Donald, my boy is the oldest.

D: Oh and then Fawn. You and your twin sister had babies how far apart?

F: 23 hours

D: So they were born on the same day?

F: Yeah, the 20th

D: Where did you have them?

F: At home.

D: Who delivered your babies?

F: Oh, let's see, no, we went to Price at that time to have our babies.

D: You went to the hospital?

F: Uh-huh

D: So you were in the hospital together?

F: Uh-huh

D: Oh how fun. You named yours Fawn and she named hers Fay.

F: Fay died.

D: Oh, when?

F: About three years ago.

D: Were they close? Did your sister lived here in Huntington?

F: No

D: Who did she marry?

F: A Kizerian from Price.

D: Did she live in Price?

F: Yeah.

D: So you could still get together?

F: Yeah

D: Were you close all your life?

F: Uh-huh, yep.

D: Did you like being a twin?

F: I liked it but we always had to dress alike. I went to put a different dress on once... "you're not going to wear that" and I didn't. My mother always made two.

D: Was she the bossy twin?

F: Yeah, she took care of me. (laughing)

D: Did you dress alike into high school too?

F: Not as much as we did before.

D: Did you look alike?

F: Nope, we didn't look alike, we were just dark skinned. She married someone darker than she was.

D: What nationality is Kizerian?

F: I don't know.

D: Did you have to ask her permission to marry Milton? (Laughs)

F: Nope, I got it all myself (laughs). I almost had to get my sister-in-law's permission. She said "you're not going to marry him" and I thought well it counts a lot to us Delia.

D: Did you have a happy life with him?

F: Oh yes, yeah. We went on trips to Yellowstone and around. We had a good life.

D: Did you take vacations with your kids?

F: Nope, we didn't go vacationing much. I don't know why.

D: Sounds like your kids had a wonderful mother. They sure love you.

F: Well I tried to watch out for them. (Laughing)

D: Which one was it that you couldn't keep home, that would run away so much?

F: That was Clifford.

D: My mom tried putting a rope on my oldest brothers overalls and putting him on a clothes line so he could run...

F: Back and forth? uh-huh. He never shed his pants and went in his diaper, huh? (Laughing)

D: Where did you find him?

F: Out to the back. I had him tied to the post out here. (Laughing)

D: What order were they born? Donald and then Fawn.

F: Yeah, then five years later I had JoAnn and Cliff.

D: Did you want to have twins?

F: I wouldn't have minded but it didn't happen.

D: I better let you have your lunch. I really appreciate you talking to us.

F: Oh my lunch is alright, I'll just stick it in the microwave.

D: Do you know any stories or legends of the outlaws? Did you parents ever know them?

F: I didn't hear too much about them. Now there's a rock down on the desert somewhere with...they've written their names on. I couldn't take you to it or show you but we went there one day. A guy that knew about it took us down there.

D: You don't have any family stories about them?

F: Nope.

D: Did you remember them working on the MK tunnels out there? They had a big blast in the 50's that people went to see.

F: Huh-uh

D: Do you remember any shocking stories in the county or any bullies in the town?

F: There was a guy that was quite known for...oh I don't know what you call...living it up you know, I don't know what you call it, but there wasn't much.

D: Did you like everybody in town?

F: Yeah.

D: You didn't have any people that you really disliked?

F: Nope

D: Do you remember your bishop?

F: Yeah, I remember my bishop.

D: Who's the first bishop you remember?

F: My brother was bishop, Reed Brasher, he was the bishop.

D: Oh okay. Do you remember when Sheriff Black was killed?

F: Yeah.

D: Was that pretty....

[Someone was at the door "I came to get some dill"]

F: No, you're not going to pay for it, here take it back. Go get you some dill. There's some scissors there on the porch just go cut it. Help yourself.

[Door shuts]

F: First dill I ever sold [shaking her head] [laughing]. It comes up volunteer and I have a lot of people come cut it. Well what you gonna do? I can't chase him down and force feed him.

D: I'll let you go eat your lunch and get up and stretch. I sure appreciate talking to you.

F: Well I hope I give you some good answers, I don't know.

D: Nobody knows the town like when you were young. Do you remember the stores that were here when you were young?

F: There used to be a store that we'd take our eggs too.

D: Do you remember who's store it was?

F: Ray Johnson

D: The Johnson store?

F: Uh-huh.

D: Did you ever get to spend an egg?

F: Oh yeah, every once in a while.

D: What did you buy with it?

F: Candy (laughs) of course.

D: What kind of candy did they have?

F: Oh they had stick candy and these little round gobbies full of candy.

D: Did you like licorice?

F: Mm-hmm

D: Do you remember Dr. Hill?

F: Oh yes, he was our baby doctor and delivered our babies.

D: What did you think of him?

F: He was good, good as they were in them days.

D: Do you remember any other doctors?

F: There was a doctor Riari (?) she was a woman.

D: Was she accepted?

F: Yeah

D: Do you remember any stories about Dr. Hill?

F: No not really.

D: Ira (?) said they were really good to her and she'd help take care of his wife.

F: Mm-hmm

D: Didn't he have a big house on main street?

F: Yeah right next where the Star show house.

D: I read in the newspaper in that day that Dr. Hill was building a castle.

F: [Laughs]

D: Did you know JW Nixon? I think he left here.

F: I remember him very slightly. That there was a woman come to his store one day and I was down there. She was trying to find something, she had her baby with her and she was nursing the baby. She said "if you don't take this, I'm going to give it to him". I know he'd of enjoyed it.

D: Did you make that quilt on your bed?

F: Uh-huh, I made it. I had it quilted because I got this sitting here and I have no room for quilt frames. There's a lady here that quilts, she quilted it for me. I had fun making it.

D: What other hobbies do you have? You crochet and quilt?

F: Yeah.

D: Did you belong to any of the clubs around here?

F: We had a club, we called ourselves...I told you about that...that Rusty Dozen.

D: Did you stay friends when you got older?

F: Yep, I'm the only left of course, poor me. (Laughs)

D: What did you do when you'd get together?

F: We had a club that we took our sewing and we sewed, crocheted, stuff like that.

D: You'd just sew and visit and have lunch?

F: Yeah, we always had to eat, seems like. They say the Mormon people is the worst to do that, every time they go anywhere or do anything, they got to eat. (Laughing)

D: It sounds like you've had a great life.

F: I have, I've had a good life. I can't complain.

D: When you were a kid did you and your sister go riding?

F: Yeah we had a farm up the canyon there and we lived up there one summer. My mother didn't like living up there.

D: Did you?

F: I didn't like it. We'd walk to Primary downtown. We were young and stupid.

D: You didn't get to ride your horse to Primary?

F: No we walked.

D: But you rode horses a lot?

F: Uh-huh

D: Did you take cattle anywhere?

F: I didn't help with the cattle.

D: Did you help with the farming?

F: We pulled weeds [Laughs]

D: Mostly house chores is what you did? What kind of chores did you do?

F: Well mother and dad had a dairy. We sold butter, milk and the cream. That kept us pretty busy.

D: Did you help churn?

F: Yeah.

D: What kind of churn did you have?

F: Oh we had several kinds. We had one that you put in the washer. We had one you turned with a handle. We had several kinds.

D: Did you ever make ice cream?

F: Oh yes, we had ice cream every Sunday. We had an aunt and her kids thought they ought to

come down every Sunday for ice cream.

D: Where did you get your ice?

F: My dad went up the canyon and cut 50 pounds, they have a pond up here and he'd cut 50 pounds. He took part of his shed from his granary and put saw dust in it and he stored his ice in it and it kept all summer. So we had our ice cream.

D: That seems like a real luxury.

F: Yeah, we had a little ice box down in the fruit cellar. Our fruit cellar was all cement and it was nice and cool down there. We had a little refrigerator down there.

D: Did you keep your ice in it and your cold food?

F: Uh-huh

D: Sounds like you were very resourceful. No wonder your aunt wanted to come every Sunday.

[Laughing]

F: She did too.

D: Could you buy ice cream in the stores?

F: Yeah, you could do it but we made it.

D: Did you have drug stores? Do you remember fountain drinks? Did you have one in Huntington?

F: Yeah, there was one down here for a while. Walt's.

D: I wish they were still here, every town needs a drug store.

F: Yes, they do but this guy give up down here.

D: Well thank you so much!

I was born in Huntington March 7, 1914. I've lived here all my life except for about 3 years when Milton and I moved to Kenilworth. Milton needed to be closer to his work which was mining coal. Before I was born I had to sisters and two brothers. My dad was called to go on a mission to the Chicago area. In those days they went with whatout purse or script, that meant money. Mother was left home to take care of the children. Dad had a diary and mother would make butter to ~~sell~~^{sell} and she also made a lot of goodies. We also had lots of good ice cream. In the winter my dad would go up the city water pond and cut big blocks of ice, 50 pound bocks and bring them home and store them in sawdust in a shed he had. It kept all summer and we had lots of ice cream. He had to cover it good with lots of sawdust.

My mother made her own soap to wash with. She made it in a tub with a fire under in out in the yard. She used fat from animals that they killed for food and it took lye. It was a good soap. I don't think now a days people would know what lye is. It ate the greasend you had to boil your soap so long til it got in strings then it was done.

When my daddy killed beef or pork my mother would bottle it. Then we had meat all the year. She also bottled all kinds of vegetables and fruits. Hundreds of quarts of each kind. Dad was a farmer and raised everything we used. He also raised his hay and grain for his cattle. When he harvested his grain he would take some up to the mill where they would grind it into flour. Dad would bring it home and store a years supply in a room in the house.

In the summer we couldn't say we was boredbecause we didn't have anything to do. We helped with the garden and the chores and there was always plenty to do.

In the evening we would play games out in the street under the lights, with the neighbor kids. The most fun one as I remember was Run My Sheep Run. We would all go and hide and then see if we could sneak in without someone catching us. It was always lots of fun. Then we played perk, a marble game. That was fun. We also played kick the can.

On Tuesday we had Primary. Lots of times myself, brother and two sisters walk, I think it was about 3 miles, when we lived up on the farm one summer. We would come down to Primary on Tuesdays, that was quite a walk.

There were 10 children in the family, one died as an infant, 11 children in the family. Dad didn't have a car and when we went to church he would

put the five youngest children in a big baby buggy and walk. When we went to the farm we would go in a buggy or an a hay ~~rack~~^{rack}. Sometimes we would ride our horse.

When we was in the second grade the school building burned down and then the next year we had to go to all different places to go to school. Our class was up in the old tithing office building. Some went in the old Relief Society hall, and in the church house for classes. When I was in the second there were two of us, Lynn Guymon and I, that didn't miss a day of school. The teacher gave Lynn a pocket knife and gave me a string of beads. When I got home I was so proud I help them up to show my mother and they broke, all over the floor so that was the end of the beads. When we would go put make up on which we thought was kind of fun the teacher would send us out to a cow watering place to wash our faces, cause we wasn't supposed to waer makeup. We went to high school in a building that was where the play ground for the elementary school is now. After they tore that down we went over to the other building. After we got in high school. When I was in high school, my grandkids laugh at me but when I was in high school I was on the basketball team. One year we went to Tooele to play, we lost our game but it was lots of fun. We went in the coach's cars. One car run off the road cause the roads were slick but we got back on and away we went.

At Christmas time we didn't have \$to much. We would get a new dress and maybe a doll and dad would get some candy sticks for us and some oranges. He always razed us that all we were going to get was a piece of wood and a lump of coal. Thanksgiving my mother would have the family and make pies a mighty and we would have a big family dinner at our house. We didn't have any trick or treat stuff at Halloween, it just came and went the way I remember.

When Milton and I were married we went to Salt Lake in a Rumble seat car with a Defriez and he took us to Miltons uncles. His uncle took us to the temple. That was all that went. Then when we came home Mother had a little reception for us. I remember she had green peas for our lunch. Quite different from today. On the fourth of July they would give us each a quarter and the one that spent the least got a prize. I could never get the prize. I always got mine spent. That was a big day on the 4th and 24th. They had concessions. They had candy and drinks. I think the drinks was homemade lemonade.

There was an old Geary store that had quite a bit of stuff in it. I remember one time Fawn and I wanted a new pair of shoes. We always had to have everything just alike. Dad took us to the store to get some shoes and ya they was fine. Fawns were all right but mine hurt my feet but I had to have them any^{way} ~~way~~.

Lots of times before breakfastin the morning, the Guymons that lived down below us would go up town to get them a box of shredded wheat or something. Dad would go to the store, he really liked strong cheese. Mother would send him for some cheese and brown sugar and he would have both packages open eating brown sugar and cheese by the time he got home. At Christmas time the Gearys would have, what we thought, a big display of Christmas stuff upstairs. We thought that was great.

We walked to church. It was a church built south of where the bank is now. It was a neat old place, I don't know why they tore it down. It had a big banister. They had big Relief Society Parties there. Everybody would take a lunch and they had a big program. It was really a big time for their yearly Relief Society party.

When we went to grade school we would go home for lunch. We would walk or run then run back. In the winter time my dad would get out with his scraper and scrape the paths all over town, as much as he could before school started.

Milton went to school in high school. He was two years ahead of me.

He got to askin me out. The way I remember one of my first dates we went over to Ferron for peach days. I asked mother if I could go and she says I hate to spare you as I'm awfully busybut you can go. She was bottling peaches, so I went of course didn't think she needed my help that bad.

Mistaken but we just got to goin together and decided to get ourselves well ^{added} ~~we~~ were awfully smart, I was 18 and him not quite 21.

We worked on the farm. Milked the cows. We girls milked as much as the boys did. Milton would come down home for a date. He would have to wait for me while we seperated. We put the milk in a big bowl on top of the separator and turn the handle to amke the cream come out one place and the milk another. It was skim milk. We drink it now. Use to feed it to the pigs. The faster you turned the handle the thicker the cream was. When I was in a hurry and turned it fast we had good thick cream.

We went to Price in a buggy. We'd go down that old road and stop under the trees and they'd go buy us some shoes or what ever we went for. We had a two horse buggy. It was quite a journey. We had one Dr. here. I

When Clara broke her leg Dad had to take her to Ferron. Maybe Dr. Hill wasn't here then. He took her in a buggy. Uncle Heber use to have a car and we'd go up the canyon to his farm. Every little curve we'd go around he'd honk the horn so somebody wouldn't run into us. We'd have chicken roasts. We'd get chickens and go up there and cook them. A group of us. In the winter time we would use a sleigh.

We use to have a bath once a week. We'd have it in a bug round tub, no ~~we~~ didn't. Milton and I had a round tub, at home we had a ^{Porcelain} bathtub. Upstairs they had a big bedroom with this bathtub and a little stove and it had two beds. The water from the bathtub would run out a pipe out the side of the house onto the ground. When there ~~was~~ was the twins mother would wash us and dad would dry us. When Milton and I were first married we had to use our round tub to bath in. Most places didn't have bathtubs then. Lots of times when we were small, there would be five of us, in the bed, Mother and dad would sleep in one bed and five of us cross wise in the other. Imagine that now days. We have to have our own bed.

I've worked in all the organizations in the church. I worked in the MIA, the young women, Relief Society, Primary. I just got my 50 year plaque for the Primary. I was Primary president when Ken was the bkshop. I was co. quite a few times, then I started to teach the cute little three year olds. I just loved that.

When my mother had her first baby and lost it they went fortwo or three years and didn't have anymore. They prayed and prayed about it as they wanted children. then they got ten more. They were devistated because they lost their first. There were two sets of twins. I was the first. I have a picture of that big baby buggy. Dad had to wideⁿ one of the doors to get it in and out. I don't know how dad ever done it. Pushing around 5 kids in it.

I've been a Relief Society ^{visit} teacher half of my life. I use to teach a class in Relief Society but it got to be to much. I would just go to pieces.

When JoAnn was about ten years old I went quilting and when I came home she was sick. I thought she was just sick to her stomach. I took her temperature. It was so high I put her in the car and went to Hiawath to the Dr. She had appendicitis. He told me to get her down to Price to the hospital as fast as I could. I got her down there and when they got here in surgery her appendic was ready to rupture. Boy I did a lot of praying at that time. We had four children. Two boys and two girls.

Thelma Mills

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I was born here. I think thats a right good reason. I was born in Lawrence and when I was about 18 months old mom and dad bought a place here in Huntington. I've always liked it here. As far as I'M concerned it's the best place in the world. When I went to Salt Lake to school I was real glad to come back. After I was married Homer and I lived in Price for we lived out at the Big Springs dairy for a year and then in Price for a year or two. Then we came back and lived in Emery County then we went to Wattis untill the children were big enough to be transported from Wattis down to Price to school and I didn't want my kids going to Carbon County schools . So we moved back to Huntington.

We lived 4 blocks from school and I walked the 4 blocks, ran the 4 blocks. I didn't think I was hurt a bit. We had heavier snows when I was young than we do now. Not only that we didn't have the roads and sidewalks kept clear. After a snow storm Franz Brasher would get up and hook up his horse to a , I can't think of what it was called, it would move the snow off the sidewalks. He would start out at his place and go clear down to the bottom of town across and up by our place. He would take all the lower end of town. He would go from his place to the school so the sidewalks were all cleared. I don't know if they had one in the upper side of town that did the same thing or not. I remember as a kid in the winter we used to skate on the road and it was hard packed snow on the roads, We could have a lot of fun . We didn't have a lot of traffic to interfere with it. The kids made a skating rink in the old oh right along the river . The went up and dammed the waste water up above where the canyon Rim, there was waste water came down through there and they dammed it off and that whole area by the river was a big flat ice skating rink. Then up on the hill by Martinez's trailer court is , Gordons lived there and they had a couple of big boys. They would turn the water on and It made a solid ice pack from there down to the river. We went sleigh riding down and hill and down the river. We had a lot of fun doing these things. We did it for ourselves, somebody didn't have to come and make them for us or put them together. Our parents knew we were perfectly safe there this is the thing that I think was so wonderful. We had the freedom of doing the things. I was involved in everything in the school from the time I was way down in school until after I was graduated. I had a lot of fun growing up in school. A lot of accomplishment.

When I got to college the extra circular things I did in school were

thing I used to make money, to help me get through college. I remember when we were kids they had a big long toboggan. I imagine the thing was 16 to 18 feet long. It was nothing but a great big long plank. they had fastened it to some runners. They either hooked it up to the back of a horse and then they got cars so they hooked it up and we road this. We road on the back streets, we didn't ride it on the main streets. I remember one time of getting thrown off of that. I hit my head and I thought I was fixed for life. I got in the car and road for half an hour then climbed back on the toboggan. We had a lot of activity. We had a lot of plays that we put on as kids. We had ball teams. But the sports weren't all so vicious. You intended to have a good game. We might fight like 60 with Castle Dale or Carbon County in the game. When the game was over we all went dancing and had a good time together. It wasn't , You didn't have the ~~is~~ I don't know what you call it but dog eat dog thing you have in sports now . We had a lot of fun. I remember They always had those Relief Society Parties, the 25th of Feb and the 15 of March. We were just a bunch of kids. when they had those. People who had left the area for a long time all came back to those parties. I remember in the old church house they had big tables strung^g all up the south side of it. They nearly always had home made ice cream for those. After they would have that they would go over in the high school and have a ~~let~~ dance. They did a lot of those old dances like the shodish^g and that. We would line up in back of the ones that could do those and we would have a lot of fun trying.

I was a pretty good sized kid before we had many cars around. We had cars when I was a teen ager. I saw one in the parade the other day that was a Ford roadster~~er~~ coup and I thought , oh my Lord that little thing. When we were kids we would put 8 people in that little tiny car and I don't see how we could ever have done it. We just had a lot of fun. We made our own fun beca use that was the only way to do it. It was always simple good fun we didn't have to destroy things or be mean or anything. I feel sorry that the kids have lost that privilege because everything prepared for them. They never get a chance to decide what they can do and how they can do. It's all set up and outlined and that's what they have. I remember when I was young dad had a saw mill up the canyon. When we would go to the mill in the spring we'd take what things we had to have in the house. Moms machine always went up to the sawmill. She had a tread machine so she could sew during the summer. Then we'd have the food and things that we would need. I was thinking the other day when we'd go to the canyon dad would

dig a pit about 4 feet deep in that soft loamy ground and put a board lid over it then he could just drop the potatoes in it. You know how potatoes begin to get soft in the spring out of the cellar. Well these would firm right back up and it would be almost like you had new potatoes. And we had the cows we took up because we had to have the milk and butter and all at the mill. You just had to make your own living. We always had a good garden and we always canned everything. We just took care of ourselves. When I hear them make such a fuss over food storage I think that's the way we lived. We didn't have to have anybody tell us to fix storage. We knew enough that if we didn't store we didn't eat in the winter. In the first place it wasn't available in the markets like it is now. In the second place you didn't have the money to buy it with. I remember oh I don't know when we went out to the big spring dairy we carried water. We didn't have water in the house. But we had a lovely spring about 50 yards from the front door. I didn't mind carrying water it was just part of living. I was awfully glad when it got so I didn't have to carry it. We accepted things as they were and worked with it. When we bought the little house that's down were the restaurant is we had a cistern out in the back. We didn't have water in the house. We didn't put the running water in that until about 1950. I remember we used water out of the cistern for most things but I kept a big jug of water that I hauled the water from town because it was direct from the springs and everything. ^{the} ~~the~~ I'd go to town I'd take a 5 gallon can and fill it and then fill this 20gal jar I kept in back of a out of the way where it would be nice and clean. It would keep cool and that's the water we would use to drink. We didn't have a refrigerator at first. I didn't have one until after Bob was born. Homer would make us a cooler. It would have a wooden frame ~~and~~ usually was about 3 feet by 5 feet and covered with screen wire and on top of the screen wire, inside the screen wire would be a white muslin and then on the outside would be heavy burlap. We would pour water down the outsides of the ² and keep it damp and as the air went through it it would cool it off. You learned to live with what you had. We raised bumper calves.

I've taught in the church from the time I was about 17 years old. I started teaching, they usually put me to teach some unruly boys. As far back as I can remember an just assure as they had a group of unruly boys I was shifted to that class. I remember having one group of kids in Primary and we'd taken an early morning hike. We had to have this hike and we'd gone up

above town where there was an irrigation ditch up past the mill ways. We build us a fire to cook breakfast and the boys were having a lot of fun. We was just bettering back and fourth , one of them kneeled down in back of me and one did somethng so that I slipped and turned end over end into that ditch of water. They all begin to giggle then they shut it off real quick just as if they thought now what's she going to do? I stood up dripping wet and I said "Well kids I guess your going to get breakfast while I get dry. And boy I tell you I had a bunch of little boys that Immediately ask how do I do this Mrs. Mills? I think it was one of the best things that ever happened to me as far as teaching boys was concerned because it gave them the feeling that I was a good sport about it but I wouldn't tolerate ignorance or anything. It just made it so that if we had one boy that was a lot of problem it never gave me a problem because I turned him over to the other boys. As a usual rule when I'd start a class we'd have the boys make the rules that they wanted to live by. Then they would enforce the rules themselves. It made ~~th~~ teaching them a lot of fun. I've taught for years in the Primary and then in the . I remember when they first started Jr. Sunday school I was irrate because I thought that was just somebody , some old womans idea that didn't want noisy kids around and I had two of the most beautiful children and I justresented them nor thinking that they were nice enough to be in the same church that they were in. I came home and just really ranted that they did this and this. Mother and Dad and Sherrill and Bessy and Home and I were there talking and after a little while Sherrill said "Thelma do think you are smarter than Pre. McKay?" Do you think you know more than he does?' And It brought me up short. And I began to back peddle what I had been yappin and figurin about how far off I'd been. Two weeks after that I was the Jr. Sunday School Coordinator. It didn't take me to awfully long to realize that that was the best thing that ever happened to kids that we'd had in the church. It gave kids a chance to start developing among their own peers where afraid to develop and it did children more good than I've ever heard of. I was Jr. Sunday school cord. for 5 years in second ward and 5 years in stake and then went into the first ~~th~~ ward and I spent 5 or 6 years there. I went down to Aux. meeting one day and they were telling they were starting a new teaching program in the church. Basic teacher training. We were talking about it and I said I thought that would be a real nice program and I said Who is going to teach that? I think it's wonderful. Armond Johnson said "You are" I said "Oh I can't." He said "Why can't you." You can teach it better than anyone in the ward.

I'm Jr. Sunday school cor¹.d." He said well your going to be teacher of Basic Training. I was just about as frightened over that. From teaching kids to teaching adults to teach was scary. I remember just shortly after starting it I went up to class one day after prayer meeting and there sat 4 teacher out of the high school. I was frightened. It was a very good class. I remember when I started the class I told them they all had to speak in church. This wasn't part of the class but it was that one. We had a number of men in there that was petrified of speaking in church and those men now are in the aux, and heads of aux. and bishopricks and every one of them have gone on and developed and I think that class gave them the courage to be able to do this. I've been in the Mutual and in the Relief Society. Been in parts of the program. We didn't use to have an activity co, Someone was just assigned to do it. I was one of the assigned ones quite frequently. I got a lot of fun out of it and learned a lot. I remember one time we were having a special presentation in Mutual and Brad Jensen was suppose to give us a drum roll to start it. When we got ready to do it He wasn't there. I went dashing across the street to his house and he wasn't home, he was out on his motorcycle. His dad told me he would be there in just a minute. I went back and stalled for a minute and here he came. He gave us our ~~program~~ ^{drum roll} and it was real good and afterwards I went over and thanked him and said we needed that very badly for the basis of the program that day. He said he was sorry and he'd never be late again. I enjoy going out now and having these kids come up to me and speak and I wonder now just who was that.

The biggest faith promoting thing that happened, I've had a lot, an awful lot. The most important of when the boys where shot with shrapnel by exploding a box of caps out at Minnie Maud. Homer and I were down at the desert and the boys at Minnie Maud. Mac was working and Bob had gone out to visit him and they were suppose to come home that night and Homer and I were going to take a vacation and the kids were going to stay and take care of the cattle. We had been down and pumped the water for the cattle as it was our turn and we would have another turn for 2 weeks. When we drove in Sherill was parked in the drive way in his car and he told me the boys were in the hospital and I better take his car and go. I thought he was just pulling my leg so I was going to change my clothes and he told me to get them changed and get to the hospital. He said he would unload the horse and for us

to get going. Then I discovered he was serious. We went to the hospital and they had Mac in the mens ward and Bob in the kids ward. Bob was under 12 and Mac 16. When I went in those kids looked just like Mummies. Wrapped from head to heels entirely and this was how these kids were. They had one hole in the middle of the mouth. They didn't have holes for the eyes just the mouth and nose, so they could drink out of a straw and breathe. They were fussing because it was so hot and the nurses were real upset cause the Dr. couldn't let them have a fan in their room. It was terribly hot. It was the last of June. There was my 2 boys and when we got hold of the Dr. Dr. had told us he didn't know if the kids would live. He told us they were shot up pretty bad. After we had been there awhile the nurses came and told us that we better go home, there was nothing that could be done tonight and we needed to get some rest. We went down and told Homers mother about it. Then we started for home and when we got to the old river bridge in Price I told Homer we had better go back to the hospital. I told him I didn't know why but we better get back to the hospital. He turned around and we went back to the hospital and went through the emergency and as we went through there I saw them wheel someone on the gurney up to the operating room and I knew it was our son. I told him I was going there and he went to check the room and see and I tagged the gurney up to the operating room. and sure enough it was Mac. Homer came right back from the mens ward. Dr. Dorman was there and had unwrapped the bandages from around his head so he could see his eyes. He told Homer that I should go see the other boy. When I got back from seeing Bob Homer had a face as long as a well ~~red~~ Dr. Dorman told me then that he didn't know if they could save the boy but if they did he would be blind. I felt just like I'd been kicked. and kicked hard. He told us they would take him into Utah Valley next morning at six and if we wanted to go with them to be at the hospital then. We went home and at 6 o'clock we were there and followed the ambulance into the hospital. They worked on those kids all day long down in a cold place in the basement. That was a miserable day. Then they got the kids up in the room. The two in one room. Of course we were questioning them what had been done. Bob told us they just used a wire brush to scrub us with. I told him he was mistaken and he told us he wasn't. I asked the Dr. and he said that that was literally what they did. They have to take that scrapnel out of their body. They had a shrapnel specialist at Camp Williams at that time. He was there for a month or 2. They brought him in to take care of these boys. He was one of the best Drs. in the nation.

After a few days he asked who had taken care of them in the first part of the care and I told him Dr. Hubbard and he told me to thank that man because what he did kept those boys from being scared. If he hadn't done what he did those kids would have been terribly scared. They don't have a scar on their bodies from it. Macs one hand looked like it had been clawed. You could see the cords on the bones. We were there in the hospital and one night I had been down to dinner and had come back up. They had told us if Mac didn't keep his hand up he would lose it. He had to have it elevated so the blood wouldn't run down into it. He was really worried about this more so than the fact that He couldn't see in one eye. He was going to lose one eye. When I came in he had a big grin on his face and told me he wasn't going to lose his hand. I asked him how he knew and he said the Elders were there and given him a blessing and told him he wouldn't. He was just as definite and had no questions about it he just knew he wasn't going to lose his hand. He didn't lose it. It was about 5 weeks later that they finally had to take his eye out. That was the hardest thing on earth was to work with those kinds of things and not make invalids out of the boys. Bob left the hospital a month before Mac did. He wasn't as bad off. He had scrapnel all down the front of his body and enough in his eyes that they listed him as legally blind. Dr. Oaks told them to never let anyone talk them into taking that out of their eyes. Only if it started to move. Years later Bob had to have it out. Bob was 30 or so when he finally had to have it out. After Mac had his eye out it took quite a while before his permanent glass eye was put in. He came home one time and told me that the kids didn't pay any attention to the fact that he had a glass eye. I asked him if he did. He was so startled he looked at me and told me no. I told him that's why the kids didn't that we were very careful so he wasn't aware that he only had one eye. He's had to live with it and people have to be told that he only has the one eye. To me it was such a miracle because the Dr. had told us point blank that they didn't have much chance of living and if they did they would be blind. Both are healthy, strong men. Both have been very active in all they do. As far as I'm concerned that's a testimony. Homer was a bleeder. He had bled until you could almost look through his skin. It was so transparent. I understood that Aldo Childs could stop bleeding. He had that gift. I called him to come over and told him what we needed and if I could come and get him and he could bless Homer to stop bleeding. He had a spell about once a year. This one had been very bad. He told me not to come and get him and he told me he would quit bleeding within

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an hour and he did. As far as I'm concerned things like this are miracles that we don't even pay any attention to. We might think that they are just medical miracles but they are miracles. God given miracles and thats what makes us able to handle the things that come in life. The Lord is there to bless us at all times.