

## RUBEN MARK AND ZOLA JENSEN BRASHER

Ruben Mark Brasher, born 29 Oct. 1907 to John William Brasher and Mary Elvira Gillespie, had ten brothers and sisters, all born in Huntington.

Ruben raised as a farm boy, graduated from Huntington High School and filled two missions for the L.D.S. Church. He married Vera Nokes. She had a small girl, Jean by a previous marriage. While living in Price, John was born. They moved to Napa, California. Ruben worked in a shipyard painting small seagoing vessels during World War II. He was divorced and came back to Huntington to work for his brother Ken on the farm and dairy. Ruben is a painter by trade. He worked in Price for Bean Brother Painting Contractors. He was the custodian for the new Emery County High School.

When Santa Clause came to Castle Dale Christmas Eve 1910, he left a baby girl to Alvin Jensen and Zepha Lund at the home of her Jensen grandparents. John Y. and Sarah. She was blessed and given the name Zola on New Years Day by her grandfather John Young Jensen. Zola has two brothers, Vaughn L. born 2 Feb. 1914 and Dean A. born 18 Nov. 1919.

Zola remembers crying when she couldn't pick all the sand lilies and yellow buttercups from the hills, building little rock fences around the sego lilies indicating they were hers, picking watercress from Snow's Holler, walking on homemade stilts, playing gennipeg hopscotch, run my sheep run, hide and seek, having potato and corn roasts down by the old mill, swimming in the river, outside toilets and so many more pioneer day stuff.

She remembers the first electric lights, telephones, radio and television, the first automobiles (her father owning one), all the neighbors gathering in the street around a bonfire, singing, playing games, visiting, eating, and family trips. On July 24, 1928, she was voted Miss Utah for Castle Dale, and her grandmother Jensen (Sarah) was miss Utah of 47.

Zola graduated from Central High School and Brigham Young University, teaching for five years. Her first contract was \$585 a year.

Zola married James Arthur Jeffs and moved to Mohrland where Jerry was born. Moved to Hiawatha where twins Sydonia and Sylvia, and Tracy was born. Moved to Castle Dale. Divorced. Married Ruben 4 Oct. 1947. Katherine was born.

Zola was dedicated to music and leadership. Organist in all Stake and ward organizations, besides her piano and organ, hobbies were quilts and afghans.

Ruben and Zola moved from their home on the bench next to Zola's parents so they could be near to help them. In 1969 Ruben and Zola moved to the Fausett Mortuary down by the post office to help with viewings and funerals. Ruben drove the ambulance. In 1973 they moved into the new mortuary on the bench. Zola got a little tired of living in a mortuary, so in 1975 they bought a doublewide mobile home and put it on their property where they now live. Ruben's hobbies are raising a beautiful garden and sharing the harvest with neighbors and friends.

Ruben has filled many church positions as a seventy. He was a traveling speaking partner to high-councilmen for thirteen years, high-priest group leader. He served as city councilman. He sings in the choir and Huntington Glee Club.

Emery County has been good to us. *Ruben and Zola Brasher*

Brasher, Zola

**MARK MONFREDI'S FAMILY STORY**

**Mark Monfredi  
April 10, 1995**

**English 3rd period**

Brasher, Zola \*\*\*\*\*. 24 December 1909. Castle Dale, Utah.  
Personal Interview. Castle Dale, Utah. 6 April 1995.

My grandmother is 86 years old, she has lived in Castle Dale all her life. She has been married twice in her first marriage she had two son's and one daughter. With her second husband she had my mother. She is blind but she makes beautiful afghans. This story will tell you what kind of a young girl she was. I hope you have fun reading about her.

When my grandma Brasher was a young girl, about 15 years of age, she and her friend, Emma Huntington, were delivering honey for a man named Sam Zwahlen. They were driving Mr. Zwahlen's horse and buggy. When they finished delivering the honey, they decided to go for a ride around Castle Dale before returning to Mr. Zwahlen's. They came down around the hill, off the bench and down to the other end of town. They ran it around all the blocks. The ran it all over town. They got down to the creek (where the Bott's live now--near the Emery Medical Center) and they got the horse going too fast and it got out of control and it jumped a little ditch and the wheels got stuck in the ditch. My grandma's leg went through the bottom of the buggy and Emma went over the top of the horse. Emma kept a hold of the reins and calmed the horse down because by this time, it was frothing at the mouth. They pulled the horse and buggy out of the ditch. They took it back up to the Zwahlen's house and left immediately.

The next morning the horse was dead. It died of distemper. My Grandma replied, "I don't know if Emma and I killed the horse, or what?"

She always felt like they had ran it to death. As for Mr. Zwahlen? Emma and Zola never stuck around to find out what he would do or what he said. Some how, that doesn't stick in her

mind like the rest of the story.

Brasher, Zola \*\*\*\*\*. 24 December 1909. Castle Dale, Utah.  
Personal Interview. Castle Dale, Utah. 6 April 1995.

My grandmother is 86 years old, she has lived in Castle Dale all her life. She has been married twice in her first marriage she had two son's and one daughter. With her second husband she had my mother. She is blind but she makes beautiful afghans. This story will tell you what kind of a young girl she was. And her dad and about the first telephones. I hope you have fun reading about her.

My Great Grandpa Jensen ran the first telephone office in Castle Dale. It was located on Main Street, east of 1st Security Bank. Grandma Brasher worked there as an operator when she was 12 years old. My grandma's first telephone was a crank-up box that hangs on the wall. Upon cranking the phone, it would ring at the switch board in the telephone office and the number of long or short rings would depend on who they were calling. \*\*\*\*\* If someone didn't have a phone, there were runners who would run to person's house and call them to the phone in the telephone office. The runners got 10 cents a block. And that is about the telephone.

Brasher, Zola \*\*\*\*\*. 24 December 1909. Castle Dale, Utah.  
Personal Interview. Castle Dale, Utah. 6 April 1995.

My grandmother is 86 years old, she has lived in Castle Dale all her life. She has been married twice in her first marriage she had two son's and one daughter. With her second husband she had my mother. She is blind but she makes beautiful afghans. This story will tell you what kind of a young girl she was. And her dad and about the first cars. I hope you have fun reading about her.

My grandma's dad, Alvin Jensen owned the 2nd car in Castle Dale. This is the story of how he got the car. It was first owned by Mr. Dixon, and he was killed in that car in an accident just out on the bend going North out of Castle Dale. Alvin Jensen went out after the accident and drug that car home, fixed it up and it became their family car. My grandma was 4 years old and she replied, "I was only 4 years old and I can still remember that car."

Gas was sometime hard to buy and so in order to get to Huntington or Price to buy gas, Alvin Jensen would start out and when he would come to a hill, he would turn the car around and back up the hill so the gas would run to the front of the tank towards the engine and the car would not run out of gas.

Brasher, Zola \*\*\*\*\*. 24 December 1909. Castle Dale, Utah.  
Personal Interview. Castle Dale, Utah. 6 April 1995.

My grandmother is 86 years old, she has lived in Castle Dale all her life. She has been married twice in her first marriage she had two son's and one daughter. With her second husband she had my mother. She is blind but she makes beautiful afghans. This story will tell you what kind of a young girl she was. And about the depression. I hope you have fun reading about her.

During the depression, no one had any money. Everyone had to work for goods and services or trade eggs for milk, or whatever anyone had. The big thing was to save everything. You didn't throw anything away, because you might be able to use it for something later on. Gas, food, clothing and shoes were rationed and very hard to come by. They just were not available. That is about the depression.