



HISTORY OF VELMA BLACK FRANDBSEN from 1919 to 1936 in Ferron, Utah

On May 2, 1919, I, Velma, joined the family of Clyda Barton Black and William Levi Black. I know I was blessed to come to this home where there was much love and happiness. I had a big sister, Eldona, who was eight years older than I and three big brothers, Glen, Ronald and Tharel. To complete our family, my brother, Merrill was born two years later. I always admired and loved my sister and my brothers, about whom I was always bragging because they were so special and good to me. I was told later in my life that my father was so excited when I was born that he immediately went to the mercantile store in Ferron and bought a white enameled baby bathtub for my mother to use when she gave me my daily bath. I grew up in a family with parents who had to struggle to make ends meet and who were very ambitious people. My brothers and sister were always in the home and ready to do their part in the work that was assigned to them and had to be done. We were a happy and loving family. Both of my parents continually showed their love for each other and for the children and we had a good relationship with each other. As a family, we always played games together, took small trips together and did many things together as we learned to know one another and what our weaknesses and strengths were. We looked forward to playing night games with our cousins and neighbors. We played Hide and Seek, Run My Sheepie Run, Blind Man's Bluff, Hopscotch and all the games that were exciting and fun at that time. We had fun with our cousins and had a good relationship with them and their families.

I always felt that I was well dressed at school or wherever I went. My mother was a beautiful seamstress and remodeled and made things over from some of my sister, Eldona's, clothes. I had wonderful parents who cared about me and loved me. My mother sewed on her White pedal sewing machine for Erma Snow Petersen in exchange for piano lessons for me. I am so sorry that I didn't practice more and learn to play the piano well. We had a large oblong mahogany piano that I practiced upon. This piano in this present day would be almost priceless.

I had excellent teachers throughout my grade school and high school years. I'll always remember each of them and their influence upon me. My grade school teachers were: Miss Minnie Stoker, Miss Ida Leslie, Miss Lois Clark, Miss Marion Killpack, Miss Loie Miner and Mr. Perry Snow. My Junior High and High School teachers were: Mr. Moroni Oveson, Mr. Brad Jensen, Mr. Bob Dahle, Miss Francis Bedier, Miss Nora Starr, Miss Gardner, Mr. Ralph Chipman and others. When I was a senior in high school, I worked in the main office at school for Mr. Chipman who was my principal. I enjoyed typing records and working at different kinds of jobs. He was so patient, understanding and good to me. I enjoyed all of my classes in school. Mr. Oveson was the chorus director and was a great help to me in singing the lead in some of the school operas and musicals. I felt that all of the teachers were interested in me and gave me the help that I needed in my school projects and work. I graduated with high honors from high school and my graduation was a special time for me.

When I was in the smaller grades, I used to do a lot of baby sitting, especially for Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Chipman and for Brad and Leola Jensen and a few others. Being paid 25 cents for the evening was considered a good amount and it really did come in handy for some of the extras in and out of school. I always liked children and I felt that I was able to fill my assignments in their homes and give attention to the children when I was babysitting.

When I was a senior in high school, my father was killed in line of duty as Sheriff of Emery County. What sadness and emptiness this brought into our home. A year earlier, my

mother and father, in 1935, had lost their oldest son, Glen, who had come home from college from the Brigham Young University, in very poor physical health in lots of pain with the horrible illness of cancer. At that time there was no cure. There was such an emptiness and loneliness in our home at this time. Then early one morning on August 22, 1936, the news came that my father had been killed by a man in Ferron, by the name of Hugh Wayman, who had run against him for sheriff and was defeated. What a shock this news was of his death to all of us, almost more than my mother could bare, but she was a strong person with a firm and solid background and testimony of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. She knew that she could not give up nor give in to the turmoil, sadness and confusion that was in her heart and mind., She knew she had to move forward with her family and all the problems that faced her. I had just graduated from high school and Therel from Snow College and she knew that all of her children needed further education. Her oldest daughter, Eldona, had married Laverd Ralphs and lived in Ferron. My mother rented her home in Ferron and took the rest of her children, Ronald, who married Evelyn Oveson, Therel, Merril and me, to Provo to live and attend Brigham Young University and high school for Merril. She also took with us our real good cow, named "Blackie" which provided milk for us and milk and cream to be sold to others. She rented a home in Provo which had a corral for the cow and she had boarders in our home to help pay for our rent, food and other expenses. Ronald had a big truck and he hauled coal, etc. from Emery County to people in Provo who had coal furnaces. All of this helped to pay for our living, schooling, and other expenses and we were able to attend BYU and graduate in our different fields. While there I worked at BYU in the business department for my tuition and expenses at school, then through the influence of a neighbor, Mrs. Anderson, a cashier at J.C. Penneys, I got a job at Penneys so help pay for clothes and other things that I would need. Each of the family members had jobs that helped with finances. How blessed we were as a family.

At the close of my schooling and graduation from Brigham Young University, I was seeking employment in the field of education to teach in the elementary grades. I was interviewed by the Uintah County Superintendant and given the opportunity to teach in that county. Then the Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Chipman, who was my high school principal and Mr. Bickmore, the Superintendent from Emery County, came to see me for an interview. I was asked to come to Emery County as the new teacher for the fourth grade in Huntington, Utah. Both Mr. Bickmore and Mr. Chipman had boys that age who were in the fourth grade where I would teach. I was anxious to go back to my home county to teach so I accepted the position and signed my contract. This was a good choice and I thoroughly enjoyed my teaching in Huntington. Once in a while I still see some of these students that I taught those 60 years ago. They were all remarkable and good students and I loved teaching. During the previous year I had met Duane A. Frandsen, who was the Emery County Attorney and during this present year I became better acquainted with him. We dated a lot and did a lot of fun things together. We fell in love and made marriage plans for August 8, 1941 in the Logan LDS Temple with plans to live in Castle Dale, Utah, where Duane's work was in the Emery County Courthouse. Mr. Bickmore and Mr. Chipman then gave me a teaching position in the elementary school in Castle Dale where I taught the third and fourth grades.

After all of my brothers had finished college, my mother left Provo and came back to Ferron, Utah, to her own home where she lived the remainder of her life. Duane and I lived in Castle Dale, Utah, but went to Ferron very often for visits. I never lived in Ferron after this time, but it will always be HOME and a very special place.

WILLIAM LEVI BLACK - SHERIFF OF EMERY COUNTY - GAVE HIS LIFE IN SERVICE

William Levi Black moved to Ferron in 1913. He came from Antimony, Utah, and was the son of William and Matilda King Black. He married Clyda Jerusha Barton, daughter of John Henry and Martha Ann Boswell Barton. Clyda was born in Ferron, Utah, and went to Antimony, Utah, to teach school. This is where she met William Black. They were married in the Salt Lake Temple, then Clyda persuaded William to move to Ferron, Utah, her home town, to make their home. They were blessed with six children: Eldona, Glen, Ronald, Thelma, Velma and Merrill.

Prior to being elected sheriff of Emery County, William was a farmer. The first years of his life in connection with his farm, he had range cattle with a permit on Ferron Mountain. He then decided he could make more money by selling his cattle and buying into the sheep business. He later was part owner of a threshing machine where he always ran the steam engine. Later in his life, he went into the timber business and was owner and manager of a sawmill.

The sawmill was on the south side of Big Mountain on the Manti National Forest for a few years until he moved the sawmill to Nine Mile in Carbon County where he had a contract swing mine ties.

William was elected Sheriff for Emery County in 1934. At this time he was also Mayor of Ferron. He had a rich, full life of happiness with many exciting experiences. His life, however, was taken at the age of 48 when he was killed in line of duty as Emery County Sheriff when he was called the morning of August 22, 1936 to settle a water dispute in Ferron.

Clyda, William's wife, was left with children who were of college age. She and her children moved to Provo in order her children to attend BYU. This great lady, not having enough money, rented her home in Ferron and then rented a home in Provo large enough to take in boarders to help with expenses. She was a good cook and a good manager. The Industrial Insurance from her husband's death was only \$39.00 per month until she had used up the full amount of \$5,000.00 insurance.

All of her children except Eldona, who was married to LaVerd Ralphs and stayed in Ferron, graduated with honors. After the children finished college, Clyda again moved back to Ferron. Her life continued there until her death in 1963.