

The Oral History Of: Darold and Henrietta Hansen

Collected By: Colby Horton

Colby- What is your full name?

Grandpa- Darold Hansen

Colby- Are you also called by a nickname?

Grandma- Hap

Grandpa- What?

Colby- What was your nick name?

Grandma- His nickname was hap

Colby- Why was it hap?

Grandma- Because he was so happy

Colby- Who gave it to you?

Grandma- His friends

Colby- Do people still call you by your nick name?

Grandma- Some do

Colby- Where do you live?

Grandpa- HuH?

Colby -Where do you live?

Grandpa- Elmo Utah

Colby- Have you ever lived anywhere else?

Grandpa No

Colby- have you ever traveled anywhere?

Grandpa -Yeah a long long ways,

Colby -Where to?

Grandpa- Went clear to Korea

Colby- what year was it when you went there?

Grandpa- 1950

Colby -Where were you born?

Grandpa- In Columbia UT.

Colby-When where you born?

Grandpa- July,23,1928

Colby – what is your spouses name and when was she born?

Grandma- Henrietta Hansen, Nov. 29, 1931

Colby – What are you children names and when where they born?

Grandma- JoAnn Oct,21,1953; Kirk May,23 1956; Lori July 12,1960; Hans Nov 16, 1964.

Colby- okay What kind of work did you do?

Grandpa- I was a truck driver

Grandma- farmer, Rancher

Grandpa- Oh yeah I was a farmer and a rancher.

Colby- You was a truck driver?

Grandpa- yeah when I worked for the county ten years I was a truck driver

Colby- When did you start working?

Grandpa- when was that?

Grandma- He went to the coal mine when he was 18 years old Up to Wattis

Colby- and then after that you was truck driver?

Grandma- no after that he went to the army.

Grandpa- oh yeah I went to Korea yeah, then I come back and I was a fame, and a truck driver.

Colby- did you want to go to the army?

Grandpa- uh hu

Colby- oh

Grandpa- it wasn't too bad

Colby- how much schooling have you had?

Grandpa- 11 years

Colby- 11? Not twelve?

Grandpa- not twelve just 11

Colby- oh

Grandpa- I ran away on twelve.

Colby- are you a member of any church or club or anything?

Grandpa- no

Grandma- well you're a member of the LDS church.

Grandpa- Oh yeah a member .

Colby- Now all his brothers and sisters and their birthdays.

Grandma- Arvel, 10-12, Elmo; Aron 11-30-29 , Elmo; Glen 12-6-30; Mraven 7-2 Elmo; Verda 12-1 Cleveland.

Colby- What is your dads full name?

Grandpa- Ben Hansen.

Colby- Where was he born?

Grandpa- Denmark.

Grandma- Archaize Denmark.

Grandpa – Akause Denmark.

Colby- Do you know his birthday?

Grandma- We must not have.

Colby- And where did he last live?

Grandma- Elmo.

Colby- What kind of work did he do?

Grandpa- He was farmer.

Colby- And that's it?

Grandpa- That's all.

Colby- Okay what is your mom's full name?

Grandpa- Elizabeth Hansen.

Grandma- Rasmussen.

Grandpa- Rasmussen.

Colby- Where was she born?

Grandpa- Uh I think she was born in Cleveland wasn't she?

Grandma- Yeah

Colby- You don't know her birthday?

Grandpa- No.

Colby- What did she do?

Grandpa- She was a housewife and that's all, run the store, the Elmo store.

Colby- Where did you ancestors come from?

Grandpa- Denmark.

Colby- What languages did they speak?

Grandpa- Danish.

Colby- Umm do you know any stories about the history of your family?

Grandpa- What do I know about that?

Grandma- What they done in their lives?

Grandpa- They ran the store and post office and what else did they do?

Grandma- They had the pubic telephone.

Grandpa- Yeah they had the first telephone that come to elmo and that's all.

Grandma- They raised a bunch of kids.

Grandpa- They had sheep when they first got here and then they went broke and lost the sheep, so they went back to the coal mine, and worked for 2 years then they come back bought the farm again in elmo that's what they did all the time until they ran the store and the post office.

Colby – Oh okay.

Grandpa – Yeah we got that done.

Colby- Laughs what do you remember about the house you grew up in?

Grandpa- About the what?

Colby- The house you grew up in?

Grandpa- The one we lived in?

Colby- Yeah.

Grandpa- It was big house that's all I know.

Grandma- How many rooms.

Grandpa – How many rooms? I dunno there was one two three four five six rooms,

Grandma- What was I made out of?

Grandpa- Lumber oh the house come from the sunnyside they moved it down here in sections and uh he put it up with a horse.

Colby- Who did?

Grandpa- My dad

Colby- With a horse?

Grandpa- They pulled the section up stood it up there and braced it (smack the table) and put the next section up and braced it. And then pulled the ends up and that's how they did it then he slid the top with to poles and put them up on top, that's the way they moved it down here was in sections.

Colby- Oh that's weird.

Grandpa- That's weird.

Laughs.

Grandpa- That's the way that house was put together.

Colby- Where's it at?

Grandma- Down where Marven and Reba live.

Colby- Oh that's that house.

Grandma- Well they've changed it quite a bit but yeah.

Colby- Okay, now was it different from the house you live in today?

Grandpa- Different?

Colby- Yeah.

Grandma- Did it have a bath, running water?

Grandpa- Yes it did, it had all that. But uh oh there was store on the inside of the house and a post office, it was there for fifteen years, that was different

Colby- Okay, umm what do you remember about the town where you grew up?

Grandpa- The town well lets see now, what is there to know about this town? Oh there was an elmo school, then they took the school district to court and then they lost so they didn't move it for years and years then they moved it.

Colby- Where was the school at?

Grandma- At the base ball park.

Grandpa- up there where the park is.

Colby- Oh

Grandpa- That's where the school is a brick school. They tore it down and moved it out of the country.

Colby- Did you have a church?

Grandpa- A what?

Grandma- A church.

Grandpa- Yeah

Grandma- It was one great big room, there was a pot belly stove right in the middle of it. And we usually had dances on Saturday nights.

Grandpa- A pot belly stove.

Grandma- Everybody'd stand around the stove in the middle of the floor

Colby- Did everyone go to the dances?

Grandma- Yeah.

Grandpa- It had a stage on it.

Grandma- And a guy named Billy Atwood would play a harmonica and accordian that's was what we danced to.

Colby- That's cool okay umm how is it different from today?

Grandpa- Oh its a lot different.

Grandma- Oh it was lots more fun then.

Grandpa- Hu?

Grandma- It was more fun then.

Grandpa- It was a lot more fun then yeah I guess then it is today?

Colby- It sounds like it what is one of your favorite family stories that includes your parents and brothers and sisters.

Grandpa- Ooo well there was a lot of them.

Grandma- We'll think of one.

Grandpa- One story oh dad took a I think it was Glen and Marvin over to the Whole sell house where you got the Groceries and they marven was on the elevator and glen hit the button on the elevator and they went up and it squoshed um up in there it hurt um real bad that was one story. So we took um to the hospital oh and they got better in about four days and uh they called dad up and told him to come get them kids they was drivin ever body crazy over there.

Laughs

Grandpa- So he had to go get them.

Colby- Didn't everyone break their arms or something?

Grandma- Darold broke both his arms on a horse. Tell her about that.

Grandpa- Oh I broke my arms on a horse, what about it.

Grandma- Tell about it.

Grandpa- Oh the horse was runnin and it stopped and I landed right off on my head, and broke both arms.

Colby- Is that when your arms never got fixed?

Grandpa-Yeah and it didn't go straight and it grew cricked. That was a bad thing, in all my life "laughs".

Colby- When was some special occasions in your family and community?

Grandpa- Things that happened in the community?

Colby- Like did you guys have reunions or pick nicks or anything like that? Like we do?

Grandpa- No

Grandma- Well we had Christmas eve at your moms.

Grandpa- Oh yeah.

Colby- What did you do there?

Grandma- We just had gift exchange and everything.

Colby- Name some of the home made foods you ate as a child?

Grandma- Your mom made real good pies.

Grandpa- Pies yeah.

Colby- What were some of the foods you regularly ate?

Grandma- He ate bolony.

Colby- Bolony?

Grandpa- Muttin, we had muttin chops that's what we had all the time.

Colby- What were some of the foods you ate only on special occasions?

Grandpa- Beans we had lots of chilli beans, they was special,

Colby- Which of these foods do you still eat today?

Grandpa- Chilli beans.

Colby- Do you have any special recipies that have been handed down in your family.

Grandma- Sugar cookie and vanilla cake.

Grandpa- I didn't know nothing about them.

Grandma- They made their own sausage.

Colby- What kind of games did you use to play?

Grandpa- Games? We play kick the can.

Colby- Did anyone in your family ever make homemade toys?

Grandpa- Toys? Yeah things out of wood and wagon all that kind of stuff.

Colby- Does your parents have any special hobbies or crafts?

Grandpa- No they worked all we done was worked .

Colby- Do you have any hobbies?

Grandpa- Nope no hobbies.

Colby- Do you remember any stories that were told to you as a child?

Grandpa- I can't remember.

Grandma- Well I don't know what they told ya.

Grandpa- Well you was there.

Grandma- No I wasn't what did they tell you about when you were growin up, they had a turkey shoot.

Grandpa- Oh we had the turkey shoot.

Granma- Well tell her about it.

Grandpa- We went out to the barn got about 30 turkey's and we went to the coal mine and got all the coal miners together and then they set a turkey down In the box and It had a little hole in the top of it. And then they went way back when they was going to shoot and they's gobble and that turkey'd stick his head up and they'd shoot his head off. When the done that then they got the turkey but if they didn't hit it then they get the turkey.

Colby- Oh okay.

Grandpa- And it cost um about six dollars a piece I think.

Colby- Wasn't that a lot of money?

Grandma- That was a lot of money then.

Grandpa- Yeah a lot of money it took a lot of doin to get out there to.

Colby- Do you remember any jokes?

Grandpa- Nope I don't.

Colby- Do you know anyone who sang?

Grandpa- Just my mother.

Granma- His mom sang in church and everything.

Colby- What type of songs did she sing?

Grandpa- Just church songs.

Colby- Uh where and when would they sing.

Grandpa- Just in church.

Colby- Do you know anyone who played a musical instrument.

Grandma- Verda played the piano.

Grandpa -Oh yeah she played the piano.

Colby- Do you know anyone who danced?

Grandpa- Just me and grandma.

Colby- At the church?

Grandpa- Yeah.

Colby- Did you guys use to go up to willburg wash?

Grandma- Mm hmm well I did when I was littler but it was gone after we were married It wasn't there anymore but when I was growing up it was there and we went there

Grandpa- Where at?

Grandma- Up to Willberg's.

Grandpa- Oh I never went there.

Grandma- Yeah that was a fun place there dance hall was on springs or sumthin and it would go like that you know when you'd dance it was quite a neat place it had that marry go round.

Grandpa- It was back behing that old house up in them tree's.

Granma- Merry go round and I don't' know what else was up there and we always a an orchistra on Saturday nights a big orchistra would come in.

Colby- Did you have to pay to go to it?

Grandma- Oh I Imagine but I can't remember there was lots of people who went there I was kinda little.

Grandpa- You was little?

Grandma- Well I wasn't old I was about thirteen or fourteen I dunno.

Colby- Do you sing or dance or play any musical instruments?

Grandma- No he don't play nothing.

Grandpa- No.

Colby- How did you guys meet?

Grandpa- How'd we meet?

Colby- Yeah.

Grandpa- How did we meet?

Grandma- Well we.

Grandpa- Ooo I know I went to get some groceries for the store and she's workin back in there and I said well for hell sakes we'll go to the show tonight.

Laughs.

Grandpa- And that's we met wasn't it??

Grandma- Well we met eachother in school.

Grandpa- I didn't know you at all.

Grandma- And that's how we got acquainted.

Grandpa- I never new you in school.

Grandma- Then he'd call me an the phone from elmo up in the store and he'd have to put dimes or nickels or whatever in it.

Grandpa- You'd have to put I dime in there every time.

Grandma- Them guys would answer the phone and they'd always holler "Shortie that guy from Elmo's callin.

Laughs

Grandpa- Oo I didn't' know they'd done that.

Grandma- Then they'd give me a bad time about that.

Grandpa- A long time ago wasn't it.

Grandma- And that was in November and we got married first of January.

Haylie- Wow you guys didn't date long did ya?

Colby- And then how long until you had kids?

Grandma- Uh.

Grandpa- A year.

Grandma- No lets see ten months cuz joann was born in the end of oct.

Colby- And you guys moved here?

Grandma- We've lived in elmo all our lives . We lived in a house down where Kamie Bell lives, down there in that little white house, till Kirk was two months old

Grandpa -Three

Grandma- Kirk was born in may and we moved up two more, we've lived here ever. since, probably die here.

Grandpa-Spendin money on this house ever since we got here fix fix fix every day.

Colby- Okay do you have any stories.

Grandma- Well lets see.

Haylie- She's got lots of stories.

Grandma- I was born in Lawrence, and my dad died when I was five years old he left my mother with.

Haylie- How did he die?

Grandma- he died with asma, the medicine he had to take for asma ate his lungs up he couldn't breath when he got that in his lungs cause it was strong.

Grandpa- He got it on his mission didn't he?

Grandma- well that's when he first got sick with asma, was on his mission, and he left my mother with how many kids, me Marlyn, Sherly, Mack, Bea five kids to raise, and we farmed and raise turkeys and we raised.

Grandpa- 8 kids

Grandma- And we workd hard and had a good life.

Colby-Didn't your house burn down?

Grandma- Ya, when I was oh, it was the year before my dad died that my house burnt down out on the farm in burnt clear down, then we moved up to another house till we built another house where that one burned down. Then we just moved back in it not very long when he died.

Grandpa- Then your house burned down.

Laughs

Grandma- Yeah it did.

Grandpa- Who's that guy from Green River that came up there? And asked you if you needed help.

Grandma- But anyway, we had.

Laughs

Grandpa- What's his name he came up and helped you guys, what is his name? I forgot

Grandma- I cant remember.

Colby- Tell us when you use to walk to school.

Grandma- Oh man we had to walk through the field, with snow up to are knees cold as heck. The bus only had one tiny heater you never did get warm you'd have to sit on each others feet to get warm.

Laughs

Grandma-Then we had to go across the wash and then Sherly, that was my sister if she didn't want to go to school she would fall in the wash.

Laughs

Grandma- She didn't like school she hated school.

Grandpa- Tell them what happened to Haylie's dad

Grandma- She would just fall in the wash.

Grandpa- Tell them what happened when we lost her dad when he feel in the whole.

Grandma- Who's dad?

Grandpa- Her dad.

Grandma- Oh that was later

Grandpa- We looked over there and we seen sumthing, he was kickn his feet like that then we seen his little white hair stickn up, oh that was funny wasn't it.

Grandma- No

Grandpa- We thought we lost him he got clear down in that whole I don't know how he ever got there.

Grandma- He was so tiny and he was laying on the seet to sleep while we was haulin hay over in the field, and we came back around to check him out and he was gone we could not find him.

Grandpa- Then another time

Grandma- And then we finally found him down in a rabbit whole he had kicked and kicked and bauled till he had kicked his boots down in the rabbit whole. We had to dig the rabbit whole out to get his boots out. It scared the heck out of us.

Grandpa- Then another time he had a Honda and we was up there with the sheep, he rode that Honda up that wash, atleast a mile and he got up to the end of the wash and it narrowed just like that and he keep a ridin it right till the end and lodged it and got stuck he could not get that out of there, we had to dig it out.

Laughs

Laughs

Grandma- Then he had a horse name Sox and he went down clear to past Hanksville when he was in the fourth grade, and trailed sheep clear from Hanksville home.

Colby- Where's Hanksville

Haylie- Clear down by Lake Powell

Grandpa- A lot of miles

Grandma- And when they were coming home his horse got bad sick and um a scorpion had bite him we thought how it sweeled up then after they got home we had to shoot the horse cause it was so sick, and he felt so bad cause it was Old Sox.

Colby- Didn't you guys live up on the mountain for a long time?

Grandma- We had sheep, and we practicy lived up on the mountain all summer. Kirk and them and stayed. Do you know Lavar Jensen? Are stake president they stayed clear up on top of the mountain in a tent. One summer hearing sheep

Colby- Holey crap, Tell me about when your truck got stole?

Grandma- Laughs, When your truck got stole

Grandpa- What When what

Grandma- When your truck got stoled

Grandpa- What

Grandma- Oh shut up

Laughs

Grandpa- Oh my truck, what the hell was we doin that time?

Grandma- We was in there sleeping, Hans haulerd “did dad go to the farm this early?” No and he said well some one stoled his truck and he jumps out of bed in his underwear

Laughs

Grandma- The kid that stole the truck whurled around there and backed into a big snow bank and he couldn't get out, so he jumped out of the truck and started running and Hans was chasing him and just about got him, but he jumped across the canal and Hans didn't have any shoes on I don't think, and then later when Jodie and Jamie was up to 4H Camp and all these kids were telln bout stilln are truck.

Grandpa- That's gonna sound good all that we have been telln them

Grandma- Well that's what happened. It was one of those Days who stoled the truck, they just was goin on a joy ride.

Grandpa- Theres so many things that has happened to us I can't even AMAGINE

Grandma- I know

Grandpa- There was sumthin happening to us every day.

Grandma- We can't have all that on there

Laughs

Grandpa- Oh it won't hurt

Haylie- Grandpa didn't you get kicked by a horse once or somthin?

Grandma- He got his foot stomped by a horse.

Grandpa- Ooo yeah that hurt too I can still feel it that big ole horse stepped on my foot and then he turned like this eww it just smashed my foot all to pieces that's tender underneath your foot to, when they go to sew it up eww I had about 5 or 6 stitches put in in you know it, It was all split open man that's tender under in between your toes

Grandma- Do we need more?

Colby- I dunno we're havin fun I like hearin stories

Grandma- Well when hans was 12 years old he had a motorcycle that's all he loved was his motorcycle, and he was over there to the motorcross went over a sumthin and broke the motorcycle smack in to he hit so hard anyway I know that's what happened to his back but he said it wasn't but uh he tgot so he could even walk and we took him to the doctor then they sent him salt lake to that doc. Then they operated on him and took 3 disks out of his back cuz he couldn't even walk.

Grandpa- Did they take 3 disks out oh his back

Grandma- 2or3 I can't remember they said that when they operated that they never did that kind on a kid that young then and then anyway he got better but it still bothered him. He liked motorcycles Kirk liked horses.

Grandpa- Then he forgot all about um after he got hurt.

Grandma- All of um liked to play ball and do all the sports. Kirk and lori was real good catchers, Hans was a pretty good catcher to.

Colby- Didn't you play soft ball for a long time?

Grandma- Yep, we played all our lives till we was to old to move.

Laughs

Grandma-And we won all the time to,

Grandma- Did you guys travel places we went to provo but this was just county thing ya know we didn't play ball in school just bastket ball but that was after we were married and had kids that we went all over

Colby- Didn't joann and lori play with ya?

Grandma- Yea then when later time joAnn an lori both went to play, and lori was our catcher.

Grandpa- Well that's about all we got for that were gettin damn old I know that

Laughs

Grandma-Pretty old but we've had a good life

Grandpa- Ya

Grandma- Raised some good kids, good grandkids.

Grandpa- All pretty damn good

Colby- Was you guys in the depression?

Grandma- Ya back tell them about the depression

Grandpa- depression? I dunno I don't remember that's when I was born in the great depression.

Grandma- Yeah we were quite young during the depression

Grandpa- I don't remember that.

Grandma- But I don't remember that much about it

Grandpa- I don't remember one thing about that, because I was born in the depression.

Colby- Was you in the war?

Grandma- Tell him what you done in the war

Grandpa- In the war? I was in the chemical core, in Korea where they took care of that gas and Napalm bombs, and what else was it, a whole bunch of junk. It wasn't very good either

Grandma- Tell them where you sleep, how you ate and where you lived.

Grandpa- Now lets see how did we do that oh there was 16 of us from the detachment, we went just behind enemy lines and we stayed in a big tent and we stored that stuff from off the ship and we would go down and get it and put it in a compound there we had.

Colby- What stuff?

Grandpa- Poisoned gas Napalm oh we made napalm, napalm is gasoline and a powder so its just jelly and we would take it up to the front lines and they would put it in a tank then they'd shoot it up in them big guns

Grandma- So that was a fire?

Grandpa- Uh hu, Big fire what ever it would get on it would stick to it and burn burn burn

Colby- Wasn't it scary?

Grandpa- YEAH that's kinda scary you didn't pay much attention to it

Grandma- Then he about froze to death

Grandpa- It was cold, we was right on the ocean it was colder you have ever heard of, it was the coldest place I ever seen I don't know how people live there.

Grandma- And there was a little boy, who's that little boy that stayed in your ?

Grandpa- That little boy he was about 11 or 12

Grandma- He stayed in the barracks with them

Grandpa- He stayed in are barracks and he would shine are shoes, keep things clean and we'd bring him food.

Grandma- Then he wrote him a letter after he come home, I cant amagine what we ever done with that letter.

Grandpa- What did we do with it?

Grandma- I never could find it, He says hey GI Jo something like that maybe sometime ill come over there to see ya, I cant even amagine what we did with that letter.

Grandpa- His eyes was slanted clear down here like that and when he stayed with us they went back up here like that,

Laughs

Grandma- No they didn't

Grandpa- They did, he didn't look like them other people when he was with us, we stayed over there for so long are eyes was goin down down like that, I thought we was gonna stay there for ever

Colby- How did you get over there?

Grandpa- On a ship

Colby- Was there lots of people?

Grandpa- Ya there was thousands of us on there.

Colby- How long was you in the war for?

Grandma- 2 years

Grandpa- 2 years, I was over there for 18 months in Korea

Colby- Holey moley.

Grandpa- That was a long time, once I got there I never even thought about coming home, I thought just some day I would come home. Never did just keep stayin

Colby- Where did you eat?

Grandpa- Had good stuff had everything,

Colby- Really?

Grandpa- Everything was good

Grandma- And he said those people ate rice balls.

Grandpa- Their soldiers did, they was round balls about that big, one ball that's all they would eat, they had some kind of tea or sumthin, they was fat I guess that was all they needed

Laughs

Grandpa- When we worked up there, there was a great big house boat off of the ocean, it was out quite a ways out in the ocean that's where we had to go to get are eats and uh we got on a little boat and it took us out to that house boat then we jumped over to a landing, And uh there was a great big bird kurnell riding with us a bird is the high guy, he's got big birds on his shoulders and there was another young guys who just got into our out fit. They both made a lunch for that landing and they fell right down into the water Laugh into the ocean Woe Man when that guy came out of there he was so mad, mad at that kid I thought he was gonna kill him, anyway we never seen that kid no more

Laughs

Grandpa- Kicked him some place I don't know where they kicked him

Laughs

Grandpa- Oh he made a lunch for that and that guy made a lunge at the same time, down in the water they went Woe Man he was mad he was the head man, that was so funny but I didn't dare laugh at that time, but it was funny boy

Laughs

Grandpa- He just stepped off that boat and was gonna jump a little ways on that house boat and they didn't make it, they went right square down into the water.

Laughs

Grandpa- He was dressed up to he didn't have his work close on he had his full uniform he was dressed up just as nice as could be.

Grandpa- Well I guess you got a lot of stories there now.

Laughs

Oral History: Interview Release Form

In view of the historical value of this oral history, I,

 Darold Hansen
person being interviewed

knowingly and voluntarily permit Colbu Horten
student interviewer

and Diane Carter the full use of this information for educational purposes.

Signature Darold Hansen

Date _____