

Beth Nelson Bogedahl

After graduating from Emery High School, I attended Snow College in Ephraim, Utah for two years receiving my associate degree. While attending Snow I met my future husband Leon Bogedahl .

I transferred to Utah State University in Logan, Utah. After one and half years Leon and I were married. I paused my education for about a year after we had our oldest daughter, Laura. Leon finished his bachelor's degree there. At this time this was the height of the Viet Nam war and that following summer he was drafted. At that point I finished my bachelor's degree and then taught Home Economics at South Cache Jr High in Hyrum, Utah. I taught there for two years. After Leon arrived home, we had our second daughter Kirstine.

When Leon returned from Viet Nam, he got his Master's degree from Utah State University and hired on with Utah Division of Wildlife Resource as a Conservation Officer. We moved from Wellsville, Utah to Monticello Utah for his employment. We lived there for three years. Our son, Jacob was born in Monticello. At that time the Division of Wildlife Resources was transferring employees about every three years, and we were transferred to Wayne County.

We lived on Bicknell Bottoms for 10 years in state housing. During this time three more daughters were born. Myra, Ruthann and Kara. The state decided to do away with state housing at that time so we went looking for a place we would want to continue living as we had fallen in love with this beautiful area. We loved to grow a garden and we were looking for a better growing season than where we had lived. We found Torrey!

We built our log home on five acres in Torrey. At that time, I returned to teaching what is now Family and Consumer Science (Home Economics). I began teaching at both Wayne Middle School and Wayne High School. After three years I had built a big enough program at the high school, and I was able to teach just at the high school. I truly enjoyed teaching and did so for twenty-seven years. I received Teacher of the Year, which was one of the highlights of my career. During that time, we had a strong FCCLA (Family Career Community Leaders of America) I had 20 FCCLA state officers and two FCCLA National Officers. We traveled all

over the country for different conventions. It was a great time!! I received FCCLA Advisor of the year.

I retired from teaching in 2008. Leon had retired in 2003. We were called to serve a proselyting mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 2009. We served in Australia in Alice Springs which is right in the center of Australia. We served there for 23 months. We worked a lot with the Aboriginals there. It was a very interesting and unusual place and very dangerous! This was one of the most incredible experiences both Leon and I had ever had. Before returning home we spent a month exploring the northern part of Australia and New Zealand. New Zealand is a beautiful country. That's on my bucket list to return!

We have enjoyed traveling, sightseeing and exploring over the years we have been married. We've travelled to Madrid, Spain and the Canary Islands. We travelled for vacations to the Hawaiian Islands every year from 2000 to 2019. We also went to Cabo San Lucas, and I caught a 100pound blue marlin!

We've taken two incredible vacation trips to Canada and Alaska. In 2015 we took our truck and trailer and drove through Canada to Prince Rupert, Canada; where we boarded a ferry and stopped at 5 inland ports. We stayed 3-7 days at the different ports. When we disembarked from the ferry we traveled through Alaska and Canada sightseeing and fishing.

In 2023 we left middle of June with our truck and trailer and traveled through British Columbia, the Yukon and on into Alaska. This was another incredible trip. We saw some different country this time. We did some fishing charters, and sightseeing tours of the Kenai national park reserve and Prince William Sound. We returned home the middle of August for both trips. We've savored every meal of our halibut, cod, rock fish and salmon. We took a freezer along in the truck and was able to keep our fish frozen as well as other food!

We've enjoyed several other vacations in Florida, Sedona AZ, Palm Desert CA, San Diego CA and Oregon coast, Redwoods, Sequoia National Park. We have a very large yard that keeps us way busier than we want to be. We also grow a large garden, 100 ft X 150 ft. We have several fruit trees. We live in a bit of paradise!!

Wayne County has a lot of diversity. You can go from the mountain top to the desert. We're 2 hours from Lake Powell and about 2 hours to the Henry Mts where there is a free roaming buffalo herd. There's lots to see and do if you enjoy hiking, sightseeing, fishing and hunting. We have a beautiful national park right at our back door. Capitol Reef National Park.

You want to know our biggest highlight of our lives and that would be our family. We have 6 children, 17 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren!!