

## Judith Peterson Olson



I've told my family and friends that Castle Dale was a great place to grow up. When I was young, I was mistaken as Shauna's little sister because I spent so much time at her house. I felt that she was so lucky because she had 2 bedrooms. A West bedroom for winter and an East bedroom for summer. I had to share the bedroom at my house. I loved sleeping outside in the summer with girlfriends, gazing into the heavens at the stars. The night games we used to play around the elementary school next door were a lot of fun too! As a young teenager I remember the wagon rides we used to take outside of town, riding part way and walking part way next to the wagon, listening to KOMA, singing and visiting with friends.

Hunter Drug was a great place to work. I think I knew all most all of the families in Castle Dale and Orangeville & many more throughout the county. I loved working behind the soda fountain and helping young kids pick out pieces of penny candy! Ridding the bus to South Emery High in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade was an adjustment for me. I hated the thought of being initiated into high school as a freshman; and I was sure glad that it was discontinued. I loved the high school dances where we danced with everybody, not just the one that we came with. Combining North and South Emery High was an adventure and full of excitement. Making new friends and going to Snow College with Mr. Crook, our Seminary teacher, to see the play, "The King And I" made me want to attend Snow. That turned out to be one of the most important decisions of my life. I had quite a social life there. I dated my future husband and got to know his family. Parry was called to serve a

30-month mission to Sweden. Finishing my college education at USU was another special time of my life, dating and completing my degree in Home Economics in 1968.

I got married that summer and taught school in Granite school District. I received a PHT Certificate from BYU (Put Hubby Through). Then taught 1 year at Logan High while Parry earned a Master's Degree. We moved to Sacramento, California for a year while Parry worked for the Federal Government. We moved back to Ephraim and have live here for 49 years. I taught at Snow College part time, substituted at the Ephraim Elementary and Jr. High. I retired for a short time to be a fulltime mother after we lost Kirk, having 4 more children. Then I decided to aid at the elementary school where I became the grandmother for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades, grading student's homework. I worked with 4 great teachers over the year.

Our family consists of 8 children: Chad, who bought our 700+ acre farm; Kirk, passed away before his 8<sup>th</sup> birthday; Brandon, an accountant, works with BOSS Retirement; Dean, teaches at Manti High; Aubrey, a Security National Mortgage Co. loan officer; Mark, a group leader for I.H.C. All the boys went on missions and 2 have been bishops. We have 29 grandchildren and 8 greats with soon #9, #10, #11 & #12. I've had some great opportunities from working on Ephraim's Planning and Zoning committee to being the chairman of the Miss Ephraim pageant. I spent 5 years on the Utah State Fair Board attending monthly meetings in SLC. I'm a member of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers and have served as Captain and lesson leader. I feel very blessed to have had many callings in our ward and in the Ephraim Stake. Parry and I have been CES Missionaries in the Snow College 1<sup>st</sup> Stake, CES Missionaries in Bismark, North Dakota and now have been called to serve as temple workers in the Nauvoo Temple for 6 months. My favorite calling was playing the role of Eve in the Manti temple's live sessions for several years. We are very involved in doing temple work for our ancestors and love learning about the lives of those that came to earth before us, who sacrificed for us.

Several of you know that I have been a member of Jean's Golden Girls Dance Troup, performing in the Los Angeles Staples Center, Madison Square Garden, Branson, Nashville, Hawaii, Utah college halt times, Provo's "Hope of America" July 4th kickoff, Tuacahn's pre-shows, and performed at the ½ times & timeouts at the Jazz games. We are now serving for 6 months in the Nauvoo Temple. I'm so sorry to miss our class reunion this summer and hope all of you are doing well!  
Love, Judith Peterson Olson