



WILLIAM (BILL) HEGSTED SHURTLEFF 1916-2011

William (Bill) Hegsted Shurtleff was born 12 September 1916, in the Shurtleff family home at 906 N. Harrisville Road to Inga Hegstead and Horace Luman Shurtleff. He attended first through ninth grades in the yellow-brick four-room school house, 1300 North Harrisville Road, in Harrisville.

Bill attended Weber High school graduating in the spring of 1935. He attended Weber State College from 1935-1936, and graduated with an Associate of Science Degree in education. He attended Utah State Agricultural College in Logan, Utah 1937-1940, and graduated with a Bachelor degree. He was prepared to teach secondary vocational education in Weber County Schools.

The Second World War had started and a draft to serve was imminent, so Bill cancelled his contract to teach in Weber County to take temporary employment with the commerce department in Washington D.C. where he lived and worked for two years. In 1942, Bill was called back to Utah by the draft and worked for the Ogden Ordnance Depot for three months as a clerk while waiting to be drafted. When drafted, he was assigned to Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland where he received basic training and then entered officer's candidate school. He graduated as a 2nd Lt, and was assigned to the Air Force in 1943. He graduated from Aerial Gunnery School, and was prepared to go overseas in the war with Japan in the South Pacific.

In the mean time, Bill and Maurine Carr married in 1943. Maurine's parents, Maurine and David Carr, lived on the same street as the Shurtleffs, so Bill and their daughter Maurine were acquainted for some time. During the war, Bill and Maurine had two children, Mary Lou (1944) and Joseph Lynn (1947). Bill was shipped overseas to the island of Saipan in the Mariana Islands, assigned to the 20th Air Force with B-29's. He served there for two years supervising 120 service men loading and fusing bombs, and loading B-29's for the war on mainland Japan. He was honorably discharged in San Francisco and returned to live in his family home in Harrisville.

Bill was accepted to Northwestern Dental School and moved his family to Chicago. While living there, David Alan (1949) was born, and Bill's mother and father both passed away.

Bill graduated from Northwestern in 1950 with a DDS degree. He moved his family to Walker Air Force Base in Roswell, New Mexico, where he served as a captain and dentist on the base. When his two year tour of duty was completed, the family returned to Harrisville to live in the family home. Their son Victor was born in 1951, but the baby only lived for a month. In 1952, their daughter Jeane joined the family, and William John (Billy) was born in 1954. They also raised an adopted son, Rick Jones.

The Shurtleff children and their friends enjoyed playing in the old Shurtleff barn. It featured a swing hung high from a rafter. From the loft they could swing nearly the whole distance of the barn. The barn burned in 1959, as a result of children playing with matches. The two youngest Shurtleff children, Jeane, and Billy, and two neighbor children, Marilyn and Gray Crowther, were heroically saved by the neighbor children's older brother, Travis, but the barn was a total loss. Bill replaced the barn with a new one where he housed many of his antique relics. He generously welcomed neighborhood parties, gatherings, and even weddings in the spacious new barn.

In 1953, Bill was called to serve as a counselor to Bishop J. Wallace Knight in the Harrisville L.D.S. Ward bishopric along with H. Kenneth Brown. In 1955, he joined the Weber County Mounted Posse. He served as a captain of the posse in 1975 and 1976. Bill participated with the posse in the California wing of the Pony Express Race as part of the United States Bicentennial Celebration. When he was released from the bishopric in 1958, he was called to be the explorer advisor. He served in that calling for ten years, and he had a great influence for good on the boys as well as many memorable trips and experiences with them and the other leaders. They all loved and respected Bill.

Bill enjoyed woodworking, farming, art, camping and hiking with his family. He also enjoyed swimming, ice-skating, gardening, traveling, and the cabin he built in Scare Canyon.

In 1974, the Harrisville LDS Ward was divided creating a second ward. Bill was made president of young men (YMMIA) in the Harrisville First Ward. He was called in 1977 to serve on the stake high council and served for eight years under Presidents Raymond Johnson and Orvil Holly. On 30 September 1984, Bill was called to serve as bishop of the LDS Harrisville First Ward, a position he held for five years.

Bill had a love for scouting. He served for several years on the Lake Boneville council of the Boy Scouts of America. He earned the Award of Merit and also the Silver Beaver Award. He graduated from Woodbadge Course and attended Philmont School in New Mexico.

When the Town of Harrisville first incorporated, Bill Shurtleff was sworn in 10 April 1962, as one of the five members of the first Harrisville Town Board. He continued to serve on the city council after the city became a third class city. When Mayor Richard Tom Larsen resigned in November 1976, Bill was elected by the council to complete the remaining year of Mayor Larsen's term. After that year, he left with a total of 14 years of service to the community.

In 1970, Bill and Maurine Carr divorced. Bill married Roma Anderson Hall in 1976. Her husband Kenneth Hall had passed away in 1970. She had four children: Kathy, Richard, Jan, and Marc.

Bill and Roma spent many happy years together and enjoyed traveling. Bill also enjoyed caring for his animals, and taking care of his yard and garden. He appreciated the mature trees that grew on his property, and tagged them a wooden plaque tagged indicating the year

they planted. He was a member of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers. One year he raised broom corn in his garden and learned how to make brooms the way the pioneers did. He gave many of his pioneer brooms away to friends and family. He sold the family home to a granddaughter and her husband, Natalie and Robert Hales. Bill and Roma left a void in Harrisville when they moved into the house Roma owned in North Ogden in June 2003.

On 27 December 2011, Bill passed away from cancer, and is buried in the Ogden City Cemetery

SOURCE:

Edwards, Shanna C, Joyce J. Larsson, and Joanne F. Christensen. *Harrisville Horizons*. Harrisville, Utah: Harrisville City, 2004. Print.

Edwards, Shanna C. Personal reminiscences. n.d.

Shurtleff, William H. Personal writings. Unpublished manuscript. 2003.

Brown, H. Kenneth Brown	Johnson, Raymond
Carr, David	Jones, Rick
Carr, Maurine	Knight, J. Wallace
Crowther, Gray	Larsen, Richard Tom
Crowther, Marilyn	Pony Express Race
Crowther, Travis	Shurtleff, David Alan
First Harrisville Town Board	Shurtleff, Horace Luman
Hales, Natalie	Shurtleff, Inga Hegsted
Hales, Robert	Shurtleff, Jeane
Hall, Jan	Shurtleff, Joseph Lynn
Hall, Kathy	Shurtleff, Mary Lou
Hall, Marc	Shurtleff, Maurine Carr
Hall, Richard	Shurtleff, Roma Anderson Hall
Hall, Roma Anderson	Shurtleff, Victor
Hegstead, Inga	Shurtleff, William John (Billy)
Holly, Orvil	Weber County Mounted Posse