



## **HARVEY B. HARDY**

### **1905–1986**

Harvey B. Hardy's parents, Aaron Bradford and Mariah Porter, were both children of polygamists who moved to Mexico because of persecutions inflicted upon them by law officers in the Territory of Utah. Harvey was born at Pecheco, Chihuahau, Mexico, 12 June 1905. He was the third son and the fifth of eleven children which consisted of five boys and six girls.

Due to the increased Mexican persecution and because of limited opportunity for financial gain and education in Mexico, his parents sold everything and moved to Blanding, Utah, in the spring of 1910. Harvey was five years old. The family's main means of support in Blanding was freighting from the nearest railroad which was ninety miles away. Harvey's formal schooling was interrupted due to multiple ailments which he suffered. There were no doctors within a hundred miles, and the only means of travel was by team and wagon, so many of the ailments that beset the small community were not adequately cared for.

In 1919, a severe set back in the sheep business following World War I caused his parents to sell their eleven room home and other possessions and move from Blanding to a ranch near Cortez, Colorado, where they stayed for almost three years. While in Cortez, Harvey's father contracted to carry the mail on a Star Route from where they lived to the last ranch in McElmo Canyon. This interrupted Harvey's eight grade school year because he drove a team with a heavy carriage twice weekly over this route. He would attend school Monday and then drive the route Tuesday and Wednesday, attend school Thursday, and take the mail route again Friday and Saturday.

There were no other Latter-day Saint families within eighty miles, so his parents decided to move back to Utah, and they settled for a time in Sunnyside in Carbon County. Harvey stayed behind in Cortez with a widow and her son, and he continued to operate the mail route from November until the next June when the contract expired. After a few months in Sunnyside, Harvey moved to Ogden, Utah to live with his oldest sister, Rachel, who had married and settled there.

The next three years were financially difficult for Harvey. He secured a job helping the janitor at Central Junior High School where he was attending. His wages were \$22 a month of which \$15 went for board. The other \$7 had to cover clothing, school, transportation, entertainment, medical care and everything else. He remembers that for entertainment he allotted himself 10 cents for a movie show but no treats one week, and the next week he would get an ice cream cone and candy bar or soda, but no movie show. He was able to successfully complete high school ranking in the upper twenty five in a graduating class of 362 students. Harvey's parents settled in Harrisville in December of 1925, just prior to his graduation from high school.

Before the family had even finished moving into their Harrisville home, eight lovely young ladies waded through snow over two feet deep to present themselves at the door of their home. They asked for Harvey and his brother Loren. Harvey and Loren were covered from head to foot with soot from setting up a coal stove, and the house was still littered from moving on a wintry day. One of the young ladies, Thelma Brown, asked Loren for a date to a leap year dance that was being held in a couple of days. She later became his wife. Another in the group asked Harvey to the dance, and although she was a very lovely person, another girl in the group appealed to him. After the dance and a return date, he secured a date from Mildred Rosetta Romrell, and from that time on, he had no interest in any other; however, it was four years before he gave Mildred a ring.

He worked on the railroad mail train #9, and for the forest service, and attended school until he graduated from Weber Junior College. On 3 June 1929, he and Mildred were married in the Salt Lake Temple. Because of the depression in 1929, they struggled financially, but he was never out of work more than two or three days at any one time. They moved to Salt Lake City in 1930, and he attended the University of Utah. He taught school for the next three years.

On 12 July 1930, a baby daughter was born. They named her Marian, but she died the same day as her birth. When their son Keith E., born 30 March 1933, was a few months old, they moved into a home across the street from Mildred's father, Hyrum James Romrell. It was the same house in which Mildred's mother, Ruby Rosetta Taylor, was born. Harvey and Mildred later purchased the house and made it their permanent home. It was located at 1138 North Harrisville Road. In January 1938, Harvey accepted a position with the postal department as a letter carrier and made that a career. On 26 October 1936, another daughter, Maxine, was born.

Harvey and Mildred held many responsible positions in the Harrisville Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. After he retired from the postal service, they served two missions; one to England and one to Canada, and they traveled extensively throughout the world. After a very fulfilling and happy life, Harvey passed away 5 December 1986 from cancer.

Their son, Keith, served a Swiss-Austrian Mission for the LDS Church. When he returned home, he was drafted into the Army and was sent to Berlin, Germany, where he met Patricia Caffey who was serving a LDS mission there. They married in the Los Angeles Temple, 3 October 1958, and raised four children: David, Alan, Lynette, and Carolyn. Pat died 15 September, 2000. On 2 February 2002, Keith married Marlene Peterson. He and Marlene served together in the Alabama Birmingham LDS Mission for 18 months. Keith died 30 October 2009, from acute myeloid leukemia.

Daughter, Maxine, began as organist in the Harrisville LDS Ward at age ten, and has served as organist for every organization. She also served as Relief Society president and counselor in Primary. She married Raymond R. Grange in the Salt Lake Temple, 8 March 1956. They raised five children: RaeAnn, Pauline (Polly), Stephen, Michael, and Bruce. They also welcomed a Navajo Indian daughter, Virginia, into their home for several years.

**SOURCE:**

Hardy, Harvey B. "Autobiography of Harvey B. Hardy." Unpublished manuscript.  
Additional material submitted by Maxine H. Grange.

Bradford, Aaron	Hardy, Lynette
Brown, Thelma	Hardy, Marian
Caffey, Patricia	Hardy, Marian Porter
Grange, Bruce	Hardy, Marlene Peterson
Grange, Maxine Hardy	Hardy, Maxine
Grange, Michael	Hardy, Patricia Caffey
Grange, Pauline (Polly)	Hardy, Thelma Brown
Grange, RaeAnn,	Peterson, Marlene
Grange, Stephen	Porter, Mariah
Hardy, Alan	Romrell, Hyrum James
Hardy, Carolyn	Romrell, Mildred Rosetta
Hardy, David	Romrell, Ruby Rosetta Taylor
Hardy, Keith E.	Taylor, Ruby Rosetta
Hardy, Loren	Yazzie, Virginia