



LENORA ELIZABETH BURT CHAMBERS KNIGHT 1904–1991

Lenora Elizabeth Burt, daughter of Mary Elizabeth Froerer and George Survivor Burt, was born 17 July 1904 in Liberty, Weber, Utah. She was the oldest of nine children including: Ozay George (1906), Myrtle Ann (1907), Burness Marguerite (1910), Harold Moffett (1912), Darold James (1915), Mary (1918), Clifford Owen (1921), Stanley Art (1924).

She grew up in Liberty where she was baptized a member of the LDS Church 11 December 1913, by Louis B. Bitton. She attended school in Ogden. On 8 October 1925, she married Archie Leavitt Chambers in the Salt Lake Temple. Exactly one month later, 8 November 1925, Archie died from a kidney ailment. After his death, Lenora went to live with his parents. Since Archie was their youngest, they were left alone and having Lenora there was a comfort to them and they were very good to her.

She attended Smithsonian Business College in Ogden. She served in the LDS Church on the Ogden Weber Stake Sunday School Stake Board and got a job working at Taylor and Wrights clothing store. John Wallace Knight returned from his Western States Mission in November 1927. He took an interest in Lenora and began taking her out. He was a widower with a small daughter, Donna (1924) whose mother had died on 9 September 1925. Wallace's mother cared for Donna until Wallace and Lenora were married on 3 July 1928.

Wallace's father gave him a 40 by 80 lot on the corner of Gramercy and Knight's Lane in Ogden, and Wallace and Lenora had a two bedroom house built. They were proud of their first little home, but they soon grew out of it as five sons were born to them. Lenora and Wallace felt like the boys needed more room, and something more to do. Mr. Nottage of Harrisville had allowed Lenora's Uncle John to build a small house in the back yard of the Nottage home. John lived there and took care of the property. The Nottages also had property in Wyoming and they wanted to move there. Lenora and Wallace sold their home in Ogden and bought the Nottage home and two acres of land in Harrisville (431 North Harrisville Road). Her Uncle John moved his little house to a lot he owned in Roy.

When Wallace and Lenora moved to Harrisville in November 1936, they had Donna and five sons, the youngest was four months old: Wallace Burt (1929), Robert Wayne (1931), Grant Larry (1932), Leslie Danny (1934), and George Lynn (1936). Lenora gave birth to their sixth son in nine years when Byron was born 20 May 1938.

The kitchen was the favorite room in their house because that is where the stove was and in the winter, it was the only room that was warm. Later they installed a heater in the living room, but the upstairs bedrooms were cold in the winter. In the summer those upstairs rooms were hot and the boys often slept outside where it was cooler. With that many boys so close together, there was a lot of noise and fun in their home, and the boys grew to enjoy one another. Wallace was a good father to them. He played with them, worked with them, took them to church, and taught them as they did many things together. They had a typical little farm for that era, including a garden and farm animals for family food production. The family worked hard for what they got and they were happy.

However, the family did not escape some sad times. On 13 November 1954, Lenora's father died. A few weeks later, 4 December 1954, their third son, Larry, became ill and died of kidney failure, and the next year they lost a grandson.

After their children were married, Wallace and Lenora moved back to Ogden in November 1967. They lived there for about two years. They moved back to Harrisville into a home next to the church (1290 North Harrisville Road) where they lived for three or four years. Next, they moved to 775 North Harrisville Road where they lived the remainder of their lives. Now Lenora had more time to devote to her hobbies of making throw rugs and foot stools from scrap pieces of material.

Because Wallace was employed with the railroad, they were able to travel. They went on four or five wonderful trips with the Southern Pacific "Old Timers." They traveled to all but three states in the United States, and went to Canada twice. They also traveled to Cuba. In their later years, they spent eleven winters in Mesa, Arizona, where they did temple work in the Mesa LDS Temple.

Wallace suffered a stroke on 13 July 1970. Lenora was able to care for him with the help of her sons until he died 24 June 1973. He is buried in the Ogden City Cemetery.

Lenora remained active for many years after Wallace died. She often went to the Ogden Temple. She made quilts, knitted, and crocheted. She died 16 November 1991 and is buried in the Ogden City Cemetery.

SOURCE:

Knight, Marcia. Autobiography of Lenora Elizabeth Burt Chambers Knight. Unpublished manuscript.

Knight, Byron. Family Records.

Bitton, Louis B. Burt Harold Moffett Burt, Burness Marguerite Burt, Clifford Owen Burt, Darold James Burt, George Survivor Burt, Mary Burt, Mary Elizabeth Froerer Burt, Myrtle Ann Burt, Ozay George Burt, Stanley Art Chambers, Archie Leavitt	Froerer, Mary Elizabeth Knight, Byron Leroy Knight, Donna Knight, George Lynn Knight, Grant Larry Knight, John Wallace, Knight, Leslie Danny Knight, Robert Wayne Knight, Wallace Burt Richards, George F. Southern Pacific "Old Timers"
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