



ALMA RICHARD HARRIS

1901 - 1991

Alma Richard Harris was born 1 August 1901 in Harrisville to Martin Dennison Harris and Lillie Rosetta Hayes.

The day he was born, a big black cloud formed in the sky. The cloud grew until the entire sky exploded with a heavy downpour of rain which was so hard birds were knocked out of the trees and drowned. The next day, his sisters Emma and Fern gathered them up by the bucketful and buried them.

He recalled when he was young that his sisters liked to curl his beautiful golden ringlets, and he hated it. Those ringlets were the pride and joy of his mother. They were cut off when he was about four, and she saved them and showed them to relatives and friends.

His first job was to churn the butter so his mother could form it into loaves. She then took the loaves of butter, eggs, and fruit to town to sell to regular customers. His next job was to help milk and feed the cows and horses. He also herded cows to and from the pasture.

At age eight he was baptized in the Harrisville Canal. As a boy he always wanted a bicycle and a gun, so he found work with farmers in the area to earn enough money for the bicycle but not the gun. He had to borrow his dad's gun to go hunting. His lifelong pleasures were to hunt and fish, providing his family with pheasant, duck, and venison, or whatever wild game was in season.

At age fifteen he worked as a bin boy at the brickyard in Harrisville. This work included keeping the bin above the brick press filled with dirt. Later his job was trucking the brick.

Alma spent much of his early playing baseball. In 1920, the Farm Bureau organized baseball clubs in the area. Ben Garfield organized a Harrisville team, and they chose Alma to be pitcher. They won the championship in 1927. He also pitched for the Ogden Paint & Glass Team and helped them win. Many towns actually paid Alma to pitch for their team. The minor league invited Alma to play, but the salary they offered was not enough to sustain his family, so he refused.

He married Florence Mildred Leggett on 6 November 1925. Their children were Marilyn,

Carole, Connie, Richard and Deanna. They were later sealed in the Logan Temple.

In his later life Alma was active in the LDS Church and the Harrisville community. He worked hard, but still found time to play and remained active to the day he passed away 22 November 1991, at age ninety.

SOURCE:

Garner, Marilyn. *Alma Richard, History*.

Garfield, Ben Harris, Carole Harris, Connie Harris, Deanna Harris, Lillie Rosetta Hayes	Harris, Marilyn Harris, Richard Harrisville Canal Hayes, Lillie Rosetta Leggett, Florence Mildred
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