



## **RAYMOND RALPH GRANGE**

### **1932-**

Raymond Ralph Grange was born on his mother's birthday, 26 July 1932, at the Dee Memorial Hospital in Ogden, Utah, the third child of Ralph Mumford Grange and Aften Julia Godfrey Grange. He was the middle child in the family, and had an older brother and sister, Ron and Deloros, and a younger brother and sister, Lloyd and Carolyn.

He attended Ogden City Schools, Pingree, Madison, Central, and graduated from Ogden High in 1950. He had an enjoyable childhood and remembers the fun he and his friends had hitching rides to school on the back of the city buses, especially in the winter when they could slide on the icy-snow packed roads.

In the summer, his family went to South Fork Canyon for family reunions. They piled hay and watermelons in the back of Grandpa Elijah Godfrey's cattle truck, and some family members also rode back there. Ray liked going to the stock yards with his grandfather to buy cattle, sheep, pigs, etc. His Grandfather Grange was an auto mechanic and owned a 1901 Oldsmobile, one of the first cars introduced in Ogden.

Ray's Aunt, Veda Denos, lived on Catalina Island in California, and Ray and his sister, Deloros, spent a month with her one summer. They had fun swimming and hiking. While on a walk one day Deloros found a \$100 dollar bill! At home in Ogden, he and Ron and Deloros were looking for something to do one day so they spread Crisco on the kitchen floor to make it slick for sliding. Their mother was mad, and she made them clean it up which was not an easy task. There was a very large tree in the backyard of their home with a swing attached to a high branch. They could swing from their yard to the neighboring yard and back on this swing. The tree also had a tree-hut built in it which was a fun place to hide.

After graduation from high school, Ray took up racing and rebuilding cars, and won several trophies. This was a great learning experience for him. Sometime during his high school years, he lost the sight in his left eye from a diving mishap.

Ray spent a short time in the military before being sent home due to a family hardship. He was needed to help his mother after his father had a stroke. He went from active duty into the reserves in the 96<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company. Just before going into the military Ray's best friend, Dean Granquist, was killed in the war.

Ray spent his employment career working at Hill Air Force Base, Royal Canning, McBee Printing, Winward Electric, and Marquardt with part time jobs at Knight Electric and Saunders Construction Company. He retired from Thiokol Corporation where he worked in research and development, and developed the first nozzles for the space shuttle. At age 80 in 2012, he is still working about 40 hours a week at Petersen Incorporated, a company founded by his son-in-law, Steve Petersen. He likes working at the company with his three sons. Ray holds a current electrician's license.

On 8 March 1956, Ray married Maxine Hardy of Harrisville in the Salt Lake temple. They resided briefly in North Ogden, but have since lived in Harrisville. Ray was named Outstanding Citizen for Harrisville City in 1982.

Ray and Maxine moved a house from Washington Terrace onto a lot that Maxine's parents gave them at 1152 North Harrisville Road. They painted the home and moved in, and then improved the home as they could afford do so without having to take out a mortgage. They recently finished a complete remodel with new cabinets, pillars, crown molding, porch, etc. Through the years, Ray also helped build all of their children's homes. He is very handy in construction, carpentry, electrical, electronics, and mechanics, and he willing shares these abilities by helping friends, family members, and neighbors.

Ray always worked two jobs or worked many overtime hours. For twenty years he only had two weeks of vacation each year. He used one week for scout trips, and the other week working to earn money to pay the taxes on their home. During the years he was employed, he was also working on their home. This only left holidays for family vacations. In order to have a camper to use for vacations, they purchased one from Maxine's Uncle Roland Romrell in Idaho who built high quality Freeway Campers. They used the camper until they found someone to buy it, and then they used the money to buy another one. They repeated the process until they had made enough money from the sales to pay for one of their own.

When the sewer was put in on North Harrisville Road, Ray dug most of the sewer laterals to the homes using Saunders Construction Company's backhoe at no charge to the homeowners except for the pipe. When Tom Larson became mayor of Harrisville City, he was anxious to move the Harrisville 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration from the church to the new city park. There was only one church building in Harrisville at the time, but Mayor Larson felt the move would help the celebration be more of a community event. Ray worked with Tom Larson until 3 a.m. putting up the first pavilion in time for the celebration. There was no roof on it the first

year so they draped plastic over the beams for shade. By the next year, with the help of others, the pavilion had a roof on it.

For his Eagle Project, their son, Bruce, built and donated the picnic tables for the pavilion. Ray was surprised when he went to the city celebration some years later and saw the pavilion replaced with a new one and the tables gone. Ray has always volunteered many hours and used his skills for city improvements. He worked on the bridge over the Four Mile Creek that ran through the park, plowed the ball field, helped establish the first city office building, and helped build the Bicentennial Cabin. For several years, he and others attempted to make an ice skating pond in the park, which was not successful. He recently helped take out 12 to 15 trees that needed to be removed from the park for renovation. He fondly remembers the fun 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations in the early years of the city. Especially the year there was a zip line attached to a tall structure on one side of the pond and tied tight the bumper of a truck on the other side of the pond. It was a challenge to go all the way across the pond without dropping off and getting wet. To add to the fun, sometimes someone would back the truck up enough to put slack on the cable. This caused the rider to dip in the water for sure.

Ray Grange has always been active in the LDS Church. He served ten years in two bishoprics with Bishop H. Kenneth Brown and Bishop William H. Shurtleff. He has been involved with the Aaronic Priesthood and scouting most of his married life. He served as a leader in two High Priest Groups, with Byron L. Knight and Maxwell Jackson. He also served in the Harrisville Stake Young Men presidency with Mike Norseth. Their three sons are all Eagle Scouts, and Ray has earned the Award of Merit and Silver Beaver scouting awards. His church callings always involved working with the young men. He recalls many great experiences with the boys. Especially memorable was a seventeen-day trip to canoe the lakes of Minnesota, and the many trips to the Bridger Wilderness. He climbed Kings Peak and hiked into Havasupai with the young men and young women of the Harrisville First Ward. Ray and Tom Larsen spent many hours building canoes with the boys, and many of those canoes are still used.

Ray and Maxine have two daughters, RaeAnn (Darin) Allen and Pauline “Polly” (Steven) Petersen, and three sons, Stephen (Brenda), Michael (Joy, deceased) and Bruce (Tresa) Grange. They also have a foster Indian daughter, Virginia (Pete) Howard. All of their children have been sealed to their spouses in the LDS Temple, and have served in many church callings. At the time of his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2012, Ray and Maxine had 30 grandchildren, 5 foster grandchildren, 42 great grandchildren with more on the way, and 6 foster great grandchildren. Their family members are involved in sports, and Ray and Maxine are their greatest supporters and attend many of their sporting events.

Ray is presently living a full, busy and exciting life. He has a strong testimony of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and recognizes the many blessings in his life.

**SOURCE:**

Grange, Ray. *Personal Biography of Ray Grange*. Unpublished manuscript. July 2012.

96 <sup>th</sup> Military Police Company	Grange, RaeAnn
Allen, Darin	Grange, Ralph Mumford
Allen, RaeAnn Grange	Grange, Ron
Brown, H. Kenneth	Grange, Stephen
Denos, Veda	Grange, Tresa
Godfrey, Aften Julia	Granquist, Dean
Godfrey, Elijah	Hardy, Maxine
Grange, Aften Julia Godfrey	Howard, Pete
Grange, Brenda	Howard, Virginia
Grange, Bruce	Jackson, Maxwell
Grange, Bruce	Knight, Byron L.
Grange, Carolyn	Larson, Tom
Grange, Deloros	Norseth, Mike
Grange, Joy	Petersen, Pauline Grange
Grange, Lloyd	Petersen, Steve
Grange, Michael	Romrell, Roland
Grange, Pauline "Polly"	Shurtleff, William H.