



Ellen Louise Webster Whetton 1918-2001

Ellen was born 30 June 1918, the daughter of Lemuel and Mary Annie Larsson Webster of Harrisville. She was named after her grandmothers. Her maternal grandmother was Mary Ellen Geary Larsson, and her paternal grandmother was Esther Louise Daniels Brown Webster. Ellen was also known to some as Hazel. Ellen was the oldest of three children. Her sister, Doris was born in 1921, and her younger brother, Charles (Chuck) (1924) completed the family. She also had an older half-brother, Preston (Peg) Larsson (1909), who the son of Mary Annie Larsson. They were a close family, and when they grew up and married, they had homes next to each other on West Harrisville Road. Doris and Berry Mosen lived in the first home (1076 West Harrisville

Road), then moving east, was Lemuel and Mary Annie's home (later owned by a grandson, Ron Mosen). Chuck's house was next, then Rex Bailey's (Ellen's son). Next to Rex was Ellen's home at 1020 West Harrisville Road, and east of her was Preston (Peg) and Velda Larsson. The next two houses were owned by Peg's sons, Mitchel Larsson and Gary Larsson, with a total of eight family homes in a row. Ellen's home was originally across the street and was owned by her grandmother, Mary Ellen Geary Larsson. In the 1940's, the Defense Depot claimed the land that her house was built on, and the house was moved to where it is today.

Ellen had many fond memories of going to school in the yellow brick school house that was just south of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at 1300 North Harrisville Road. When she was in high school she was often late getting ready for school. She spent many mornings running after the street car, which took them to school. Her brother, Chuck, remembers one experience where she wanted him to sweep the floor. When he refused, she chased him out the door and into the street right in front of a fire truck – he wasn't injured. Many of her relatives have entertaining stories of her life.

Ellen had a beautiful talent for singing, and loved to sing at home or wherever she was. At a young age, her music teacher took her to sing all over the Ogden Area. She often sang in church with Chuck and Doris.

Ellen married Don Chester Bailey, son of Robert Wilson Bailey and Annie Eliza Taylor on 18 January 1938 in Provo, Utah. They had a daughter, Anna Mae Bailey on 13 December 1939. Unfortunately, Anna Mae died of an illness 13 January 1941. From that experience, Ellen did not like the number 13. There are 13 letters in the name of Anna Mae Bailey. She was born and died on the 13th, and was 13 months old when she died. After this tragedy, Ellen and Don had three beautiful children. Five days after the death of their daughter, a son, Robert Dean Bailey was born 18 January 1941. Another son, Rex Lemuel Bailey was born 21 October 1942, and a daughter, Sheryl Ann Bailey was born 4 April 1947.

Ellen and Don divorced and Ellen married John Franklin (Jack) Whetton on 30 June 1949 in Elko, Nevada. To this union was born one son, William Franklin (Bill) Whetton on 31 August, 1950. This completed Ellen's family.

Ellen worked at Hill Air Force Base in sheet metal. She also worked at the Coleman Knitting Mills, and Utah Tailoring Mills, from which she retired.

After her retirement, she spent 15 years in volunteer work with the Senior Citizens at the Harrisville Cabin. She also became an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and went through the Ogden LDS Temple in 1995, which brought much joy into her life. Ellen was also a member of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers, Sarah Jane Taylor Camp. She spent much of her time at these events with friends and neighbors in Harrisville. Having grown up and lived in Harrisville most of her life, she had many life long friends with whom she enjoyed lunches and socials, including her friend and sister Doris Monsen.

Ellen was very particular about her appearance. Her granddaughter remembered going into her house and watching her get ready for the day. She would sit at the kitchen table by the large window, which let the sunlight in, and with mirror in hand would apply her make-up. She had many fruit trees in her back yard and her grandchildren recall many summer days picking small green apples. Ellen would bring out the salt shaker to apply to the sour apples.

Ellen loved to go fishing and camping and always had a truck and camper at her house so she could enjoy this favorite pass time. She also loved gardening and often wore her black rubber boots while she was weeding or watering her garden. She loved tomatoes, and would set up her juicer on the driveway and juice buckets of tomatoes. Her grandchildren enjoyed cranking the handle and watching the tomatoes being juiced. She was a wonderful cook, and especially known for her tomato and noodle soup with home made noodles.

In her later years, Ellen suffered from arthritis. It left the knuckles and joints in her hands swollen and misshapen. To help combat the pain, she took up crocheting. She made intricate doilies which she gave to several family members. They are beautiful heirlooms to be passed down from generation to generation.

Throughout her life, Ellen's family remained close. They celebrated holidays together. Christmas was always a big event with all of her children and grandchildren coming to her house to celebrate. Also, in the spring and summer months, the family and extended family had barbeques in the relative's backyards. They played games or just relaxed and enjoyed one another's company. As a great cook, she always made her famous potato salad for all to enjoy. These social events lasted up until the time of her passing.

In 2001, Ellen suffered from colon cancer. She lost a valiant fight against the disease and died at her home in Harrisville on 15 October 2001 with her family by her side. She had 14 grandchildren and 22 great grandchildren, and left a great legacy of love and devotion to family. She is buried in the East Morgan Cemetery.

Source: Family records and memories, submitted by Sheryl Bailey Butler.

Names:

Webster, Lemuel

Webster, Mary Annie Larsson

Larsson, Mary Annie

Larsson, Mary Ellen Geary

Webster, Esther Louise Daniels Brown

Webster, Doris

Monsen, Doris Webster

Monsen, Berry

Monsen, Ron

Bailey, Rex

Larsson, Preston (Peg)

Larsson, Velda

Larsson, Mitchel

Larsson, Gary

Bailey, Don Chester

Bailey, Robert Wilson

Bailey, Annie Eliza Taylor

Bailey, Anna Mae

Bailey, Robert Dean

Bailey, Sheryl Ann

Whetton, Franklin (Jack)

Whetton, William Franklin (Bill)

Hill Air Force Base

Coleman Knitting Mills

Utah Tailoring Mills