

CECIL HENRY BEHUNIN  
&  
IDA WILD BEHUNIN  
RASMUSSEN

Cecil was born in Ferron on April 12, 1903 to Joseph Henry Behunin and Mary Zwahlen. He was the second boy born to this family of ten girls and three boys. His brothers and sisters were Ida, Vera, Blanche, Leland, Cecil, Ruby, Violet, Nedra, Roxie, Florence, Oral, Elma, and Dortha. This was a very large but a very close and loving family.

When Cecil was little, he was a very cute boy with long blond curls. His sisters say that he seemed to be his Fathers' favorite as he followed him everywhere he could go and always sit by him at the table when they would eat.

The children all were taught to work. The family didn't have many worldly goods but always had enough to eat and were happy. Their father had a big fruit orchard and would take the wagon loaded with fruit to the coal camps to sell it.

The children loved to sing and Cecil had a very good voice. He always went to church and did his duty in gathering the fast offerings. He would walk about four miles collecting the tithes.

Cecil was a quiet, dependable boy. He never talked much. He was a doer. He always took the heaviest end of all the work. All the unpleasant tasks that had to be done it was Cecil that got it done. It was Cecil that hitched up the horses, and got the cows, cleaned the barn and fed the pigs. He always seemed to get most of the milking done before Leland even got started. But they were best of friends. Cecil was the one that Mother would ask to do something because she knew that it would get done. She would say that he always wanted to be a good boy and do just what they wanted him to.

Cecil was his brother's keeper. Leland would be the big shot and get into trouble with the other boys and Cecil would have to fight for him. He would come home pounded and Leland would be the big talker and tell how the fight went.

Cecil attended the Emery Stake Academy and Ferron High School. He graduated from Ferron High School in 1923. The graduates that year were Cecil Behunin, Wendell Peterson, Oscar Soderquest, Velma Worthen, Lorena Ellett, Lucile Hansen Anna Rasmussen, and Ruth Leslie.

Cecil had his eye on a fair young lady Ida Wild.

Ida was born to Earnest Albert Wild and Mary Ann Taylor on the 4 January 1905 in Ferron. She was the second daughter born into this family of ten children. Her brothers and sisters were Gilbert, Melvin, Leo, Elry, Lyda, Ida, Nellie, Rulon, Ellis and Owen. This was a large hard-working family. They were farmers and raised livestock, sheep and cows. Earnest also ran horses on the Robbers Roost Ranch for a while.

Ida learned to work hard as a young girl. Her mother took great pride in their home and kept it neat as a pin, and she taught her girls to be good housekeepers also. Ida would help her grandmother Taylor with her hotel work. Ida cleaned, cooked and washed dishes. She always

liked to help Grandmother.

Ida went to school at the Presbyterian School in Ferron and later attended and graduated from the Wasatch Academy at Mount Pleasant. Her father would take her to Price in the buggy and she would ride the train to Mt Pleasant. It was a long and cold ride. She graduated in 1925.

After Ida graduated, she went to Baker Nevada and worked for her father's half brother John Singleton on his ranch. She helped cook, wash dishes and kept house for the ranch hands. She then returned to Ferron and worked in Singleton's store for a year. Her Father wanted her to attend college so she enrolled at the Brigham Young College and attended school there for a year.

Ida was a very pretty young lady. She had dark hair and green eyes. She had been dating Cecil Behunin. They had many fun friends and had many good times in the mountains camping and fun parties at home. They were married on 5 January 1928 in Salt Lake City, Utah. They made their home in the old home that the Behunin family had lived in as Cecil's Mother and Father had moved to Hiawatha so his father could work in the mine to help keep Leland on a mission. Cecil helped Ida's father with his farm work and also kept the fruit orchard going.

Their first child, Mary Lue was born in this home on 2 January 1929. Cecil started to work in the mine at Hiawatha. He would travel back and forth from Hiawatha and Ferron as his work required. Their Son Dale was also born in Ferron on the 15 September 1932. Cecil and Ida were sealed in the Manti Temple in May 1932.

Cecil and Ida decided to move to Rochester and began buying a farm there. It was during the depression and they could not make a go of it and so had to let it go back to the lender. At this time they also had Cecil's sister Ida's son living with them for several years. They then decided to move to Hiawatha and Cecil started to work in the coal mine again. He worked so hard to help Leland when he was on his mission. He would come home so tired from the mine. He and his Father were the top coal loaders for years.

The years they spent in Hiawatha were happy ones and May was born there on 19 February 1937. Cecil and Ida were very active in the L.D.S. ward there and had a fun group of friends. They had much fun playing cards, and having parties, picnics and camping with the friends they had made.

Cecil's parents moved to Coeur D'Alene Idaho. Cecil missed his parents very much. His Father became very ill and died on the 18 May 1940. They buried him in Ferron. Cecil started working on a home in Ferron that he intended for his Mother to live in. He also had a camp house moved in and fixed it for his sister Ruby to live in.

On November 9, 1940, Cecil was seriously injured in the Hiawatha Mine. He was taken by ambulance to a Salt Lake City hospital and died there on the 13, November 1940.

Ida was devastated, now a widow at thirty-four with three small children. She never went back to their home in Hiawatha. Her family and friends moved her possessions to Ferron and she and her children lived with her parents until the home that Cecil was working on could be finished. Willis Thompson did the finish work for her and then she and her children moved in.

Ida went back to working in the Singleton Store but she longed to finish college in order to qualify for a more satisfying and lucrative way of making a living. Brad Jensen and Superintendent Chipman encouraged her to go back to school. She went to the Carbon College for one year and then to summer school. She then was allowed to begin teaching that fall. Her first class was the sixth grade and she had 42 students. This was a challenge for a first year teacher. She had to attend summer school each summer until she was graduated and obtained her degree in 1952.

Her friend and associate, Ida Conklin, had been left a widow also and moved back to Ferron with her two small children. The two Idas and their children spent much time together. They also traveled to fun places together. The two mothers shared college experiences as they plowed through correspondence, extension courses and went to summer school seven summers together before earning their degrees in elementary education.

In August 1954 Ida married Francis Rasmussen of Castle Dale. They would live in Ferron during the winter while Ida taught school and in Castle Dale during the summer while Francis would do his farming. They took some fun trips and enjoyed their life together at that time.

Ida retired from her teaching in May 1971 having taught in the Emery Country School District for 24 years. She missed her teaching but did enjoy the time she had to visit her children. She kept pictures and clippings in scrapbooks of all the students that she taught. She was so proud of them.

Ida was active in the Church and continued during retirement. She was a visiting teacher all her married life. She also worked in Relief Society and Stake Young Women.

She was always a person who enjoyed visiting people. When she was first married, they had a buggy and a horse named Bell. She would hitch up old Bell and the buggy and away she would go, nothing stopped her. She had great fun driving around to wherever she wanted to go. She always took baskets to "most everyone" in town at Christmas time. Her children say that she visited everyone in town.

Time passed and Ida and Francis went to live in the Nursing home in Ferron. Ida always wanted to go home but stayed because Francis was there. She suffered a stroke and was confined to a wheel chair for several years. She then suffered another stroke and passed away on the 22 December 1988 in Ferron, Utah. Her years of suffering were over and she was now happy in a better place.

Her children Dale became a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and married Janice Price of California, May Married Bill Jorgensen and lives in Castle Dale and Mary Lue lives in Price.

