

GLEDHILL

LEE FRANKLIN GLEDHILL AND VERNA LUE CHRISTENSEN



I, Verna Lue Christensen, was born October 27, 1921 to John Nels Christensen and Milinda Jane Barton in Ferron, Utah, and named after two sisters who died before I was born--Vernone and LaRue. We lived a block south of the main street in town, across the road east of the Ranger's Station on State Street in what was known as the "Mike Molen home." The Molen ditch ran through the back of the property. A child of theirs was drowned in the ditch. My best friend as a child, besides my cousins Fawn

Christensen (Killpack) and Velma Black (Frandsen), was Phyllis Singleton (Stanton). Phyllis was 24 days older. Our "tea parties" with our dolls were wonderful.

One of the most memorable childhood activities I remember was swinging on the "Tarzan" rope my father had hung from a big tree in the front yard. The trees had grown spaced so that you could swing from one tree to another and if you wanted to you could pick up another playmate and take him back to the other limb with you. It was great fun but mother was strict about us having our work done before we could join the other kids and swing.

Feeding chickens, gathering eggs, and giving the calves and lambs a bottle was a wonderful part of my childhood. When the baby chicks began pecking a small chick and making its neck bleed we kept it in the house until it could heal and it turned out to be a red rooster and he became our constant companion. How could those other 500 baby chicks tell that this one was different? He was different alright when our pet "Friday" got full grown he chased us all over the yard. I also enjoyed my job of riding the derrick horse when the hay had to be lifted into the barn.

I loved school and was active in the pep club and band. My brothers Dee and Boyd passed down to me first a saxophone which I learned to play and then I anxiously waited until I could have my turn on the piccolo cause it wouldn't be so heavy to carry when the band would march and we marched in many contests and had really fancy purple and white uniforms.

I was valedictorian of my class as was my sister Merna Rae two years later. We both won first place medals during our Junior and Senior years in the Emery County contest. I had a wonderful history teacher during my senior year, Lee Franklin Gledhill from Gunnison. After graduation I went to Ephraim to attend Snow College-- we corresponded and eventually we were married June 5, 1940 in the Manti Temple.

I have always been active in the Church holding many different positions. I enjoy painting with watercolors and pastels, and I love to sew.

We have lived in Ferron, Palo Alto, California, Green River, Utah and Salt Lake City where Lee passed away in 1983 just 5 months after we returned from a mission to Hawaii. He is buried in Salt Lake City.

In 1991-92 I served in the Canada Vancouver Mission and had wonderful experiences. I have a strong testimony of the importance of missionary work

We have five children, Wayne, Carol, Bruce, DeVon and Dale. Bruce is living in Virginia and the others live along the Wasatch Front. We have 13 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren and they are the joy of my life.