

from the University of

Lucinda Seely—William Stewart Seely—Justus Azel Seelye  
**ELMER JEFFS**  
**HILMA ANNA FRANSDEN JEFFS**  
 Chasty Seely—Orange Seely—J.W. Seely—I—Justus Azel Seelye



Hilma and Elmer Jeffs, 1962.

Elmer Jeffs, born August 26, 1894, is the son of James Arthur Jeffs and Lucinda Seely, grandson of William Stewart Seely.

Hilma Anna Frandsen, born April 14, 1895, is the daughter of Heber Frandsen and Chasty Seely, granddaughter of Orange Seely.

Elmer and Hilma were married November 15, 1915. They are the parents of three boys, Elmer, Jr., Earl, and Morris, and two daughters, Arlene C. and Pearl. Pearl was the twin to Earl. However, she died a few hours after birth. Elmer and Hilma raised another girl, Ruth Magnusson, as their own daughter. Ruth was born to Charlie and Faye Magnusson. Ruth's mother, Faye, was Elmer's

sister. When Ruth was just nine months old, her mother died. Her father was unable to care for her, so she came into our family. There could never be a more precious daughter and sister. We all love her and are so thankful she is ours.

Daddy worked in the coal mines and herded sheep, going "under the hedge" in the fall and not coming home until spring. Hilma was left alone to care for her family, through much of her married life. In 1969 Daddy found an airplane that had gone down with four people aboard, up in Joe's Valley. All were dead and in terrible condition when he found them.

His health began to fail. He finally passed away from emphysema and black lung on April 22, 1970. Hilma took her endowments out in the Mantle Temple July 1, 1972, and she was sealed to Elmer and Morris at that time.

Mom was a worker right up to the end. She tended children, did house work, and helped anyone in need. Her health started to fail, and she was unable to be alone or to care for herself. She chose to go to Emery County Nursing Home, where she could get the care she needed. She passed away on January 14, 1982.

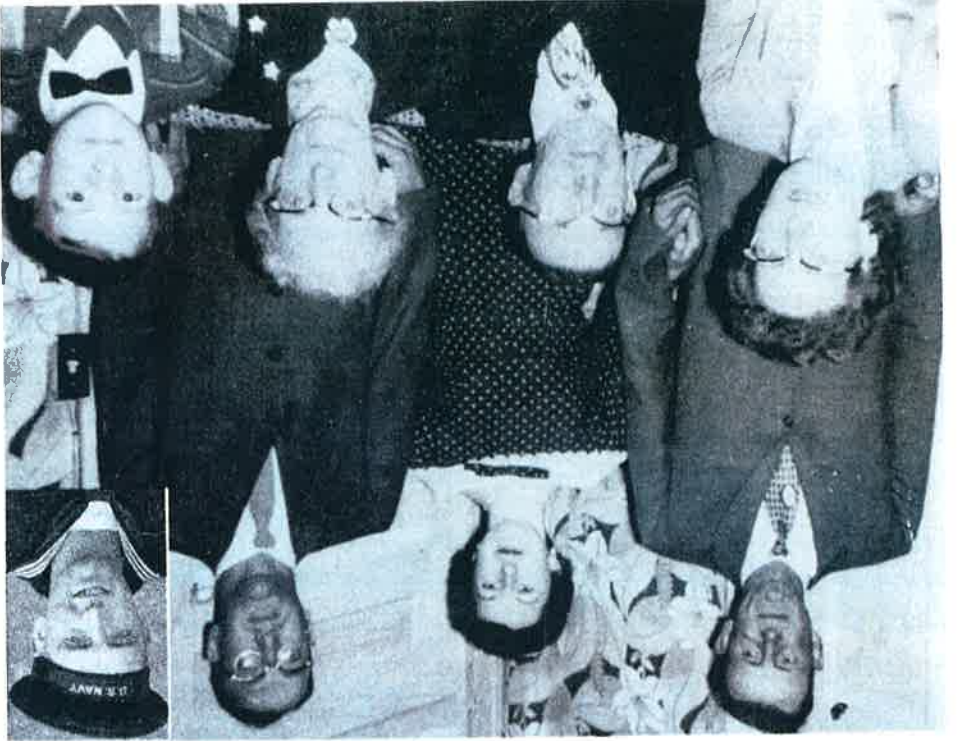
Elmer, Jr. was a veteran of World War II, serving in the US Army overseas.

Morris Heber was also a veteran of the US Navy, serving on the Battleship USS Mexico. Both Morris and Elmer are deceased.

Earl married Mae, but they had no children. During the War, Earl stayed at home to help the family. Later he moved to Colorado, where he now resides.

Arlene married Joseph Stanley Grant December 28, 1950, and she has lived in Castle Dale most of her life. Ruth married Norman Dennis, who died in an automobile accident, leaving her with three children and a baby born several months after his death. She later married Galen Christiansen, and they had two children. They live in Mantle, Utah. Hilma and Elmer have eight grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

by Arlene C. Grant



Back: Elmer Jeffs Jr., Ruth, Earl, Front: Arlene, Elmer Jeffs Sr., Hilma, J.J. Grant, 1961. Inset: Morris Jeffs

Now I want to tell you about the tents. Each sheep camp had two men to take care of the sheep, a camp mover and cook and my Dad was the shepherd. Of course, they helped each other, when needed. The day they moved camp, the camp mover would take the tent down, load it and camp stove, water kegs, food boxes, bed springs and bedding, personal things loaded on pack mules, and horses with pack saddles were loaded just so. And soon they were ready to go to get the camp ready for the herder and whoever was helping move the sheep. When he got to the new camp site, he would find a good place to set up. Camp had to be away from trees because the mountain storms were bad at times and trees would fall. So they had to watch where and how they pitched the tent. He would dig a space just wide enough to pitch the tent pathway 10 feet wide 5 feet or more deep the tent covered and was pitched up strong. Sides of the pathway it was like 2 shelves. Where the bed was on one and grub boxes and camp stove was on side shelf. Camp stove just inside the tent entrance, water kegs, unloaded horses and mules pack saddles removed. Horses hobbled and bell put on



Dad to sleep.

We could hardly wait for Carl Seely to come. He was a special man and owned the sheep Daddy herded. He came, and Morris and I rode in the back of his truck. It was so fun and cool. Up to Huntington Canyon we went. Carl pulled off the road on this side of the Ranger Station to wait for my Dad to come. Soon here come my Dad and the camp mover. (He would go home for his vacation while we were up there with my Dad) He came leading two horses and a pack mule to take us and our things up to the sheep camp. There was no roads then just a trail through the pine and aspen trees. How pretty it was! Wild flowers growing here and there and sage brush and other bushes everywhere. Soon we came to the camp sight. Oh, look there's two tents--one already for Morris and me to sleep in and the other for us to eat and cook and for Mom, Ruth, and Dad. We ate breakfast, did our packing, and we were ready to go--my mother, baby Ruth, Morris, and I.

a birthday party on July 20. And then happy day! On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July I woke up, looked out the window where I could see the mountains. Oh, they looked so high! Seemed like they almost touched the sky. Today I'd be up there, the 24<sup>th</sup> of July was our vacation time. We would go up to the sheep camp for a whole week with my Dad. We ate breakfast, did our packing, and we were ready to go--my mother, baby Ruth, Morris, and I.

*Elmer Jeffs at the sheep camp.*



I'm thankful for my family and my Father in Heaven for our Savior, Jesus Christ and for the gospel. My favorite scripture: Isaiah 40: 10-12 He shall feed his flock, like a shepherd, he shall gather the lambs with his arms and carry them in his bosom and shall gently lead them that are with young

*Father and Mother, Elmer and Hillma Jeffs, written by Arlene C. Jeffs Grant Callahan in honor of her father May 20, 2008 when she was 82 years old.*

**Memories of a Shepherd's Daughter**



He then had his coffee. He would put cheese, bread, and sugar in his coffee, eat it, and then was ready to go. The shepherd and Laddie his dog were to the sheep bedding ground when the sheep started to move. Each day was a different place for sheep to graze. They had to move to different area so grass wasn't overgrazed. He then got the sheep settled and would come in for breakfast. At noon, Morris and I would go out with him. This is when he took the sheep to water. There was a black sheep for every hundred or more sheep. This is how they kept track of how many hundred of sheep was in their herd.

Daddy always had Laddie the dog with him when they were with the herd. If they started to stray or go near the lines, he would call, move his arms or whistle and the dog was in command. He would round them up and get them all together again. He would never leave his dog at camp when he came home. Laddie came, too. He loved and took care of his dog.

In evening Daddy and Laddie went alone and stayed with sheep until they were all to the bedding ground and settled down then back to the tent where Mother had supper all ready.

When we needed mutton meat, Daddy

would butcher a sheep in the evening when it was cool. He always had a wash pan, soap and a towel on a log when he would take care of the meat. First the sheep was hung on a limb of a tree or a log like stick through the back legs then a pulley and rope attached. He would pull the rope and pull it on a tree limb just so he could work as he would take the wool and pelt off. He would wash his hands then work again. He said the reason he washed so often was so the meat wouldn't taste of wool. When all done and insides cleaned out, he would again pull the pulley and sheep was up high in the tree so no animals could get to it. Next morning before sun came up put in a meat sack and put in the bed. When it was taken out it was as cool as if it had been in a fridge then put back in covers. Every night and day they did the same way.

Sometimes coyotes would kill some of the sheep and word was sent to Perry Oveson in Castle Dale. He was a government trapper he would come and trap and put out bait to control them. This is how wild animals were controlled. We always had ice cream on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July. There was snow banks. Mother would make the custard. We would go get snow in a big bucket. Mother put custard in a lard bucket. With a handle then put bucket in huge bucket of snow. Then we would turn it round and back and forth until it was frozen. It was so good. Mother had made cookies too. We had sparklers to light on 24<sup>th</sup> night. It was a special day.

Sheep were always off the mountain at deer hunting time. Remember no roads, no cars, no roads just horses and mules to travel on. How tired the workers must have been! How happy they were to get back to good old Castle Dale!

The sheep were put in pastures for some time. Lambs were docked (tails cut off) and soon were on the way to the Big Desert where they wintered. It was a long ride and for the sheep to walk. How tired the workers must have been and the poor horses and mules! The camp drivers were ahead of the shepherders and would have camp set up to feed the men and beds ready for sleep.

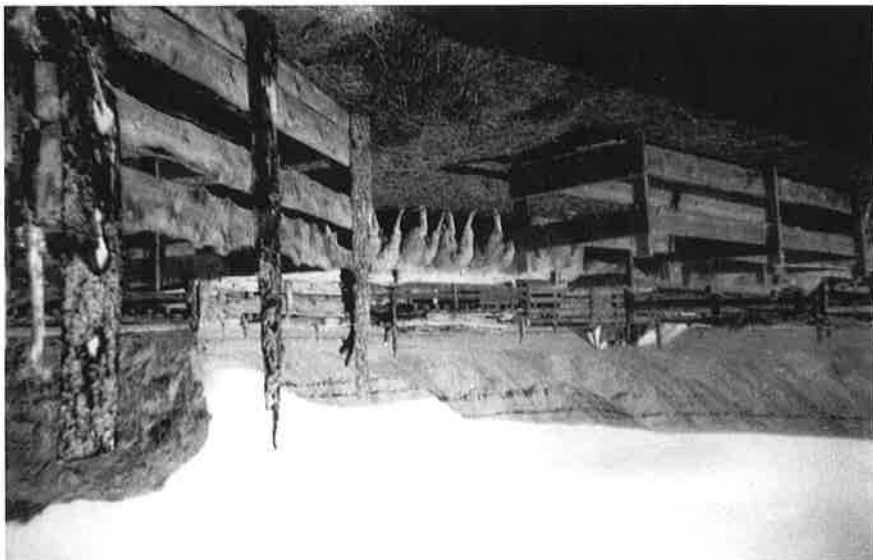
Morning came early, and again they were on the go. Daddy would leave home in November and wouldn't come back until March or April. We were so happy to see Daddy again. The sheep wintered under the ledge in the Big Desert. Grass and water was there but so far, far away. (I haven't been there.)



site. He got up to get ready to take care of his herd. He was alone. He was saddling his horse when his attention was drawn to an object up farther on the mountain. The sun was just coming up and was shining on something. He said he wondered what it was. It wasn't here last fall. He then went to go in camp wagon and something told him to go see what it was. He thought he was just imagining this but the feeling was stronger. He took care of his sheep, then he went on his horse to this object. As he got closer he could see it was an airplane. There had been news of some people from the Provo area lost for some time. He said he knew they couldn't be alive but what if they were... so he rode up to the plane and could see four people, their heads were as big as bushel baskets and the odor was terrible. It made him sick. He was so upset and got on his horse and headed down the road to go to the Ranger Station to report this plane.

As he was loping along a car came. It was a man Daddy knew from Price. Daddy asked him to go to the Ranger Station and tell them to come. He had found an airplane. This man said, "Gosh, Elmer, I don't have time. I want to fish for a few hours before I go to work."

Can you imagine someone wouldn't go for help? Daddy just got his horse on the lope and went himself. When he got at the Ranger Station he was so upset and sick to his stomach. They immediately got help, and he took them to the place. This was in Joe's Valley.



Daddy started to have many health problems. He came home, gave his dog to Lee Humphrey. He was then working for them. Then he never went back with the sheep. His herding days were over. He passed away on 22 April 1970. He worked in Coal mines was in a mine cave-in in National up in Castle Gate Area. He saw many changes in coal mines from horses and mules bringing out coal cars to motor run cars. But sheepherding was his love. He worked for sheep men from Carbon, Emery, Sanpete Counties. He was always with a job, but when he found this plane he couldn't go up to mountains again.

The first part of this sheepherder's daughter memories was up Huntington Canyon the part of shearing lambing and trailing the sheep was up Joe's Valley. I remember he worked for Donald Cox, Humphreys, Jesse Peacock, Carl Seely, Jorgensens, Hy Seely, Ray Jensen, Fillmores and I'm sure there was more sheep men here in the county plus Carbon and Sanpete County. Earl was chore boy for Carl Seely. His three sons also followed in his footsteps and worked in mines and with the sheep. Elmer and Earl worked mostly in Colorado. I'm thankful I was a sheepherder's daughter. I was ill and had to stay in bed much of my years from 11 years old to 20. I couldn't wait until my Dad would come home to tell me about his sheepherding days. Carl and Cora Seely was a great example to me in my life. I washed bottles for canning fruit for her, and Mom would help prepare and bottle fruit as I said before.

These memories cover many years, people, and places. There's very few sheep men--cows seem to have taken over now.

In 1950 I married Joe Grant. We had 2 boys. J.J. born on September 14, 1952. Brent born July 1, 1961. How thankful we were to have them!

We visited Grandpa at his sheep camp many, many times throughout the years. I can see them yet. J.J. on a horse alone, Brent riding in saddle in front of Grandpa going around the sheep. They loved Grandpa and Grandma and Daddy's dog Laddie.

**ELMER JEFFS**  
Born 26 August 1894  
Died 22 April 1970

Grampa's nicknames for his kids: Arlene-Minnie, Ruth-Coffie, Morris-Borrey, Earl-Nuttal, Elmer-John, Hilma because she had long pretty hair and had it cut so she was Bobbie from then on.

### Story about Elmer Jeffs

by Stephen Grant, 8th grade San Rafael  
Jr. High School  
1989

My great-grandpa was a very patient, quiet man. My dad told me that when he was little he used to make pin darts and throw at flowers on the wallpaper. One time great-grampa walked in as my dad threw a dart; the dart nailed him right smack in the nose. Great-grandpa didn't even say a word; he just pulled the dart out, gave it back to my dad, and walked out.

He was born in Castle Dale, August 25, 1895. He was a brown eyed, brown haired man of about 5'8". He was cheerful, quiet, patient, and a hard worker.



In 1969 two couples went for a ride in a plane one afternoon. They had said that they were just going to fly across the desert, but never came back. My great-grandpa remarked, "Some poor old shepherd will find it on the mountain."

He was herding his sheep up at Kofford Creek in Olsen Canyon when he spied the sun reflecting off an object. He wondered what it was. After two days his curiosity got the better of him. He got on his horse, Old Paint, and started off towards the object. As he got closer, he noticed it was a plane. When he got within about 100 feet, Old Paint refused to go any nearer because of the sickening stench.

He got off Old Paint and walked up to the plane. He looked in the passenger's window and caught a glimpse of the pilot's wife. Her head was blown up like a balloon with patches of hair here and there. He ran over to a nearby tree, the grotesque sight getting the better of him and threw up. He ran back down, got on Old Paint and rode back to camp. He took off in his truck to go get help.

When he neared the switch backs, he met up with two guys going fishing. He asked them to go for help because he was very sick, but they told him, "No," that they were going fishing. So he continued on down. When he reached the ranger's station, he informed the rangers. Then they notified the police.

When the police arrived, they got the job of putting the four dead people in body bags. First, they had to cut their seatbelts off. Then they pulled the bodies out with extreme difficulty. When they pulled on the arms they fell off resulting in a stream of maggots dropping everywhere. Then they floated the bags down the Seely river to get them to the ambulance which couldn't make it to the sight.

Grampa was never was quite the same after his encounter, and on April 22, 1970 of the next year he died of emphysema.

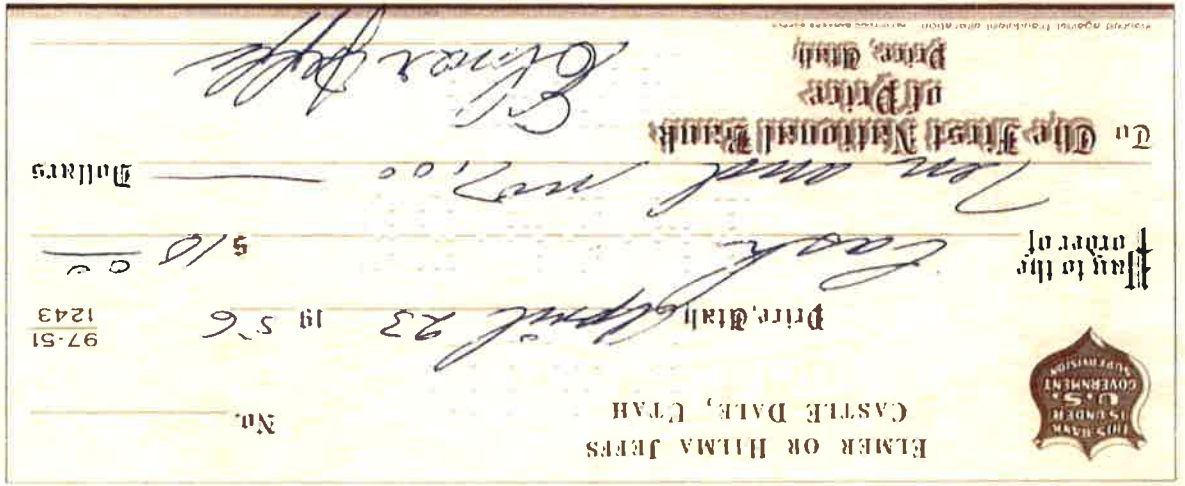


Elmer was such a kind nice man. I really enjoyed him all the time. He didn't have any major faults. He was a real good guy. I'd go down to get him from home. The first thing Hilma done was pour a cup of coffee. I'd

lamb and a half to every ewe. That was the best I ever done. on time. It makes it miserable. Elmer and me, we took one year 155% up and got back 155%. That means a get up there when I said to bring groceries. I'd herded sheep and been left alone and the guys never come up the sheep." So that's what we done. I don't believe he ever got too mad at me. I respected him and tried to it together on the floor and pick the camp up and cook some supper. We'll have an early supper, and I'll bring all the dishes was dirty and them guys had went home. We didn't get no dinner that day. Elmer said, "Just put When we got back why they'd had a dripper cake and all the biscuits was eat and all the meat was gone and to the sheep, and I didn't get back until Elmer come up. We was there at the bottom of the white dugway. Elmer was with the sheep. Vick's family come up there and Elmer made the biscuits. Then I had to go down We came down the last of September. Elmer was the main guy herding them in the canyon. One time me and would split and go down on the bench when we was up on the skyline. We had coyote problems every year. He'd just say, "We'd get the damn things (sheep) together one of these days." It'd snow and then the sheep. It was a pleasure to work with Elmer. He never got too excited about things when they went a little bit wrong.

one. We had to watch for coyotes--them and the environmentalists, they all ought to be shot. Elmer brought ever sheep down for every sheep taken up for two or three years. He didn't lose a He bought some from my brother Tom when he was in the business. We had to count blacks if we felt we was directions. Some of them would want to come home. There for a few years we had Vick Price's with them. we were missing 40 to 50 sheep unless you had a black one that was real mean to drift off in different of them. The black lambs would vary from year to year. We'd count them ever month. If we were a black one for. We'd count the blacks quite often. Elmer herded 800 to 1100 sheep. We'd count the blacks to keep track narrow range to ride, but the things would get down on the side hill. By that time he knew which ones to look sheep won't stay together, they want to scatter. You got to watch for sheep leaving the herd. We had quite a you have to be out with them most of the time. Then you get out and it rains on you and the wind blows. The away from the heat and relaxing. You weren't so busy through July and half of August but then from then on go up and rest him for a week in the summer. It was not boring herding sheep. I enjoyed going up and getting

I'd generally  
September.  
end of  
June till the  
generally in  
sheep  
Elmer would  
go up with the  
1994).  
you (spring  
that I gave  
was the rifle  
his kids. That  
it, I'd give it to  
I got done with  
told him when



One time he went down to the pool hall, and there was only 15, 16 punches left on the (lotto) board. So he bought the board, and he won the 22 rifle. That's how he got it, and he only charged me a mutton for it. So I His car wouldn't run one time. He had his truck up at the camp most of the time. It had a plugged gas filter. He got Joe to come up and fix it. I let him take mine, he enjoyed it. Tuttle. She liked to see the lambs play. She come out there for dinner. Elmer come in, and he lit a cigarette and she had heart trouble. Phyllis said he couldn't smoke in there with her. And I think that hurt his feelings.

Elmer, my brother, was on his way home on the train. Mother went to Grampa's house. He had a cowboy \_\_\_\_\_ made a bride and got a saddle. Christmas morning we had him walk Elmer came home Christmas and brought a horse for J.J. Daddy

were divorced. and took us out to dinner. He married but it didn't last long. They to visit Elmer. He was proud of sheep and his camp. He rode horses and spent a week with Ruth when she was little. Earl took Arlene out on vacations. He made Colorado his home. Mother and Dad visited He would always call and send Mama money. He only came home was hard on him. But he grew up and took up smoking and drinking. He was awful hard when he left. It broke Mama's heart and it horses and could ride any of them. He helped with the sheep and Meeker, Colorado, when he was 14 years old. He was good with Elmer, my brother, went to Colorado to herd for Carl H. Seely at

paper boys, they put it on the porch and on time. Fred Larsen always gave a tip of \$.50. He said they were such good we'd get a bonus of \$.50. We were always on time with the papers. We all worked the paper route. Every time we got a new subscription pay. He was herding sheep for Karl Seely. Morris had a paper route. \$10-15 a month. If Mama didn't have the money Earl would help they got the Sam Zwalien home for \$1400. They paid \$40 taxes and Dad lost his herd of sheep in the depression 1936. They lost their home, too. About that time he wanted to move to Redmond then milk gravy with bread. even if they didn't have much. She'd save bacon grease and make Dad always brought people in and Mama did the work. They'd eat

garden. apricots, big patch rhubarb--she sold rhubarb. She always grew a big fruit from Vernon Oman who had a fruit farm--apples, peaches, Daddy had horses. He'd trade horses and things. Mama would get hand. "They didn't even offer me a drink of water."



Hilma Jeffs in first home in Castle Dale east of Bott's

So Dad took him in and showed a china dog on the shelf. That was the laugh of the town. Elmer would always put a spoonful of peanut butter in his mouth when he went to round up the sheep and it lasted till he got back. When Elmer found the air plane crash, something told him to go and check. He was on coffee break with bread and cheese. The voice said, "Go." He couldn't help himself. When he got to the Ranger he was so upset, Daddy said he couldn't hold a thing in his

## Funeral services held for Elmer Jeffs

Funeral services were held Saturday at 1 p.m. in the LDS Ward chapel for Elmer Jeffs 75, who died April 23 in the Price Hospital of natural causes. Bishop John Jorgensen conducted the services. Speakers were Bishop Jorgensen, President Glen Bott and Bishop Carlos Larsen. Prayers were offered by Stan Huntington, Geary Magnuson, family prayer by Lee Humphrey. Mrs. Margaret Magnuson sang a vocal solo "These Hands", and other musical numbers were furnished by the Ward Singing mothers. The reading of their opening song "Beyond The Sunset", was given by Mrs. Montell Seely. Their closing song "Home on the Range" was sung to guitar accompaniment by Derrell Lake and Wendell Bowman. Elmer, a retired farmer and sheepman was a life long resident of Castle Dale. He was born August 26, 1894, to James Arthur and Luchida Seely Jeffs. He married Hilma Anna Frandsen November 15, 1915 in Castle Dale. He is survived by his widow; two sons, Earl, Basalt, Colorado; Elmer, Tuscara, Nevada; One daughter Mrs. Joe (Arlene) Grant and a niece he and Hilma raised from infancy, Mrs. Galen (Ruth) Chits-Hansen, Mantli; six grandchildren; one brother, George, Castle Dale; two sisters Mrs. Alice Leavitt, Las Vegas, Nevada. Burial was in the Castle Dale City cemetery under the direction of Fausett Mortuary. The grave was dedicated by Monte II Seely. Paul bearers were J. J. Grant, Dale Jeffs, George Shiner, Dick Hampshire, Tom Reid and W. H. Maxfield.

When JJ got his first horse, Vick Price would take the horses to riding club and activities. JJ played Little League and was always all star. He was active in scouts and seldom missed church. One time JJ wouldn't go and I was upset. "If kids can go do what they're doing and go to scout camp why should I go?" he said. Carlos Larsen said, "Tell JJ that kids think they're getting away with it. The Lord knows."

On the day before JJ's graduation he was supposed to be in school. Arlene got a call from Principal Kinder, "Where your boy?" He was in the yard getting ready to go to the mountains. "Tell them get back up here. He had to go back.

Arlene and Joe ran the liquor store. She hated it. Joe had been working in the station with no work. Arlene didn't want to go. The day they were ready to open the liquor commission came down. Arlene wouldn't go. She told him why, she wanted no part of it. Joe came got her and told her to feel this was just another job so youth won't get it. Arlene did go and help out. Joe liked what he was selling more and more and causing problems.

Arlene was crying one day JJ asked why. She was worried to death and kids come to JJ and wanted - rather be live chicken than a dead duck.

Graduation parties at Barbara Barton and Kofford. Told what's going on school. Ballot ones who will who went. JJ and Christ Bott went. Night had Barbara Barton's place. Next morning Pearl called so proud of my boy. JJ picked up containers off lawn. JJ got Joe Fielder to come and sleep out.

Arlene never once had to look for JJ or Brent except one night with JJ. The water came down and flooded lawn so they moved to John Jensens. Arlene got up and had no idea where he was. Brent went Salt Lake got out to Summit called let know be late.

Elmer Jeffs, b 1894

7

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

Elmer Jeffs

1 Name in full: Elmer Jeffs (Print name) No. 6

2 Home address: Carthage Emergency Co. Utah (Print name) (City) (State) (Zip)

3 Date of birth: August 10th, 1894 (Month) (Day) (Year)

4 How long (1) a natural born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which): Natural born

5 Where born: Carthage Emergency Co. Utah (City) (State)

6 If not a citizen of this country are you a citizen or subject? No

7 What is your present trade, occupation, or other: Farmer

8 By whom employed: My mother

9 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 18, or a sister or brother under 18, solely dependent on you for support (specify which): Wife & child

10 Married or single (specify which): Married to: mrs. J. Carthage, Utah

11 What other parties have you had? None

12 Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds): No

REGISTRATION CARD

A 43-1-7 REGISTRAR'S REPORT

1 Full name, or short (specify which): M. Johnson

2 Color of eyes: Blue Color of hair: Brown Hair: No

3 Has person had eye, leg, hand, foot, or back operation, or is he otherwise disabled (specify): No

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read the contents, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

City or County: Carthage, Utah

State: Utah

Signature of Registrar: M. Johnson

Date of registration: June 5, 1917



from the office by post

Lucinda Seely—William Stewart Seely—Justus Azel Seelye  
**HILMA ANNA FRANSDEN JEFFS**  
 Chasty Seely—Orange Seely—J.W. Seely I—Justus Azel Seelye



Hilma and Elmer Jeffs, 1962

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Hilma Anna Frandsen, born April 14, 1895, is the daughter of Heber Frandsen and Chasty Seely.

Elmer and Hilma were married November 15, 1915. They are the parents of three boys, Elmer, Jr., Earl, and Morris; and two daughters, Arlene C. and Pearl. Pearl was the twin to Earl. However, she died a few hours after birth. Elmer and Hilma raised another girl, Ruth Magnusson, as their own daughter. Ruth was born to Charlie and Faye Magnusson. Ruth's mother, Faye, was Elmer's

sister. When Ruth was just nine months old, her mother died. Her father was unable to care for her, so she came into our family. There could never be a more precious daughter and sister. We all love her and are so thankful she is ours.

Daddy worked in the coal mines and herded sheep, going "under the ledge" in the fall and not coming home until spring. Hilma was left alone to care for her family, through much of her married life. In 1969 Daddy found an airplane that had gone down with four people aboard, up in Joe's Valley. All were dead and in terrible condition when he found them.

His health began to fail. He finally passed away from emphysema and black lung on April 22, 1970. Hilma took her endowments out in the Mantle Temple July 1, 1972, and she was sealed to Elmer and Morris at that time.

Mom was a worker right up to the end. She tended children, did house work, and helped anyone in need. Her health started to fail, and she was unable to be alone or to care for herself. She chose to go to Emery County Nursing Home, where she could get the care she needed. She passed away on January 14, 1982.

Elmer, Jr., was a veteran of World War II, serving in the US Army overseas.

Morris Heber was also a veteran of the US Navy, serving on the Battleship USS Mexico. Both Morris and Elmer are deceased.

Earl married Mae, but they had no children. During the War, Earl stayed at home to help the family. Later he moved to Colorado, where he now resides.

Arlene married Joseph Stanley Grant December 28, 1950, and she has lived in Castle Dale most of her life.

Ruth married Norman Dennis, who died in an automobile accident, leaving her with three children and a baby born several months after his death. She later married Galen Christiansen, and they had two children. They live in Mantle, Utah.

Hilma and Elmer have eight grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.



Back: Elmer Jeffs Jr., Ruth, Earl, Front: Arlene, Elmer Jeffs Sr., Hilma, J.J. Grant, 1961. Inset: Morris Jeffs



Elmer Jeffs at the sheep camp.

by Arlene C. Grant

# Memories of a Shepherd's Daughter

## Daughter

*Father and Mother, Elmer and Hilma  
Jeffs, written by Arlene C. Jeffs Grant  
Callahan in honor of her father May 20,  
2008 when she was 82 years old.*

I'm thankful for my family and my  
Father in Heaven for our Savior,  
Jesus Christ and for the gospel.

My favorite scripture: Isaiah 40: 10-

12 He shall feed his flock, like a

shepherd, he shall gather the lambs  
with his arms and carry them in his  
bosom and shall gently lead them  
that are with young

Some people go on vacations to the  
city, to Disneyland, parks and such  
but I went on a vacation I remember  
and loved it so much. I always had

a birthday party on July 20. And then happy day! On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July I woke up, looked out the window where I  
could see the mountains. Oh, they looked so high! Seemed like they almost touched the sky. Today I'd be up  
there, the 24<sup>th</sup> of July was our vacation time. We would go up to the sheep camp for a whole week with my  
Dad. We ate breakfast, did our packing, and we were ready to go--my mother, baby Ruth, Morris, and I.

We could hardly wait for Carl Seely to come. He was a special man and owned the sheep Daddy herded. He  
came, and Morris and I rode in the back of his truck. It was so fun and cool. Up to Huntington Canyon we  
went. Carl pulled off the road on this side of the Ranger Station to wait for my Dad to come. Soon here come  
my Dad and the camp mover. (He would go home for his vacation while we were up there with my Dad) He  
came leading two horses and a pack mule to take us and our things up to the sheep camp. There was no  
roads then just a trail through the pine and aspen trees. How pretty it was! Wild flowers growing here and  
there and sage brush and other bushes everywhere. Soon we came to the camp sight. Oh, look there's two  
tents--one already for Morris and me to sleep in and the other for us to eat and cook and for Mom, Ruth, and  
Dad to sleep.

Now I want to tell you about the tents. Each sheep camp had two men to  
take care of the sheep, a camp mover and cook and my Dad was the  
shepherd. Of course, they helped each other, when needed. The day  
they moved camp, the camp mover would take the tent down, load it and  
camp stove, water kegs, food boxes, bed springs and bedding, personal  
things loaded on pack mules, and horses with pack saddles were loaded just  
so. And soon they were ready to go to get the camp ready for the herder and  
whoever was helping move the sheep. When he got to the new camp site, he  
would find a good place to set up. Camp had to be away from trees because  
the mountain storms were bad at times and trees would fall. So they had to  
watch where and how they pitched the tent. He would dig a space just wide  
enough to pitch the tent pathway 10 feet wide 5 feet or more deep the tent  
covered and was pitched up strong. Sides of the pathway it was like 2  
shelves. Where the bed was on one and grub boxes and camp stove was on  
side shelf. Camp stove just inside the tent entrance, water kegs, unloaded  
horses and mules pack saddles removed. Horses hobbled and bell put on



*Elmer Jeffs at the sheep camp.*





He then had his coffee. He would put cheese, bread, and sugar in his coffee, eat it, and then was ready to go. The sheepherder and Laddie his dog were to the sheep bedding ground when the sheep started to move. Each day was a different place for sheep to graze. They had to move to different area so grass wasn't overgrazed. He then got the sheep settled and would come in for breakfast. At noon, Morris and I would go out with him. This is when he took the sheep to water. There was a black sheep for every hundred or more sheep. This is how they kept track of how many hundred of sheep was in their herd.

Daddy always had Laddie the dog with him when they were with the herd. If they started to stray or go near the lines, he would call, move his arms or whistle and the dog was in command. He would round them up and get them all together again. He would never leave his dog at camp when he came home. Laddie came, too. He loved and took care of his dog.

In evening Daddy and Laddie went alone and stayed with sheep until they were all to the bedding ground and settled down then back to the tent where Mother had supper all ready.

When we needed mutton meat, Daddy would butcher a sheep in the evening when it was cool. He always had a wash pan, soap and a towel on a log when he would take care of the meat. First the sheep was hung on a limb of a tree or a log like stick through the back legs then a pulley and rope attached. He would pull the rope and pull it on a tree limb just so he could work as he would take the wool and pelt off. He would wash his hands then work again. He said the reason he washed so often was so the meat wouldn't taste of wool. When all done and insides cleaned out, he would again pull the pulley and sheep was up high in the tree so no animals could get to it. Next morning before sun came up put in a meat sack and put in the bed. When it was taken out it was as cool as if it had been in a fridge then put back in covers. Every night and day they did the same way.



Sometimes coyotes would kill some of the sheep and word was sent to Perry Oveson in Castle Dale. He was a government trapper he would come and trap and put out bait to control them. This is how wild animals were controlled. We always had ice cream on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July. There was snow banks. Mother would make the custard. We would go get snow in a big bucket. Mother put custard in a lard bucket. With a handle then put bucket in huge bucket of snow. Then we would turn it round and back and forth until it was frozen. It was so good. Mother had made cookies too. We had sparklers to light on 24<sup>th</sup> night. It was a special day.

Sheep were always off the mountain at deer hunting time. Remember no roads, no cars, no roads just horses and mules to travel on. How tired the workers must have been! How happy they were to get back to good old Castle Dale!

The sheep were put in pastures for some time. Lambs were docked (tails cut off) and soon were on the way to the Big Desert where they wintered. It was a long ride and for the sheep to walk. How tired the workers must have been and the poor horses and mules! The camp drivers were ahead of the sheepherders and would have camp set up to feed the men and beds ready for sleep.

Morning came early, and again they were on the go. Daddy would leave home in November and wouldn't come back until March or April. We were so happy to see Daddy again. The sheep wintered under the ledge in the Big Desert. Grass and water was there but so far, far away. (I haven't been there.)



He got up to get ready to take care of his herd. He was alone. He was saddling his horse when his attention was drawn to an object up farther on the mountain. The sun was just coming up and was shining on something. He said he wondered what it was. It wasn't here last fall. He then went to go in camp wagon and something told him to go see what it was. He thought he was just imagining this but the feeling was stronger. He took care of his sheep, then he went on his horse to this object. As he got closer he could see it was an airplane. There had been news of some people from the Provo area lost for some time. He said he knew they couldn't be alive but what if they were.... so he rode up to the plane and could see four people, their heads were as big as bushel baskets and the odor was terrible. It made him sick. He was so upset and got on his horse and headed down the road to go to the Ranger Station to report this plane.

As he was loping along a car came. It was a man Daddy knew from Price. Daddy asked him to go to the Ranger Station and tell them to come. He had found an airplane. This man said, "Gosh, Elmer, I don't have time. I want to fish for a few hours before I go to work." Can you imagine someone wouldn't go for help? Daddy just got his horse on the lope and went himself. When he got at the Ranger Station he was so upset and sick to his stomach. They immediately got help, and he took them to the place. This was in Joe's Valley.

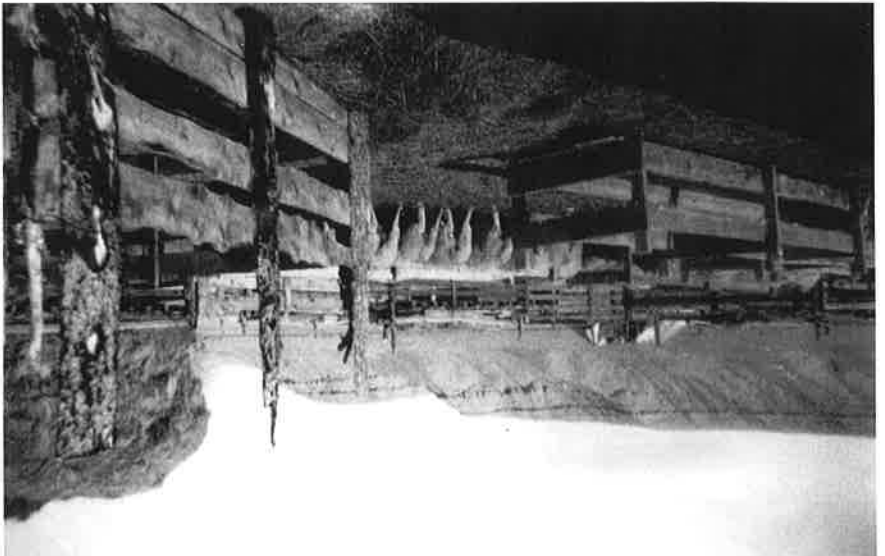
Daddy started to have many health problems. He came home, gave his dog to Lee Humphrey. He was then working for them. Then he never went back with the sheep. His herding days were over. He passed away on 22 April 1970. He worked in Coal mines was in a mine cave-in in National up in Castle Gate Area. He saw many changes in coal mines from horses and mules bringing out coal cars to motor run cars. But sheepherding was his love. He worked for sheep men from Carbon, Emery, Sanpete Counties. He was always with a job, but when he found this plane he couldn't go up to mountains again.

The first part of this sheepherder's daughter memories was up Huntington Canyon the part of shearing lambing and trailing the sheep was up Joe's Valley. I remember he worked for Donald Cox, Humphreys, Jesse Peacock, Carl Seely, Jorgensens, Hy Seely, Ray Jensen, Fillmores and I'm sure there was more sheep men here in the county plus Carbon and Sanpete County. Earl was chore boy for Carl Seely. His three sons also followed in his footsteps and worked in mines and with the sheep. Elmer and Earl worked mostly in Colorado. I'm thankful I was a sheepherder's daughter. I was ill and had to stay in bed much of my years from 11 years old to 20. I couldn't wait until my Dad would come home to tell me about his sheepherding days. Carl and Cora Seely was a great example to me in my life. I washed bottles for canning fruit for her, and Mom would help prepare and bottle fruit as I said before.

These memories cover many years, people, and places. There's very few sheep men--cows seem to have taken over now.

In 1950 I married Joe Grant. We had 2 boys. J.J. born on September 14, 1952. Brent born July 1, 1961. How thankful we were to have them!

We visited Grandpa at his sheep camp many, many times throughout the years. I can see them yet. J.J. on a horse alone, Brent riding in saddle in front of Grandpa going around the sheep. They loved Grandpa and Grandma and Daddy's dog Laddie.



As he was loping along a car came. It was a man Daddy knew from Price. Daddy asked him to go to the Ranger Station and tell them to come. He had found an airplane. This man said, "Gosh, Elmer, I don't have time. I want to fish for a few hours before I go to work." Can you imagine someone wouldn't go for help? Daddy just got his horse on the lope and went himself. When he got at the Ranger Station he was so upset and sick to his stomach. They immediately got help, and he took them to the place. This was in Joe's Valley.

**ELMER JEFFS**  
Born 26 August 1894  
Died 22 April 1970

Grampa's nicknames for his kids: Arlene-Minnie, Ruth-Cotie, Morris-Borrey, Earl-Nuttal, Elmer-John, Hilma because she had long pretty hair and had it cut so she was Bobbie from then on.

### Story about Elmer Jeffs

by Stephen Grant, 8th grade San Rafael  
Jr. High School  
1989

My great-grandpa was a very patient, quiet man. My dad told me that when he was little he used to make pin darts and throw at flowers on the wallpaper. One time great-grampa walked in as my dad threw a dart, the dart nailed him right smack in the nose. Great-grandpa didn't even say a word, he just pulled the dart out, gave it back to my dad, and walked out.

He was born in Castle Dale, August 25, 1895. He was a brown eyed, brown haired man of about 5'8". He was cheerful, quiet, patient, and a hard worker.

In 1969 two couples went for a ride in a plane one afternoon. They had said that they were just going to fly across the desert, but never came back. My great-grandpa remarked, "Some poor old shepherd will find it on the mountain."

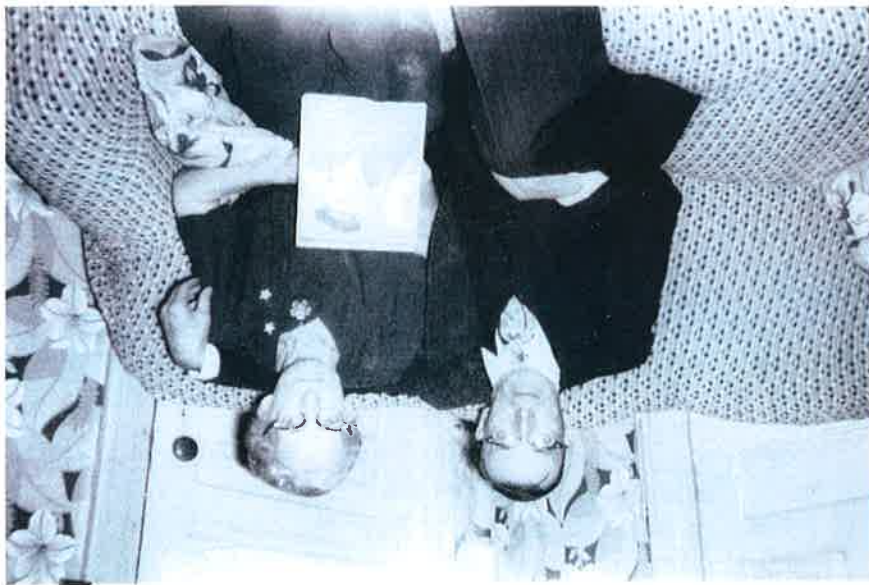
He was herding his sheep up at Kofford Creek in Olsen Canyon when he spied the sun reflecting off an object. He wondered what it was. After two days his curiosity got the better of him. He got on his horse, Old Paint, and started off towards the object. As he got closer, he noticed it was a plane. When he got within about 100 feet, Old Paint refused to go an nearer because of the sickening stench.

He got off Old Paint and walked up to the plane. He looked in the passenger's window and caught a glimpse of the pilot's wife. Her head was blown up like a balloon with patches of hair here and there. He ran over to a nearby tree, the grotesque sight getting the better of him and threw up. He ran back down, got on Old Paint and rode back to camp. He took off in his truck to go get help.

When he heard the switch backs, he met up with two guys going fishing. He asked them to go for help because he was very sick, but they told him, "No," that they were going fishing. So he continued on down. When he reached the ranger's station, he informed the rangers. Then they notified the police.

When the police arrived, they got the job of putting the four dead people in body bags. First, they had to cut their seatbelts off. Then they pulled the bodies out with extreme difficulty. When they pulled on the arms they fell off resulting in a stream of maggots dropping everywhere. Then they floated the bags down the Seely river to get them to the ambulance which couldn't make it to the sight.

Grampa was never was quite the same after his encounter, and on April 22, 1970 of the next year he died of emphysema.

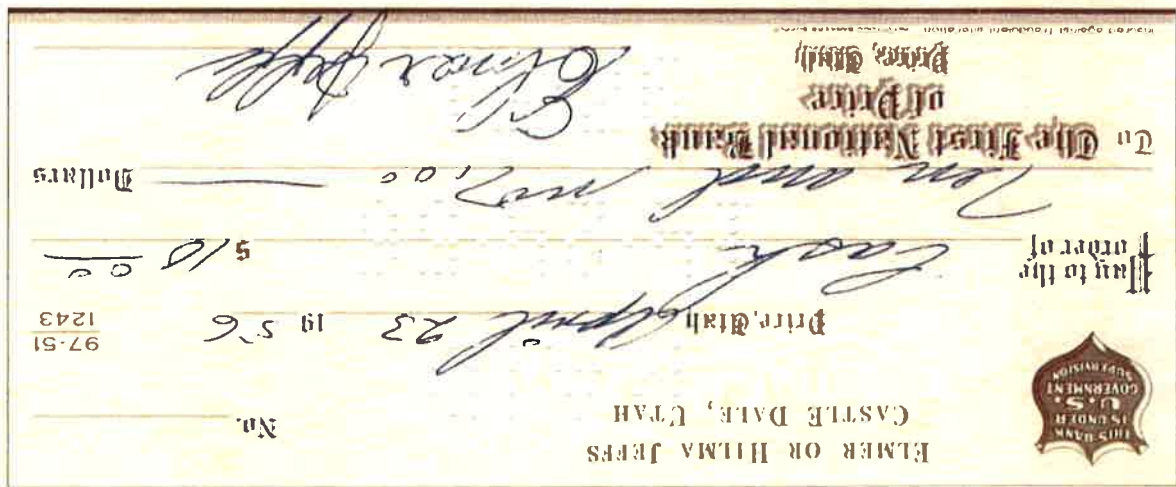


Elmer was such a kind nice man. I really enjoyed him all the time. He didn't have any major faults. He was a real good guy. I'd go down to get him from home. The first thing Hilma done was pour a cup of coffee. I'd

lamb and a half to every ewe. That was the best I ever done. on time. It makes it miserable. Elmer and me, we took one year 155% up and got back 155%. That means a get up there when I said to bring groceries. I'd herded sheep and been left alone and the guys never come up the sheep." So that's what we done. I don't believe he ever got too mad at me. I respected him and tried to it together on the floor and pick the camp up and cook some supper. We'll have an early supper, and I'll bring all the dishes was dirty and them guys had went home. We didn't get no dinner that day. Elmer said, "Just put When we got back why they'd had a dripper cake and all the biscuits was eat and all the meat was gone and to the sheep, and I didn't get back until Elmer come up. We was there at the bottom of the white dugway. Elmer was with the sheep. Vick's family come up there and Elmer made the biscuits. Then I had to go down We came down the last of September. Elmer was the main guy herding them in the canyon. One time me and would split and go down on the bench when we was up on the skyline. We had coyote problems every year. He'd just say, "We'd get the damn things (sheep) together one of these days." It'd snow and then the sheep. It was a pleasure to work with Elmer. He never got too excited about things when they went a little bit wrong.

one. We had to watch for coyotes--them and the environmentalists, they all ought to be shot. out any. Elmer brought ever sheep down for every sheep taken up for two or three years. He didn't lose a He bought some from my brother Tom when he was in the business. We had to count blacks if we felt we was directions. Some of them would want to come home. There for a few years we had Vick Price's with them. we were missing 40 to 50 sheep unless you had a black one that was real mean to drift off in different of them. The black lambs would vary from year to year. We'd count them ever month. If we were a black one for. We'd count the blacks quite often. Elmer herded 800 to 1100 sheep. We'd count the blacks to keep track narrow range to ride, but the things would get down on the side hill. By that time he knew which ones to look sheep won't stay together, they want to scatter. You got to watch for sheep leaving the herd. We had quite a you have to be out with them most of the time. Then you get out and it rains on you and the wind blows. The away from the heat and relaxing. You weren't so busy through July and half of August but then from then on go up and rest him for a week in the summer. It was not boring herding sheep. I enjoyed going up and getting

I'd generally  
September.  
end of  
June till the  
generally in  
sheep  
go up with the  
Elmer would  
1994).  
you (spring  
that I gave  
was the rifle  
his kids. That  
it, I'd give it to  
I got done with  
told him when



One time he went down to the pool hall, and there was only 15, 16 punches left on the (lotto) board. So he bought the board, and he won the 22 rifle. That's how he got it, and he only charged me a mutton for it. So I His car wouldn't run one time. He had his truck up at the camp most of the time. It had a plugged gas filter. He got Joe to come up and fix it. I let him take mine; he enjoyed it.

Tuttle. She liked to see the lambs play. She come out there for dinner. Elmer come in, and he lit a cigarette and she had heart trouble. Phyllis said he couldn't smoke in there with her. And I think that hurt his feelings.



Elmer, my brother, was on his way home on the train. Mother went

to Grampa's house. He had a cowboy \_\_\_\_\_ made a bride and got a saddle. Christmas morning we had him walk Elmer came home Christmas and brought a horse for J.J. Daddy

were divorced.

and took us out to dinner. He married but it didn't last long. They to visit Elmer. He was proud of sheep and his camp. He rode horses and spent a week with Ruth when she was little. Earl took Arlene out on vacations. He made Colorado his home. Mother and Dad visited He would always call and send Mama money. He only came home was hard on him. But he grew up and took up smoking and drinking. He helped with the sheep and it broke Mama's heart and it was awful hard when he left. It horses and could ride any of them. He helped with the sheep and Meeker, Colorado, when he was 14 years old. He was good with Elmer, my brother, went to Colorado to herd for Carl H. Seely at

paper boys, they put it on the porch and on time. Fred Larsen always gave a tip of \$.50. He said they were such good we'd get a bonus of \$.50. We were always on time with the papers. We all worked the paper route. Every time we got a new subscription pay. He was herding sheep for Karl Seely. Morris had a paper route. \$10-15 a month. If Mama didn't have the money Earl would help they got the Sam Zwalhen home for \$1400. They paid \$40 taxes and home, too. About that time he wanted to move to Redmond then Dad lost his herd of sheep in the depression 1936. They lost their

milk gravy with bread.

even if they didn't have much. She'd save bacon grease and make Dad always brought people in and Mama did the work. They'd eat

garden.

apricots, big patch rhubarb--she sold rhubarb. She always grew a big fruit from Vernon Oman who had a fruit farm--apples, peaches, Daddy had horses. He'd trade horses and things. Mama would get

hand. "They didn't even offer me a drink of water."



Hilma Jeffs in first home in Castle Dale east of Bott's

So Dad took him in and showed a china dog on the shelf. That was the laugh of the town. Elmer would always put a spoonful of peanut butter in his mouth when he went to round up the sheep and it lasted till he got back. When Elmer found the air plane crash, something told him to go and check. He was on coffee and bread with bread and cheese. The voice said, "Go." He couldn't help himself. When he got to the Ranger he was so upset, Daddy said he couldn't hold a thing in his

## Funeral services held for Elmer Jeffs

Funeral services were held Saturday at 1 p.m. in the LDS Ward chapel for Elmer Jeffs 75, who died April 23 in the Price Hospital of natural causes. Bishop John Jorgensen conducted the services. Speakers were Bishop Jorgensen, President Glen Bott and Bishop Carlos Larsen. Prayers were offered by Stan Huntington, Geary Magnuson, family prayer by Lee Humphrey. Mrs. Margaret Magnuson sang a vocal solo "These Hands", and other musical numbers were furnished by the Ward Singing mothers. The reading of their opening song "Beyond The Sunset" was given by Mrs. Monteil Seely. Their closing song "Home on the Range" was sung to guitar accompaniment by Derrell Lake and Wendell Bowman. Elmer, a retired farmer and sheepman was a life long resident of Castle Dale. He was born August 26, 1894, to James Arthur and Lucinda Seely Jeffs. He married Hilma Anna Frandsen November 15, 1915 in Castle Dale. He is survived by his widow, two sons, Earl, Basal, Colorado; Elmer, Tuscarora, Nevada; One daughter Mrs. Joe (Arlene) Grant and a niece he and Hilma raised from infancy, Mrs. Galen (Ruth) Christiansen, Mantli; six grandchildren; one brother, George, Castle Dale; two sisters Mrs. Alice Leavitt, Las Vegas, Nevada. Burtal was in the Castle Dale City cemetery under the direction of Fausett Mortuary. The grave was dedicated by Monteil Seely. Paul bearers were J. J. Grant, Dale Jeffs, George Shiner, Dick Hampshire, Tom Reid and W. H. Maxfield.

When JJ got his first horse, Vick Price would take the horses to riding club and activities. JJ played Little League and was always all star. He was active in scouts and seldom missed church. One time JJ wouldn't go and I was upset. "If kids can go do what they're doing and go to scout camp why should I go?" he said. Carlos Larsen said, "Tell JJ that kids think they're getting away with it. The Lord knows."

On the day before JJ's graduation he was supposed to be in school. Arlene got a call from Principal Kinder, "Where your boy?" He was in the yard getting ready to go to the mountains. "Tell them get back up here. He had to go back.

Arlene and Joe ran the liquor store. She hated it. Joe had been working in the station with no work. Arlene didn't want to go. The day they were ready to open the liquor commission came down. Arlene wouldn't go. She told him why, she wanted no part of it. Joe came got her and told her to feel this was just another job so youth won't get it. Arlene did go and help out. Joe liked what he was selling more and more and causing problems.

Arlene was crying one day JJ asked why. She was worried to death and kids come to JJ and wanted \_\_\_\_\_ - rather be live chicken than a dead duck.

Graduation parties at Barbara Barton and Kofford. Told what's going on school. Ballot ones who will who went. JJ and Christ Bott went. Night had Barbara Barton's place. Next morning Pearl called so proud of my boy. JJ picked up containers off lawn. JJ got Joe Fielder to come and sleep out.

Arlene never once had to look for JJ or Brent except one night with JJ. The water came down and flooded lawn so they moved to John Jensens. Arlene got up and had no idea where he was. Brent went Salt Lake got out to Summit called let know be late.

386 REGISTRATION CARD

No. 6

A 43-1-7 REGISTRAR'S REPORT

1	Name in full <i>Elmer Jeffs</i>	Age in yrs. <i>22</i>
2	Address <i>Cartersdale Energy Co. Utah</i>	City or County <i>Utah</i>
3	Date of birth <i>August 26th 1894</i>	Sex <i>Male</i>
4	Are you (1) a natural born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <i>Natural born</i>	Where born <i>Cartersdale Energy Co. Utah</i>
5	Do you own (1) a motor vehicle, (2) a motorcycle, (3) an auto, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <i>None</i>	Where employed <i>Cartersdale, Utah</i>
6	Do you own (1) a motor vehicle, (2) a motorcycle, (3) an auto, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <i>None</i>	Where employed <i>Cartersdale, Utah</i>
7	Do you own (1) a motor vehicle, (2) a motorcycle, (3) an auto, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <i>None</i>	Where employed <i>Cartersdale, Utah</i>
8	Do you own (1) a motor vehicle, (2) a motorcycle, (3) an auto, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <i>None</i>	Where employed <i>Cartersdale, Utah</i>
9	Do you own (1) a motor vehicle, (2) a motorcycle, (3) an auto, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <i>None</i>	Where employed <i>Cartersdale, Utah</i>
10	Do you own (1) a motor vehicle, (2) a motorcycle, (3) an auto, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <i>None</i>	Where employed <i>Cartersdale, Utah</i>
11	Do you own (1) a motor vehicle, (2) a motorcycle, (3) an auto, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <i>None</i>	Where employed <i>Cartersdale, Utah</i>
12	Do you own (1) a motor vehicle, (2) a motorcycle, (3) an auto, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <i>None</i>	Where employed <i>Cartersdale, Utah</i>

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

*None*

*Elmer Jeffs*  
Signature of registrant

*Utah*  
State

*Cartersdale*  
City or County

*June 5-1917*  
Date of registration