

Oral History of
Glenn Sebring

Collected by
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INTRODUCTION: I interviewed Glenn Hatton Sebring. His birthday is February 5, 1950. He was born in Los Angeles California. He is presently living in Huntington, Utah. He was interviewed on April 30th, in his home.

Monica: What is your full name and why was you named that?

Glenn: My full name is Glenn Hatton Sebring, it's pretty easy to determine why I have the last name of Sebring because that is the name of my father, or surname. Hatton my middle name, which is a custom in my family was my Mothers Maiden name. Therefore it ties me with both lines if geneology is of interest to you. Glenn I don't know where that came from other than my mother had a boyfriend named Glenn once, and I don't know if she just liked the name or, but its spelled with two n's which is an alternate spelling of the common name.

Monica: Did you have a nickname as you were growing up?

Glenn: Very much so ,As growing up my nickname was "Bud" or "Buddy" around home, when I was in elementary school, and in those days elementary went through the eighth grade. I enjoyed participating in sports and I was on the track team and I was the third runner on the relay team so they gave me the nick name of "Sea Biscuit" and if you are old enough to remember that was the name of a race horse, all four of us had names that cominated to

race horses and that was my nickname.

Monica: Where were you born and when?

Glenn: I was born in Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, Calif. on February 5, 1950.

Monica: Do you remember hearing your grandparents describe their lives?

Glenn: My mother was quite into geneology, matter of fact My grandmother, my maternal grandmother was widowed and I barely remember my grandfather on that side. After she was widowed she came to live near us, not with us but in a house near by, and I had opportunity to talk and visit with her and get to know a little bit about her. She was taking care of her mother at that time so we got to know them, so that would be my Great Grandmother on my maternal side. My maternal grandfather passed away when I was 3 or 4 years old and I have vague memories of him. My grandmother and grandfather on my fathers side they were divorced many, many years ago when my father was a young man, I come to meet my grandfather after I had been, was a teenager late teen years , got to meet him. but my grandmother I knew quite well and know a lot of their history.

Monica: Who was the oldest person you remember in your family as a

child?

Glenn: The oldest person I can remember as a child My Great Grandmother on my mothers side, Emily Jane Rogers was her name.

Monica: What would you consider to be the most important inventions that have been made during your lifetime?

Glenn: mmmm, most important invention, maybe the TV remote, I don't think the most important invention has been made yet, but I would almost think it would end up being the IC Chip or Silicone Rectifier that which runs and operates computers and makes our lives so much more organized.

Monica: How is the world now different from what it was like when you were a child?

Glenn: a, a little more fast paced, I think the world was a little more simpler, I don't think we were so bombarded with so many evil influences, when I grew up the bad guys were the guys who went out and got drunk, now drugs on in the scene, a lot more promiscuous activities, I think it is different with the world becoming more worldly.

Monica: What were your favorite childhood games?

Glenn: I was always into sports, I played baseball through high school, and basketball, played football, i enjoy competitive type sports, not for the

competition but for the fun.

Monica: What were your schools like?

Glenn: the first school I can remember was Pagago, named after Indian Tribe, I went from Kindergarten to the eighth grade there, I have some fond memories of some teachers and activities there. I went to North Phoenix High School, spent four years there, spent two years at Phoenix College then I went to ASU for two years and finished up my degree and started on my Masters then I decided I had better get out and made a living.

Monica: How did you get to school?

Glenn: Since I lived in Arizona, I guess you won't believe I walked up hill in the snow. I walked to school, my mother was a school teacher in another district and had to be there early, I walked, it was about 6 blocks and walked home every day, in elementary. In high school we went to early morning seminary at 6:30-7:30 and we had a car pool. then we walked to the high school, home we could ride buses, buy tickets or have friends bring you home.

Monica: What was your favorite subject in school?

Glenn: ha, ha P.E., Lunch. I think my favorite subject has always been

math, math to me is a game and I enjoy figuring things out.

Monica: What subject was the easiest for you?

Glenn: P.E., I always got good grades in there. Math was easy, I didn't do bad in english, I didn't enjoy english but got good grades.

Monica: Who was your favorite teacher and why were they special?

Glenn: Favorite teacher, 8th grade, Mr. Perry. Mr. Perry treated us like adults and kids at the same time. Mr. Perry was a kind person and after lunch he would take 15 to 20 minutes to read to us, he would read a novel to us he developed in me an interest in reading.

Monica: Did you and your friends have a special hang-out where you like to spend time? Where was it and what did you do there?

Glenn: A special hang-out, I think you must be talking about in high school and yes we did, we had a close group of friends, we went to a high school that was not all mormon. There was one girl whose parents were kinda fun to be around and we would hang out at her house, play cards, puzzles, movies. also the church gym, we spent our summer evenings in the church gym playing basketball, sometimes adults would play with us and we would play until midnight and then go get a rootbeer, my daughter now is wondering how she can do this, but we would always be with our scout

leader. also the institute building when I went to college. we would hang out there most of the day.

Monica: How many years of education have you completed?

Glenn: Life is an education, and I am still working on it, but formal education I have had 8 years elementary, 4 years high school, 4 years of college and received my BA and was working on my Masters.

Monica: What was your field of study?

Glenn: In college I took general ed, then when I came back from my mission, I was into secondary education and went into Spanish and taught Spanish at Lake Havasu, Ariz.

Monica: Did you get good grades:

Glenn: I was an average student, a lot of times, you see those kids that are real brainy and was real smart, real good with machines, and on paper but can't get along with people, grades for me, I got B and C and once in a while an A, When I went to college, I got A in spanish.

Monica: Did you like School?

Glenn: school for experience, does a kid really like school, I liked my friends , the associations, I didn't like homework, but I wasn't an excellent student.

Monica: What type of sports did you participate in?

Glenn: I talked a little bit about that, I guess the sports, basketball, baseball, football, but one sport that grew a lot of attention to me, is Mens Volleyball, I played on the YMCA teams. This is a sport you can play for many, many years, a fascinating sport to me.

Monica: Do you remember someone saying something to you that had a big impact on how you lived your life?

Glenn: There is a couple of things that have been said to me that have put me down the right path and I have tried to pass a few of those things on.

Don't take life too serious, we all have our ups and downs. My other said one thing to me, it was when I was coming to Utah she said that her father gave her a piece of advice once, it was keep your mouth shut and your bowels open.

Monica: How would you describe yourself politically?

Glenn: Politically, I am very conservative, politically I don't want to be involved politically I see very little opportunity to change. I think our government is nothing more than a box of worms, all tangled together, I see that little can be do until things get extremely worse for us. anyone who

wants to stand on a bobwire fence and have people throw rocks at them and try to catch those rocks, ought to be a politician.

Monica: What wars have been fought during your lifetime? How did you feel about them?

Glenn: Of course WW2 was over, the Korean was in the the late fifties and I was a child and didn't know what was going on, I guess the two wars that come to mind are the Vietnam war, which I was old enough and eligible to go to but I went on a mission and when I came back the war was about over and the draft was ending. The Desert Storm, two different wars, Vietnam War, there was no plan of attack, we were on the defensive we had no goal no sense of winning and we never did win, because we had no clear cut objectives, someone once said, under the Kennedy-Johnson Administration that he just wished once that he didn't have so many Harvard Professors on his cabinet maybe a couple of guys that knew what they were doing. Desert Storm, opposite story, different administration, republican versus democrat, their philosophy was they were going to get in and get out which should be the objectives to any administration.

Monica: How tall are you?

Glenn: I go all way to the top of my head to the bottom of my feet. About 5

ft 11 inches.

Monica: What color was your hair as a young child and then as an adult?

Glenn: mmmm, it hasn't changed much it has been brown most of my life, a few grays ones now.

Monica: What color are your eyes?

Glenn: Brown,

Monica: Where have you lived as an adult?

Glenn: I went to college and lived in Phoenix, then I went on a mission to Argentina and lived there for two years, came back and lived in Phoenix and lived there for two years, I got married and we moved to Lake Havasu Arizona, we stayed there for about one year and then we moved to Huntington, where we have lived since. Since 1976.

Monica: Why are you living where you are today?

Glenn: A couple of things, Huntington isn't a pretty place to live but it has some pretty people. Because #1, I found employment here and can support my family, #2, I enjoy the small town atmosphere, I know the police, the teachers at school, kids are a lot more secure here, I feel some safety and secure here.

Monica: Do you wish you lived somewhere else(if so, where would it be)

Glenn: I don't wish I lived anywhere else now, I do wish I lived somewhere else in the future. When I am finishing work and retire, I wouldn't mind living in a small town maybe where the climate wasn't as cold as it is here. Maybe in southern Utah and Northern Utah.

Monica: Have you ever been in a serious accident?

Glenn: I have been very fortunate, I can't think of any serious car accidents, I have had some stitiches but nothing taken out but nothing serious.

Monica: Have you every saved anyone else's life? Describe.

Glenn: I wished I could say that I have done that many times, I did have an incident that I can think of, probably in my early 20s I was mowing the back grass, we had a swimming pool, my niece who was just learning how to walk she and her mother had come over to visit, they were talking and the baby was in the swimming pool going down to the bottom I dove in and pulled her to the top, I wish I could say I had done other things but I guess that is all.

Monica: What church, if any, do you attend regularly?

Glenn: I am a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints I reside in the Huntington Third Ward and I attend all the time.

Monica: Describe your religious beliefs.

Glenn: I believe there is a God, that there was a plan prior to this existence on earth, part of this plan is that we come down to earth get a body that Christ, God son, came to earth, helped us in this process to return to our Heavenly Home by doing something that is very difficult to understand and is called the Atonment and I believe as human beings, if we live worthy and do those things that we should do in this life, that we will unite together as family members after this life.

Monica: Would you consider yourself creative?

Glenn: I create lots of messes, No, I consider myself quite boring. I enjoy writing poetry and I enjoy working in the yard, I hope I have created a wholesome healthy homelife for us.

Monica: How would you describe your sense of humor?

Glenn: very dull sense of humor, I tried to be funny and it always backfires and I end up being the brunt of the joke , I have a long time enjoyed the associations of people.

Monica: What is the funniest practical joke you ever played on anyone?

Glenn: To put you in the scene, in the insitutes all college age kids, back

from my mission, they had a gal ask guy dance at the institute . I didn't have a date, wasn't really excited about going, this gal didn't have a date, she was really out going, she wasn't a handsome child, she was a little overweight but had a sweet spirit, anyway in front of a bunch of people she ask me to go to the dance with her, I said yes, the joke was not on her as she knew what was going on, I went to the institute and she was there and we kinda staged it in front of a bunch of people I told her I couldn't go to the dance with her because my Dad wanted me to go Deer hunting with him that weekend which of course wasn't true and she and I had talked about this before and we went ahead with our day, and she became sadder and sadder and she was bawling that night, the next day which was Friday and I didn't go to school, I went to work she went to the institute and spent all day bawling and they were going to kill me, they were going to beat me up, they were trying to get her a date, and she wouldn't accept any date, and she was just playing it up and then at the dance we showed up about halftime, we went out to eat and then went to the dance. we had fun making the people think she was sad and I wasn't going to take her to the dance.

Monica: What activities have you especially enjoyed as an adult:

Glenn: There has been many activites I have enjoyed, the two activities I have enjoyed the most , I have enjoyed immensely having the opportunity to

live my youth again through my children though they dating, activities, going places with them. I have enjoyed the relationship I have with my wife being with her, her counsel she gives me, I have also enjoyed the challenge of creating a business from an idea to now that supports 6-7 families.

Monica: What did you usually wear to school?

Glenn: In those days you wore levis and you had two pair, the dirty pair and a clean pair, in high school we all wore plaid.

Monica: How did you meet the person that you would later marry?

Glenn: oh here we go again, this is the fun part . We were going to college and going to institute and one program we had was on Monday night we had family home evening for college age kids that we would go to . I went to one gals house one night, I came in late, sat in the back of the room, I happened to sit by my wife to be and got to know her, she had just moved down from Utah where she had just graduated from nursing school and was working at the hospital

Monica: Do you remember where you went on your first date?

Glenn: No, No, but I am sure it was to the movies or to dinner.

Monica: How long did you know her before you got married?

Glenn: Well, this was in the summer time, towards the end of the summer and we got married in June of the following year.

Monica: Describe your proposal.

Glenn: I really don't remember a whole lot of those years, I remember she lived in an apt with another nurse and doctor, all females, of course, I was over there one night, I had made the decision to ask her that night, I had bought a ring, had it in a little case in my coat pocket, I had my coat off draped over the couch, I told her I had a surprise for her in my coat and she had to go get it and she went and got it and it was the ring which she accepted.

Monica: When and Where did you get married?

Glenn: We got married Manti , Utah in the LDS Temple and it was June 10, 1975.

Monica: What wise advice would you give to a grandchild on their wedding day?

Glenn: As old as I will be when I have a grandchild, i would say do things which would make you happy, stay close to the Lord.

Monica: Do you remember anything that your children did when they were

small that really amazed you?

Glenn: That sounds like a question for a mother, the reason I say that is fathers are cheated out in a lot of things the children do because fathers are at work and mothers stay home with their children but as small children they amazed me everyday with what they learned.

Monica: What was the funniest thing you can remember that one of your children said or did?

Glenn: Kids had some funny things they used to say Brad always used to say when he wanted to go to bed was "turn the dark on" which meant turn off the lights. Monica used to say "my mom says no" whenever she didn't want to do something it was always "My mom says no" David was really funny he wanted to cut the grass when he was a little boy, if anyone went out to cut the grass, he got mad he throw a fit if they got around his lawn mower or pushed his lawn mower. Nikki funniest thing about Nikki doesn't like her name Nicole, when you want to tease Nikki just call her Nicole.

Monica: As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

Glenn: At one point in time I figured, I had spent 12 years on one side of the desk and I had seen many teachers and I could figure out how to be a teacher. I wanted to be successful, I didn't want to grow up and have to depend on

anyone to supply me with the things I needed.

Monica: What was your first Job?

Glenn: how far back to you want to go, as a kid I used to deliver papers, and cut the grass, I really enjoyed that. My first job, I had three jobs when I was in high school. I was 16 and worked in a piano and organ store it was my job to pick up organs and pianos that needed to be repaired or to deliver pianos the bad thing was in Phoenix was where organs was kept, I it was Catholic Churchs and 2 it was bars so at 16 I had to go into bars and pick up organs. Another job I had was one summer I worked at a dry cleaners in Arizona and that is the only place I have been that when you walked in the back and everyone was in their bathing suits, you can imagine when it was 110 degrees outside and the steaming cleaners inside. I was the delivery driver so I didn't stay inside much. I worked in a welding job the last years in college where I would go in a clean up the metal and paint it so they could deliver it the next day. We made a lot of little carts, like you see at hardware stores where you put lumber on, we made thousands of those.

Monica: How did you decide on your career?

Glenn: Well, the career I have now, I was working for American Coal Co. and got Fired, I was purchasing agent. There was a new company taking

over and they brought in their own people, so I was fired there I felt like I knew what went on inside of mines, after that I went to work for a bearing house in Price and learned about all the other businesses out there involved in selling and then I got involved with my own business .

Monica: Do you make enough money to live comfortably?

Glenn: That is interesting I am sure compared to some people we are on the poverty level and to other people we have lots of money . I hope I am making enough to support my family that they can live comfortably but not so wealthy that they don't learn the value of work.

Monica: How long do you have to work each day at your Job?

Glenn: When you are setting up you job becomes your life, normally I am there between 4:30 - 5:00 there are some days, I am on the road and don't get home for a couple of days. There are times I get called at 2:00 am and have to deliver parts to the mine. I have to take care of the customer of someone else will.

Monica: What are your hobbies?

Glenn: Working in the yard, puttering, I really enjoy that , Watching and following my children in their activities.

Monica: What do you like to do when you are not working?

Glenn: My wife says watch TV, Sports on TV I like to putter in the yard.

Monica: Have you ever met any famous people?

Glenn: What do you consider famous, John Wayne came to town and stayed with us for a few days, he came to visit a coal mine and we did a few things for him. The other people that I would be more impressed with are general authorities .

Monica: What organizations and groups have you belonged to?

Glenn: I am not a groupie, I have belonged to the Huntington Lions Club for 10-15 years, mainly with the church where I spent the most time.

Monica: What is the most beautiful place you have ever visited and what was it like?

Glenn: I have been to Hawaii with your mom, been to Alaska, the beauties of them, I have been to Argentina some of the most beautiful countryside, the most beautiful place I have been is referred to the garden place in Israel, the beauty there is not what the world would say was beauty but the beauty of serenity, beauty of hope majesty, of the second coming. Northern Israel is extremely beautiful

Monica: What is the longest trip that you have ever gone on? Where did you go?

Glenn: The Israel trip is probably is the longest, we also took a trip a few years to Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse, with the children and that took a lot more driving.

Monica: What has been your favorite vacation?

Glenn: I would have to say going to Israel.

Monica: What pet have you had?

Glenn: I have not had many pets, there has been dogs, my brother got into snakes, but I never have had pets.

Monica: Is there anything you have always wanted to do, but haven't?

Glenn: many things, I wanted to do, it is not that I haven't yet, I want to take a chruuch history tour, I would like to go to Mexico I would like to go on a cruse, I want to go on a mission with my wife, I would like to have the opportunity to see my children raised.

Monica: What is your favorite TV program?

Glenn: I am sure any sports that I can see, but something I would stop and try to watch I like Home Improvement.

Monica: What is your favorite Movie?

Glenn: Growing up I liked the movie Sargarent York. right now there is so much violence is I like Sister Act, Sister Act 2

Monica: What is your favorite sport?

Glenn: to play or to watch, I like a good volleyball game.

Monica: What is your favorite season?

Glenn: I am not a winter person, I like fall, I like the colors.
I like spring also.

Monica: What is your favorite Holiday?

Glenn: I like Thanksgiving, that is the time families are together.

Monica: What is your favorite board game.

Glenn: I don't have patience for board games.

Monica: What is your favorite card game.

Glenn: I like to play hearts.

Monica: What is your favorite Flavor of ice cream?

Glenn: mmm I don't know if I have a favorite, I like it all

:thats all folks!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!