James Hoyle Jr.



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Mrs. Smith

For my ancestor report I chose to write about my Great Grandpa Hoyle. My great grandpa is James Hoyle Jr. He is my mom's grandpa.

James Hoyle Jr. was born on May 22, 1920 in Perth, Australia. He spent his early childhood in Perth Australia. His immediate family joined the church of Jesus Christ Of Latter Day Saints. His family was disowned by their families for joining the church. So his family decided to leave Australia to come to America. They arrived in America during the Depression, approximately about 1930. When they arrived in America they had no home. A missionary that converted them let them come live with them in Glenwood, Utah. They lived with them for about two months.

James grew up in Glenwood, Utah. He went to two years of college before Pearl Harbor happened. He was thinking about serving a LDS mission before the war started. James was drafted to war. He completed his basic training then he was selected for Officer's Candidate School. When he graduated from Officer's Candidate School he came back home. He met his wife, Wanna Hansen. They got married on September 22, 1942 in the Manti Temple. The next morning he went off to Camp Roberts.

James' first son, Terry was born in 1943. James was not there because he was in the services. James' second son, Rickey was born. Rickey was only a couple months old when James went to the Korean War. James was a part of the #2 13th Field Artillery Battalion. He was honored for his courageous service as a Captain, receiving the Bronze Star Award.

He came back from the Korean War and started his own insurance company in Cedar City, Utah. His wife then had two more kids (Shelley and Doug). James had open heart surgery in the early eighties. He learned that his family had a hereditary heart issues. He lost his first son, Terry in 1989 from a heart attack. A few years later (1993) James lost his wife (Wanna).

James was a member of the President's Club with State Farm Insurance. He was on the Board of Directors of State Bank of Southern Utah and was on the Institutional Council for Southern Utah State College. James was President of the Kiwanis Club and Chamber of Commerce of Cedar City, Utah. James was very involved in the community and loved attending the University sporting events. Later in his life he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. This forced James to retire from his insurance business. He worked for State Farm Insurance for 6 I years. He passed away on July 8, 2004 at the age of 84 in Cedar City, Utah.

I really enjoyed learning about my great grandpa. He was a very hard worker, he worked very hard on building a successful life. It was really neat to learn about the hardships he faced in his life. He was a courageous man. I have a greater compassion and love for James because I have a better understanding of the challenges he faced through out his life.