

LYN PRESTWICH

FORWARD This account of my life is written in 1997, my sixty sixth (66) year of life. It is an abridgment and addition to a history written in 1981.

BIRTH I was born December 1, 1931. At that time my family lived in Woodrow, Utah, an unincorporated farming area about 14 miles west of Delta, Utah. Due to the crowded conditions - 10 in a four room house, -. I was born at my grandmother Steele's home in Delta.

LINEAGE My father is Clarence Prestwich, his father is George Prestwich, who's father is William Prestwich. By given name the Prestwich's beyond William are: Abraham(1787), James(1755), John(1729), Joshua(1680), Robert(1658), Robert(1623), and Roger. My Mother's maiden name is Abigail Steele. Her father is Mahonri Moriancumer Steele Jr. In succession the Steele line is as follows: Mahonri Moriancumer Sr(1849), John(1821), John(?), Arthur(?). I do not have information beyond that given. In addition to the Prestwich and Steele name, other names that grace my genealogy are: Harrop, Walker, Butterworth, Langshaw, Wood, Walsh, Lathrop, Draper, Staker, Snook, Kennedy, Campell, Knox, Bunker, Berry, Abbott, Smith, LeFevre, Taylor, Banks, Moore, Eyre, Naylor, Dalton and Glenn. I am sure there are others but these I know about. The Prestwich's have their roots in England. William Prestwich joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in England in 1849 and emigrated to Utah in 1861. The Steele's have their roots in Ireland. After joining the Church, John Steele emigrated to Nauvoo, Illinois in 1845.

FAMILY I was the 9th child and 4th son born in the family of Clarence and Abigail Steele Prestwich. The family increased to a total of 12 children - 6 boys and 6 girls. From the oldest to the youngest, their names are: Gyndel, Aza, Calvin, Lola, Beth, Dale, Erwin, Nelda, Lyn, Clarence, Leo, and Zolet. With the exception of Dale, who's life was taken in 1933 by an accident involving a run-a-way team of horses, and Zolet, who passed away from heart problems in 1996, all my brothers and sisters are yet living and active in the Church.

CHILDHOOD My earliest recollections are of a free child who roamed about the farm and the surrounding country side. I was blessed with plenty of space; an abundance of cows, rabbits, and chickens to tend; horses to ride and brothers and sisters to help and to fight. Father believed in the adage, "Early to bed and early to rise." We followed the sun. The sunrise and sunset hours were spent tending the animals. Dad loved his farm animals. They ate before we did. The hours between sunrise and sunset were spent in the field, thinning and hoeing sugar beets, cleaning weeds out of the ditches, helping to harvest the crops or herding the cows in the sand hills to the north of the farm. The evenings were fun times. Together, we played run-sheep-run, old sow, hockey, football, basketball, touch the flag and many other such games. Actually, we spent little time in the house except when it was too cold to be out of doors, which wasn't often because we loved the snow and would spend many hours sleigh riding on the hills about a half mile to the north of our house. On

occasion, just prior to bed, Mother would round us up, seat us in a semi-circle about her and read to us or tell us stories. We loved those occasions because Mother was very expressive and dramatic. The stories lived in our minds and touched our hearts.

SCHOOL YEARS Delta Elementary and Delta High School were the foundation and rock of my formal education. I did not know or think there was any other. We were the "running" Delta Rabbits. Red and white were our colors. We walked tall and fought for victory. Sports were my life. I played on all of the varsity teams the school fielded. Academically, I passed and that was enough. After all there was much more to school than books. That is except in Joe Snow's classes. He taught the Biology classes. He was a big man and his very presence scared me into submission. His tests were like, "Draw the circulatory system, name the parts, and describe the functions. There was no guessing, you knew it or you didn't. For me, it was much better to know than to get Joe Snow's wrath. I learned the biological sciences so well that when I went to college, Professor Sargent gave me a job correcting all of his test papers. It was great fun to grade my buddies test papers and then listen to them complain about how tough Professor Sargent was. To this day I've never told them different. English was another matter. It was my toughest subject. Spelling, Diagramming sentences, and sentence structure were a pain of the highest order. I never caught the vision. That is until I went to college. Even though they called Branch Agricultural College at Cedar City, Utah, a "cow school", Gwen Clark insisted on my learning English. She was the English Department. There was no getting around her. Through trial and error, tenacity and pleading, I made it through all of her classes and College and graduated from Utah State University with a BS Degree in Agricultural Education in 1957 and an MS Degree in Agricultural Economics in 1959. In retrospect, the real turning point in my desire to do better in school took place in Mrs. Adam's class in my junior year of high school. She was telling the class about my sister Beth's accomplishment of being valedictorian of her class at college. Then she looked straight at me and said, "you'd never know it by looking at Lyn, would you?" I sank low in my chair. Then and there I decided I'd show her. I thought to myself as I prepared to give the valedictory address for the School of Agriculture, Utah State University, "wouldn't Mrs. Adams be surprised"!!

MILITARY I entered the Air Force ROTC program at college with the idea of being a pilot. This idea was shattered between my junior and senior year. We were required to go to Castle Air Force Base in Merced, California for summer camp. I did very well until the last week of camp. They gave each of us a color blind test. I failed the test and was immediately "washed out" of the program and a month later was drafted into the Army. Grandeur in my mind was quickly replaced with humiliation and drudgery. I spent 16 weeks in infantry training at Fort Ord, California. Following training, I was put on a troop ship and sent to Korea. There I joined the 15th Infantry Regiment in the 3rd Infantry Division at Chorwan, Korea. I spent 18 months in Korea, successfully going from a private in the Infantry to a sergeant in the Engineer Corp. In Sept., 1955, I was transferred back to Ft Ord and given an honorable discharge. In the military I learned to accept adversity and to seek the good. When I arrived in Korea, the fighting had just stopped. We were placed on the front lines. Things were a little tense. We didn't know if the truce

would hold. We were on full alert at all time. In spite of this, I went to my Company Commander, Capt. Peonkie, and told him I'd do any thing he asked me to do but that I'd sure like to meet with the other Mormon boys on Sunday. He granted my request. Each Sunday, that it was possible, his jeep driver would take me to whatever place the Mormons were holding their services. Moral and Word of Wisdom temptations were never a problem for me. Just as I was about to board the train to go to Ft Ord, Mother stopped me, looked straight into my eyes and said, "Son I've taught you all that I know. I want you to make me one promise. Do only those things you'll be proud to write home and tell me about." These words sank deep into my heart and were a constant companion and guide.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN Prior to going into the Army I dated Lila Lawrence of Cedar City, Utah. We corresponded while I was in the military. Upon returning home, we commenced dating. We were married March 30, 1956 in the St. George Utah temple. We made our home in Cedar City where we both worked. In Sept. of 1956, we moved to Logan, Utah to complete my college degree. Lila's help and influence improved my grade point and when I received my BS degree, she received her PHT (putting husband through). Our first child, Mark Lyn, was born in Logan on Sept. 25, 1957. I was just beginning graduate school at the time. The book work was demanding and so was Mark. He suffered with Colic. All he wanted to do was fuss. By the time I got home from school, Lila was so worn out that I'd take over. There was very little sleep at night. I say night because I'd catch myself dozing in classes. Shortly after the colic subsided, we took Mark to Dr. Tanner in Ogden, Utah. Mark was born with a large, dark birth mark on his left cheek and jaw. Although we were strapped financially at the time, we knew it was right to have the birth mark removed. Dr. Tanner was all we hoped for--patient, kind and skilled. He looked our little Mark over, took all kinds of pictures, studied them thoroughly and then told us we should begin. We agreed, but told him of our meager means, with a promise to make sure that he was fully paid after we got out of school. Dr. Tanner did not hesitate but looked us straight in the eyes and told us he'd do all of the operations for \$400.00. True to his word, he performed four operations over a period of years. His bill? \$400.00!! We were humbled by this good doctor. We were expecting a bill of thousands of dollars.

Between the ages of three and five, Mark became concerned about a baby sister. In his prayers he'd ask Heavenly Father to send him a baby sister. When we told him of the expected new arrival, he knew it was his baby sister. A long awaited and much wanted baby girl was born on Feb. 23, 1963. We named her DeAnne. As soon as she learned to walk she tagged along with Mark. He didn't mind. This special concern and interest for each other has continued through the years. Mark now lives in Woodstock, Georgia. He is a dentist by profession, and is very active in the church. He married Susan Depew in August of 1986. They have six Children-5 girls and one boy. In order of age they are: Kathryn Leah (10), James Lyndon (8), Karalyn Anne (6), Jaclyn Ann (4), Taryn Suzanne (2), and Emilyn Grace (3 mo.). DeAnne married Joseph William Bradley in August of 1984. They have three children-two boys and one girl: David Joseph (9), Laura Anne (7) and Matthew William (5). They live in Latham, NY. Joe is a lawyer for General Electric Corp. They are also very active in the Church.

VOCATION AND WORK After graduating from college I taught Vocational Agriculture at Dixie High School in St. George, Utah. Shortly after I started to teach, U.S. Steel Corporation contacted me and asked if I'd be interested in working in their Market Development Division, Agricultural Section. I was very interested as I had done a research paper in college on the applications of steel in agriculture. Also I would about double my salary. After completing the contract year with Washington County School Board, we packed all the belongings we owned into a little 4' x 8' trailer that I had made and moved to Pittsburgh, PA. My employment with U.S. Steel lasted for about 20 years. I worked on many projects throughout all of the states except Alaska. During that period we lived in Pittsburgh, Bountiful, Utah then back to Pittsburgh, then to Atlanta, GA. In Jan. 1980, I left U.S. Steel and began work as Vice President and General Manager of Eastern Plant Food, Inc. in Greenville, SC. We had ten fertilizer plants situated between Greenville, SC and Greensboro, NC. After an intense five years of effort, I came to the conclusion that it would be in my best interest to move on. I secured employment with Coastal Chem in Cheyenne, WY. in April of 1985. I was their Area Sales Manager, responsible for the sales of Anhydrous Ammonia, Nitrogen Solutions, Ammonium Nitrate and some miscellaneous chemicals in the states of Kansas and Nebraska. It worked out that I only had one salesman to manage---me. What a wonderful job!! I was able to go where I wanted, when I wanted. The only requirement was that I sell the product they allocated to me to sell. This I did without too many problems. In June of 1992, I decided to retire and go back to Atlanta so that Lila and I could spend some quality time with our grandchildren and work in the Atlanta Georgia Temple. At that time both DeAnne and Mark lived in the Atlanta area. It was a good move. We got to spend a lot of time with our grandchildren and work in the Temple as planned. In 1995 DeAnne and family moved to New York and in 1996, we moved to Cedar City, UT to be with and help Lila's mother, who is now 90 years. old.

CHURCH ACTIVITY I was born under the covenant and have remained active in the Church. In my early youth I didn't understand the importance of Church but went out of respect for my Mother's wishes and the fellowship of my friends. I have Certificates of Awards for each of my Aaronic Priesthood years. So I did do what was right. At age 19, I received a call to serve a mission in Mexico. After getting the required visa, clothing, etc., I was informed by the local draft board that I could not go. Because of the Korean Conflict, Government and the Church officials entered into an agreement that the Church would only send one missionary from each ward every 6 months. I was not selected to go. Although I was greatly disappointed, it did not canker me. Over the years I fulfilled callings in most all organizations in the Branches, Wards, Districts and Stakes that we have lived in. It has been my privilege to serve in eight Bishoprics including the first bishop of the Pittsburgh Ward. Lila and I are now serving in the St. George Temple. She is currently the Sisters Own Endowment Director and I am a Sealer. We will complete an 18 month Service Mission at the Bishop's Storehouse on Jan 9, 1998. I currently teach the 14 year. old Sunday School Class and serve as 2nd Assistant to the High Priest Group Leader.. Lila and I are grateful for our parents and the teachings of the Church. We credit them with all of our good fortune.