

Carol E. Hines

Interviewed by: Rusty Salmon January- 2002 at Moab, Utah

Carol: Well, I was born here in Moab, Utah, and my dad was out on the forest with his Forest Service work and they just told him that he was needed here at home,. They didn't tell him why. And I'd been born at that time.

Q: Did you have other brothers and sisters?

A: I had one, Tom Balsley, and he was 15 years younger. Mother said she didn't like more than seventeen nor less than twelve, so she got two fifteen years apart.

Q: Did your dad travel a lot during this time period?

A: He did during the uranium. He didn't so much before then. 'Course he did travel quite a bit too when he was in the Forest Service. When he was at Monticello they used to get so much snow that it was just over the fence posts.

Q: Who were your friends ? Did you have a lot of friends in the neighborhood?

A: My dad gave this piece of ground right here where this motel is, he gave that to his friend Mellenthin. I guess you have the history of Mellenthin being killed up on the mountain? He was dad's good friend and he gave him that piece of ground right there where the motel is because dad owned this property all this through here (indicated land surrounding her current home) and he gave that to them. I was the only girl in the bunch, everybody else was boys so we were real tomboys. I used to always be climbing trees. When I lived in this neighborhood as a little girl there were three boys on one side and two boys on the other side. We had this big

barn like most of the places, two story barn where they had the hay, and the kids'd all go jump in the hay like we shouldn't have done.

Q: Did they still have the big cottonwood trees on Main Street when you were a child and do you remember them cutting them down?

A: Yes I do. I sure miss that big tree up here that's been gone a couple of years. They used to have town picnics up here in the area where the ostriches are. Do you know where they are? *(indicating area on 4th East near Millcreek Drive and the current Grand Co. High school)* They'd have town picnics for everybody in the whole valley would go up and they'd have games and they'd have their ice cream and everybody would turn the ice cream freezer. Everybody and their kids would go.

Q: Was there a park there?

A: Oh, just those big cottonwood trees and along the creek.

Q: What would they do at this picnic?

A: Oh, they'd have kid races and the men would do horse shoes. You know, all those things that are fun when you're kids. On Memorial Days everybody took their little wagons and hoes and rakes and walked to the graveyard to clean up the graves. They did all that.

Q: Your mother is buried at the old Grand Valley?

A: Yes. My great-grandparents, my grandfather and grandmother. You know whooping cough used to get so many babies and he had these two babies that were two years apart and in two

months he lost both of them to whooping cough. You know whooping cough's coming back. But they used to lose a lot of babies to that.

Q: Did you have a farm? With farm animals?

A: We could have all that right here. There was an arroyo that ran right down through and a little stream. It's hard to believe with it all filled in like that but we had ducks, and of course at that time everybody had a cow in their back yard , pigs and chickens, and we had all those and we had that little stream running down there and we could have those ducks.

Q: Were you responsible for taking care of the farm animals?

A: Some of them. We had chickens and milking the cow

Q: Do you remember any of your school things that were especially important to you as you were growing up? Teachers or events?

A: The school caught fire that one time and that was the biggest fire for everybody and everybody had to get the books out. And then what was really fun was we used to have the May Pole each year. The kids would braid the May Pole. I think kids miss that. And then they used to have dances for the children, a big barrel of lemonade and all the parents would come if they wanted to. We had it in the afternoon, the dance for the children. Other dances at night where whole families would go and that was nice. They'd dance with the little kids and the big kids.

Q: What was school like when you were a girl?

A: My graduating class was sixteen and we just did the usual things. I mentioned the maypole, went on hikes with the school, put on little plays, just the usual.

Q: What were your social events? Theater, Movie Show?

A: If you look outside in the patio and see this green bench right outside there? Well right over here, you know, it used to be called the Woodman Hall, right over here in this building on the corner? *(Indicated building on corner of Center Street and First East)* That's where we had the show house and they had benches like that. All the kids and their buddies would sit on the benches like that at the picture show.

Q: How much did it cost to go to those picture shows?

A: I've forgotten, I really have. I used to get ice cream cones for a nickel. And we'd have a carnival come in once in awhile. Some of the kids would think that was fun, go down and spin the wheel.

Q: Did you live at Valley City?

A: No, my dad left there long before. I still have some history of Valley City but you probably have it too.

Q: Did your father move to La Sal?

A: No, he was with the Forest Service so he was there and up in the Monticello area and all that country.

Q: What was it like growing up here as a child as compared to being in a city?

A: We could just go any place. We could go hiking. We'd go up to the power dam as we got older and you know the big ditch that runs in front of the fire station where it drops down? It was an open ditch and we went swimming in there all the time. Nice big stream. We were always swimming or doing something.

Q: Did you go down to the wetlands as a child?

A: Yes, we used to go down there and skate. You know it used to freeze over down there. Had good skating.

Q: Did you ever go on the river when it was frozen?

A: Yes, it would really freeze. Nobody'd believe it but they took the oil well equipment down with horses down the river. It was frozen. And then everybody had an ice house. They'd go down and cut the ice out of the river and put it in these icehouses. You know how they'd put it in the sawdust and stuff.

Q: Did they ever get an ice factory here?

A: They did for awhile and the fellow would deliver it around because we had these chest freezers and so he'd bring these big blocks of ice every so often. And then we'd get along fine and we'd chip some off and make ice cream once in awhile. Get a little cow's cream.

Q: Did you go up on the mountain like a lot of Moab people did during the summers?

A: No we didn't live up there. Some people took their families and their cows up there but we never did that.

Q: It must have been pretty hot down here?

A: Yes but as kids you don't notice. We walked up to the power dam,. Nobody took us up to go swimming. We walked.

Q: We talked about Al Rogers one time? Do you remember when he died?

A: I can't just remember but I've got some things on Al Rogers. Dad mentions him in his history but I can't just remember when he died.

Q: Were you a little girl?

A: Well I guess I must have been about 8 or 10 maybe. But you know we had those wood and coal stoves, you know, those heaters? He'd sit in the front room and spit tobacco juice on the stove!

Q: So he lived right in the house with you?

A: Sometimes he did. He'd come down and dad kind of watched that, mining and things so he'd come down quite often. I probably shouldn't say all this but there's a bed bug that doesn't seem to bother people so much. But its all in the woods and stuff. So when he'd come down and sit down these bed bugs would be crawlin' in his pockets so as soon as he'd get up and move we kids would get the bed bugs off the chairs! I never hear much about it anymore either but it's a bed bug that seems to be more in the trees or in his house maybe but they don't seem to bite anyone. But they'd crawl all over him and he wouldn't notice them in his pockets. And one time mother had this garden out here and so he decided he'd help mother with the garden so she

had this beautiful garden and had these rows of beets. She said “Now don’t cut this plant.” She went out later and he had cut everything but that one plant! Can you imagine how you’d feel after that?

Q: So did you grow most of your food in a little truck garden?

A: Yes, we’d grow everything here. We had black raspberries. I’d sure like to get some good old black raspberries that were just dropping on the vine.

Q: What stores did you have?

A: Well, we had Millers Store, the co-op. But you know Millers burned down the one time when they were down right across from the Poplar Place. And I had just the nicest hen in the freezer down there. My husband was in the army at that time.

Q: Were you heating with wood? Coal?

A: Um-huh, with the wood and the coal. We’d cook with the wood stoves. My folks had one of those big stoves that had the water tank in it and I don’t know what (??) did with it but it was still in the house when dad died and she got all those things but I don’t know what she did with the stove. In the paper one time I saw where there were real antique things and it was \$1,000 and that was years ago when someone was looking for one.

Q: I would presume most of the time you drove cars but did you ever take the train out of Thompson?

A: Not too much, a time or two. There was so many kids that had never seen a train so my dad would take the kids out to see the train out to Thompson and that was quite a treat since they'd never got to see one.

Q: Did you have big classes, a lot of people in your age group?

A: Oh no, we didn't. On graduation there were just 16 of us. There were more of us when we were younger but a lot of them dropped out or moved away.

Q: This is your graduating class? Do you know everybody in the picture? (*photo included*)

A: I used to. Girls and boys, and we had this little guy right here (*indicated boy on front row of graduation class picture*). He didn't grow very tall and fifty years later we had a reunion and that boy had grown to six feet! And he said one of his boys was like that, just very tiny and small. So the big boys would carry him around and all that. It seemed like they were very good to him. But I just couldn't believe in that time how he had grown. I should have put the names of them on there.

Q: Is this you with the fish in this picture? Did you like fishing?

A: Yes we liked fishing.

Q: Where did you go fishing?

A: Down in the Colorado River and after I got married we went to the mountains all the time. We took the kids on the camping trips all around the country.

Q: You went through high school for your education, but did you do any after that? College or...?

A: I went to nurse's training and after that I'd go and go and take courses at college. And you know we had people come down here from the extension agent and things and they would give classes and give you college credit

Q: Where did you go for your nurse's training?

A: To Oakland, California.

Q: Really? For how many years?

A: I guess about two years.

Q: And then you got kept up to date by an extension person coming here?

A: I'd take different things. I'd take upholstery or take various things and then sometimes I'd go to Logan and take some courses. It was with the extension service that we'd go and we could get credit.

Q: Then after you got out, that's when you got your job with Dr. Ballinger?

A: Uh-huh. I got sick in Oakland and I came back here. Oh, I had to have my appendix out and I got boils on my back and just different things so I came back here and went to work for Dr. Ballinger.

Q: How long did you work for Dr. Ballinger?

A: At least a year or so.

Q: And you met your husband how?

A: Well, he was with the Forest Service and they were in this building, what they call the Uranium building down here now. The Forest Service was upstairs and I would be coming from what was the old hospital. Did you ever find out where the old hospital used to be? It's right down you know where the bank is? You just go right down that block (indicating south on Main) before you get there. And it was about halfway. What's on the corner there, that eating place? You know, there's the visitor center and then you go across Main Street and then go down and the old hospital was right in there and Dr Allen.

Q: So it would have been south of Pasta Jay's (Current restaurant located on southwest corner of Main and Center Street)? Between Center Street and First South on Main Street?

A: And you know Dr. Allen? I guess you've heard of him? And you know how come he stayed here? He'd just got out of school and you know he had a hard time too. He said the way he'd eat a lot of times was he would just go sit in the cafes and eat the crackers because he didn't have any money to eat on while he was taking his training. And he came through here one time and he was going to.... I think it was Arizona looking to get a practice and he stopped at the old co-op. You know where that used to be? It's down at the old uranium building, down at the bottom they had their little co-op store. And he stopped in there and Dad happened to be in there and Dad was all friendly with everybody and he mentioned that he was going down to look for some place to start his business. Dad said, "Well, we need a doctor here." And so he stayed here and that's how come we had Dr. Allen all those years.

Q: So Dr. Williams had quit practicing at that point?

A: Well, he was not doing the (same thing?) and then they ripped up.. ..there was a hole that they made the hospital out of down there. Hammond's owned the place. You know sometimes I got a little discouraged because Doctor Allen operated, he set legs, he delivered babies and everything and now they have to send everybody out and he just did everything.

Q: Yes, medicine has really changed. And he got called out. I see in old newspapers where he got called out a lot.

A: Uh-huh, he went to homes constantly, night and day.

Q: Now tell me exactly how you met your husband.

A: I was going, you know, just about cater-corner here was our home. You know where this building is? (*indicating buildings to the south*)

Q: The Greenwell?

A: No, the one on this side.

Q: The Westwood?

A: Right. That was my dad's place and that's where I was raised. And I'd walk from there over to Dr. Ballinger's room in the hospital.

Q: Oh, that's why you were saying where the hospital was? So it would be down the street and over a little?

A: I was walking up there and I always had a bunch of dogs that walked with me and my husband happened to be up at this uranium building and looked down. And he said he looked down and he said, "That's the girl I'm going to marry." So we got acquainted.

Q: What was his profession at that time?

A: He was with the Forest Service.

Q: Do you want to give me your husband's birthdate?

A: April 5, 1912, Portland Oregon

Q: They put the wrong date on your headstone?

A: Our headstone is together, you know, one of those double ones? And he was born in 1912 and I was born in 1913 so they put us both in 1912.

Q: And was your dad still with the Forest Service at that time?

A: No, not at that time.

Q: He'd now gone into uranium?

A: Yes and he was County Clerk here for years.

Q: And then you started dating?

A: Yes, dating and then married.

Q: And your marriage date?

A: We were married Sept 6, 1937.

Q: Can we talk about your husband and what he did?

A: Well, we were gone for awhile and then we came back. We lived in Cedar City for awhile and Ephraim for awhile. That was with this Forest Service thing and then we decided to come back here. He liked it here.

Q: Did you have any family yet at that time?

A: No, not at that time.

Q: And after you moved back to Moab...?

A: Well we lived up there, do you know where Lily Ann Balsley's place is? We lived up there for awhile and then my husband was called into the army. He was in about two years overseas. And then we put our application in to the Children's Service for a baby. And then he got back from overseas and he called me up to come and get him at Salt Lake and at the same time this Children's Service called me to come and get a baby. So I got the baby and the husband both at the same time.

Q: What date was that?

A: He's over fifty years old right now

Q: So you got the baby up in Salt Lake?

A: Yes, though the Children's Service. We were going to get this one baby and we'd seen it and we were pretty thrilled. We'd gone to ZCMI to pick up some baby things and before we went home they called us and said, "We've never had this happen before. And it's up to you what you want to do. The father's just got back and he wanted to marry the girl." So, of course, we were completely broken up but we said that was best if he wanted to marry the girl so we went back and they said, "All we've got is one baby and he's premature. If you want to take him, it's up to you." So we said we did and I'm certainly glad we did because the one woman said, "When I saw the father I was kind of glad you didn't get that baby." So I guess the Lord works in mysterious ways and gave us this other baby because he's been very intelligent as a baby and a boy.

Q: And he's where now?

A: He's up in Michigan. He's with the Jeep Company, he's worked himself up with the Jeep Company. That's where they live now.

Q: Pretty far away.

A: Yes, it is. A long ways.

Q: And then you just stayed here in Moab from then on?

A: We just lived here.

Q: Did you work at any other jobs after you came back to Moab.

A: Well, I worked at the extension service at the Courthouse and worked as a dental assistant and I worked at the hospital for years. And then after we got our baby they wouldn't even talk

to you because there were so many people wanting babies so, after you got two, the Children's Service wouldn't even talk to you any more.

Q: Well how did you end up getting seven more then?

A: We just picked them up where we could. Now this is something. We stayed right here in Moab and some of our children were born in Denver, Salt Lake, California so it looks like we moved all over every place. There was a woman and she came up here and she was a friend of mine and she said they had a lot of babies in California and she'd got some from this doctor so I got his address and we called. At that point, I started getting letters from doctors and lawyers, did I know anybody who wanted any babies. Did we want any more babies. And they'd give you a dozen any time. And here were people in Utah crying for babies. At that time they wouldn't even let them go back and forth. I think they do now and they did later. Utah gets 'em but at that time they didn't so we got this one baby and they'd call us and we took four in four years.

The last one my husband said "We're too old and we can't afford it and he went to work and came back for lunch. Then I went out and got on the airplane and went to California and he came home that night and said, "Where's mother?" And this little tiny kid, this little girl about two or three years old said, "Well, I guess she's halfway to California by now." So I got this baby.

Of course, he and Ken Erbes had this store over there where Walkers has their stores now and he told a helper over there "You know what my wife did." She said, "It's hard to tell." And he said, "She went to California to get another baby but I'm glad she did."

Q: Do you want talk about things you did as the kids were getting older? School?

A: I'd go up and help with the school things, helping when they'd go on their outings. They were very happy but each one of them took dancing lessons and piano lessons.

Q: How far apart are the children by ages?

A: Our first one was in '45 and was a boy and then we had them till '68. We got the last ones in four years, four in four years, the last babies. The others were strung out more.

Q: Where did you go on vacations?

A: We went on several trips to places like Alaska and the Panama Canal. We'd also go camping.

Q: Around here?

A: Not too far away, we'd go to Colorado sometimes. That was when I was younger. With our children, Bill and I would take them all over. We went to Canada and all these other places camping and to see the country, like California. The best rabbit I ever ate we went out to Cisco by the Cunningham Ranch and that's when I was a kid and dad got this rabbit and he made one of those things where you turn it and , oh! It was the best, eating out in the open.

Q: Were there particular things you did with the kids as they were growing up?

A: Yes we did everything with them dress their plays, made their costumes. And in the beginning my husband was the only one that went to the kids' things. You know, back then men didn't used to and then a friend of our, Keith Barker, got to going to the school things with the kids. Then it wasn't too many years till the men did start going more but at the time my husband was the only one that went.

Q: Where are all your children now?

A: William's back in Detroit working for the Jeep company. He worked himself up in the Jeep Company there. Virginia Gale died in her first year of college. She had a bad heart and she was born with a bad heart. The doctor always said twenty-one years was her life expectancy but you're always thinking you can beat it but we didn't. One month before she was twenty-one the doctor decided that it was time to operate and it was worse than they thought so she died. Ronnie is in Kanab. Phillip is in Wilmington, North Carolina. Wayne lives here and Arthur lives here. He's with the Sheriff's Department. Barbara is living in Alabama and Douglas is in Montana right now and driving truck from (*) to Seattle. Robert works here and he processes animals.

Q: Is Barbara married? Last name?

A: Barbara's last name is Little now.

Q: So you had mostly guys?

A: Yes, seven boys and two girls. We just took them as they came.

Q: They're quite spread around. Do you get to see the grandchildren?

A: Quite often, of course, not the ones that are out of town, very seldom get to see them. And we had a lot of others we took. I guess about a dozen others and we took them and took care of them. A lot of them we hoped to adopt but in the end we wouldn't get to.

Q: And these were foster children?

A: Yes, it wasn't anything that you got paid for. You just took them.

Q: Were they babies or young children?

A: They were in different stages of their lives. This one boy was in junior high and he still calls me. We had a couple that were quite small. Their parents were having problems and so we kept them.

Q: Was this through the State or local agencies?

A: No, just because we took an interest. Of course this one boy was...he was from the State and they wanted us to take him. We had him for quite a while. He's the one that still calls me. Middle of the night sometimes.

Q: When did you move into this home.

A: Well, it's over fifty years.

Q: That you've been here?

A: Yes, that we've been here. My husband got most of the price because he had a lot of help and he built most of it. So it's pretty well insulated.

Q: Were you involved in civic things while the kids were little or would that have been too hard to do?

A: Oh, I was involved in about everything.

Q: Tell me a little bit about some of the things you were involved in.

A: Well, let's see, I've been President of the Daughter of the Utah Pioneers, president of the Literary Club a couple of times, and I've been involved in the auxiliary. I think I've done everything in the church, taught classes, been Relief Society President, and all that kind of stuff. I should have written all this stuff down. I taught primary for over fifty years, LDS church, and the Sunday school and Mutual and I've been Relief Society President and I've taught all the lessons in Relief Society.

Q: Have you always been interested in history.

A: Quite a bit of the time, genealogy and history

Q: Was you father LDS?

A: No, he was a Community Baptist.

Q: And your mother?

A: She was Mormon.

Q: And she raised you in the church?

A: Well I could pick any of them. I was just plain born a Mormon. I just always was. But I'd go up and help them at the Baptist Church with their little summer programs with the kids and I'd go up to Dad's church quite often and there was just no conflict there. The church used to be up a block from here and our church was the Mormons, were right across the street so we'd go to the corner and I'd go across the street and Dad would go on up the street. But, like I say, I'd help with their church but I just always seemed to be a Mormon.

Q: And your husband?

A: He wasn't anything until he finally joined the Mormon Church quite a few years after we were married.

Q: You said you were DUP also?

A: Yes all the positions in DUP, just like in the Relief Society. I'd teach the lessons.

Q: And that's because of your parents' history being in Utah such a long time?

A: Yes, that's where you get the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers.

Q: And Moab was changing a lot during this time?

A: It was starting to, some, not too much at that time. It really started changing about '53 .

Q: And how did that impact your life?

A: Well it just made it so that things started changing, you know. Growth and it used to be that the kids could go swimming or to the show at night and you'd think nothing of it. Go hiking, Now everybody's afraid to do anything.

Q: What was your husband doing about that time? Was he still with that Forest Service?

A: No, at that time he'd had the store, he and Ken Erbes when the boom started.

Q: And you were living where?

A: We were living up in this...do you know where Merlyn Maxwell lived, just right up the block here?

Q: On Center Street?

A: Well you know where the middle school is? It's just right up there.

Q: By Elaine Petersen's?

A: No it isn't that far up. It's only a block.

Q: By where the ball field is?

A: No, the ball field is here and it's over here And you know my grand dad gave that ground to the school over there.

Q: Did he? Oh that's right, I remember Tom Trout gave that land to the school. Now do you remember the Goodman house?

A: Uh-huh, I remember that. What a shame that they let them tear that down. And that little house up further. It even had the holes where they put their guns through and they let them tear that down. They had an awful time trying to preserve the old Star Hall. They were going to tear it down. You know these new people came in and they tore everything down. And, they had the Star Hall ready to fall down. Well, just like this Middle School, they tell me it's about as sturdy as anything you can get. But it would've been a shame if they'd torn that Star Hall down with that brick work. Isn't that beautiful?

Q: You had mentioned that your husband had a store over where Walker's currently is?

A: We called it the Valley Home and Auto

Q: And how long did he have that?

A: Oh, ten years? It must have been at least ten years.

Q: And then what did he do?

A: He retired after that. One year they had this jeep and Arthur and Bill drove over to the store. Arthur was just a little kid and Bill left him in the jeep and pretty soon here came a crash. Arthur drove it into the front of the store. Ken said, "Bill wouldn't say a thing but (*) English Art knew he'd done wrong. And then we had this farm down below the hospital. We had cows down there. But we didn't live down there, we lived up here, but we had that down there. The kids all learned to drive down on that farm.

Q: How many acres?

A: We had 25 acres down there. Had hay and raised grain as high as your head , the wheat.

Q: That was west of the current hospital?

A: It's still there by the wetlands, in that area.

Here's a history of the Fire Department that he (*Bill Hines*) wrote too and you might like to have that. Because he originally was one of the ones that volunteered and he was on there fifty years. Yeah and then we had the three in the fire department, two boys and my husband so when we went to bed at night we'd have to clear out the toys and the shoes so when they got a call they wouldn't fall over anything in the house.

Q: I see they've got a bigger door there now.

A: Yes, they've got a new fire engine.

List of Carol Hine's activities over the years in the Moab community

Daughters of the Utah Pioneers – President and also held all other positions at one point or another

Relief Society – President and also held all other positions

Primary – involved with, taught, and held various positions for 50 years

Sunday School – involved with, taught, and held various positions for at least 40 years

Ladies' Literary Club – President twice and also held positions as Vice President and Secretary

Legion Auxiliary – Officer and also Poppy Chairman

Women's Federation - District President

Community Theater - Member and actress

4H Club – involved with and taught 4H for 20 years

Boy Scouts of America – scout leader for 5 years

