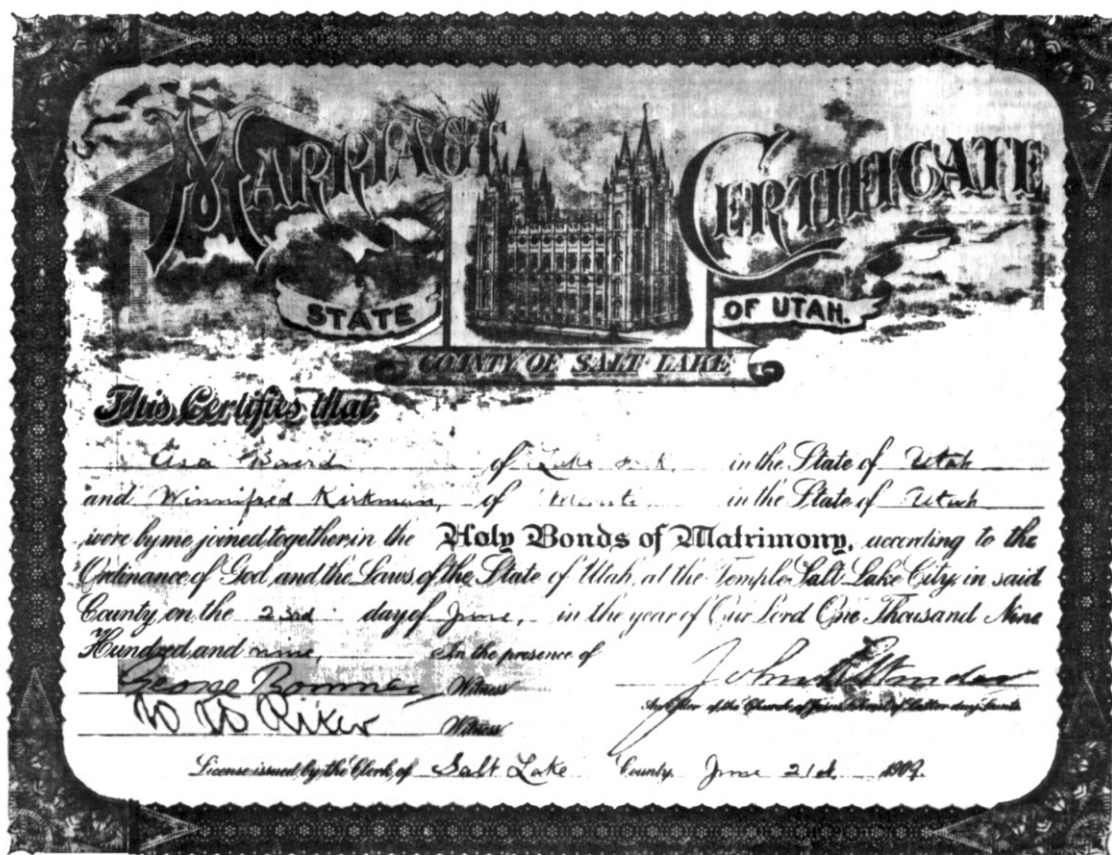


Asa and Winnie Their Life Story

Asa Baird and Winnifred Kirkman were married in the LDS Temple in Salt Lake City on 23 June 1909. They had both been previously endowed, Asa in the Salt Lake Temple prior to his mission and Winnifred in the Manti Temple on 9 June 1909 just prior to their marriage. They were married by John R. Winder.



For a while they lived with Asa's sister and her husband Minnie and Dan Walker in Syracuse, Davis County, Utah. While living there Winnie helped take care of her husband's father. There wasn't room for them in his father's home so she and Asa stayed with Minnie and Dan. Later that summer they went to Duchesne to live on Asa's homestead. This area became Ioka, Sevier County, Utah.

Asa had filed on a homestead and with the help of his brother Wilford had built a log cabin on this place. This was their first home. Asa said, "My brother Wilford went with me to The Vernal area. We got some

logs out of the mountains and built a log cabin 14 x 16 feet on my homestead. This took the two of us just seven days.”

In Vernal and vicinity they were building a reservoir for water. Here Asa worked helping to build the reservoir, the canal, and hauling lumber and often didn't come home at night. One night Winnie heard someone coming and looked out to find a wagonload of Indians in the yard. She was very frightened, but they seemed to have only broken some part of the wagon. Another time when they were going to visit some neighbors, the Burr family whose mother had just died, Winnie looked up to find an old Indian standing right in front of her. She was very frightened but the Indian only wanted to get warm. When Asa came in the Indian asked where they were going. Asa told him they were going to see neighbors whose mother had just died. He lost no time in leaving and going the other way.

Just after they moved to the Uintah Reservation, the Latter-day Saint Church organized the Ioka branch of the church and also the Relief Society was organized. Winnie was asked to act as Relief Society Visiting teacher and to teach in the Sunday School, and held these positions until they moved from there. She went out to assist with the sick and on her first confinement case as they were called, or to assist the Doctor at the birth of a child. Since that first time she has been called many times to help doctors and mothers during the birth of a baby. While on the Reservation she worked as assistant postmaster.

James Hyrum Baird, the father of Asa Baird, died 8 February 1910. Commenting on this Asa said: “On the 8 February 1910 my father died. Winnie and I went back for the funeral in Syracuse. A few others went with us. There was much snow! My father died of Bright's disease, also of ills suffered from having been an invalid for seven years, and helpless the last of his life.

Snow increased over the mountain passes. We became stalled on Stockmore Divide. Winnie and Mrs. Maxwell coasted down the hill on a scoop shovel, then pulled the shovel back up the hill, then coasted down again. This they did



James Hyrum Baird

repeatedly for a pastime while they waited. It took us twelve days to go back to Vernal from Syracuse because the snow was so bad. My homestead was actually at Ioka, north of Duchesne, but the general area was called Vernal Area.”

About sixteen months after they were married, probably in October 1910, Winnie’s Father, her brother Myron and half-sister Jennie came to live with them. Myron had jobs to work at so was not with them continually, however this was his home base for some time. Their first child, a son was born at Ioka, Utah, which is on the Unitah Indian Reservation near Vernal, on 17 November 1910 and was named Asa Wayne Baird.

The next year, because of the extreme winter weather, they moved to Vernal for the winter and then back to the Reservation in the spring. The people tried farming but alkali burned up the crops. A patch of oats was planted in the spring of 1911 or 1912. They were growing well until they were watered. The next morning Asa went out and found they were all wilted to the ground. Alkali in the soil had burned the whole crop. It was time to move on!

Asa wrote, “I built, or helped to build a reservoir for a man named John Glenn, and worked a farm for a man named William McKinley. The alkali was so bad in the ground around there, that when we watered the crops it would burn them up, which was very disheartening. We had to water our crops to get them to grow, then they burned up. Being discouraged about our crops and the situation there we left Ioka and the reservation about the month of July 1911 or 1912 and moved to Provo, Utah.”

They lived on what was then called Provo Bench, just up on the hill from the city in the north part of Provo. Asa said, “In Provo I worked in a canning factory and ran a fruit farm for W.W. Rae, a banker in Provo. I also helped build water pipes from the Provo river to the city of Provo. While building the pipelines my front teeth got hit and knocked out of my mouth. To repair them they had to make a gold bridge which I wore for several years until I had to have all my teeth pulled.”

In January 1913 they moved to Salt Lake City and lived in a rented house at 1418 South and 11th East Street. Here a daughter was born

January 30, 1913 and named Vera. While living here Asa helped build and maintain the City Park, later known as Liberty Park. They lived there for eight months and then moved to Rigby, Idaho.



*Wayne taken in Salt Lake City
about 1913*



*Winnie with her first two children Wayne and baby Vera
this picture was taken in 1913*

Asa was not satisfied working for daily wages and wanted to get back to farming. His Uncle Perrigrine Sessions (called Uncle P.G. or Pege) had moved to Rigby several years before this and was instrumental in helping to find a farm for him to operate. In October 1913 Winnie's father Joseph Kirkman, Sr. and Asa left for Idaho in their outfits, consisting of a wagon and a team of horses each. It took about a month to get to Rigby. Some relatives named Sessions lived in Malad, Idaho where they stopped for a few days, and then went on to Rigby. When they got to Rigby, Asa wrote to Winnie and she took the two children and went to Rigby on the train. They were all together again for Thanksgiving Day.

Asa's Uncle PG had bargained for a farm for Asa to run, but someone was living in the house so they had to live with Uncle PG's family for a while. They didn't like this farm nor do much with it financially, so in a year didn't renew the bargain and had to move out, with no place to go. They stayed with Asa's cousin Darius Sessions and his family at their home in Milo for a few days. Then Darius and his sons helped them move to a place in Milo. (Later, on 22 November 1916, this cousin

married Asa's sister Eliza Jane.) This place was located north of the Milo Cemetery. Winnie said, "When we moved there we supposed that it was Rigby and that we were just moving to another place within the boundary of the Rigby Ward. After we moved we found that it was actually within the boundary of the Milo Ward. We were still looking for a farm to live on so continued to go to church at Rigby."

In Vera's memoirs we find the following statement, "I remember some of the Sessions relatives coming to Rigby to visit and it was probably during our Milo year. I remember how excited my father got one day. He explained that his Grandmother Sessions was coming to Rigby to visit her son P.G. and she would also be visiting us. In those days we traveled in a wagon and we also had a white-top buggy in which we traveled. Many times there would be hay, grain, flour and etc. that were hauled whenever we went to town, so usually we went in a wagon. I remember going to the depot in Rigby to meet the train when father's grandmother came to visit in Idaho. I asked my father how we would know who she was at the depot. He said that I would know her because she would be the biggest woman that I had ever seen or would ever see in my life. This was my Great Grandmother Fanny Emorett Loveland Sessions, who was called Emma. I remember seeing her at the depot and how big she was. She got off the train dressed in black from head to toe. She come walking along and then stopped, and hugged, and kissed each of us. I don't remember how long she stayed on that visit to Idaho, but I do remember that I thought she was a large woman dressed in black, and such a kind, sweet, loving person. I remember us riding in a two-seated buggy, but it may have been one that my father borrowed from his Uncle P.G. Sessions. Usually my father sat on the seat, if there was a seat. Sometimes mother sat with him on the seat, but many times she would sit back of the seat with us children. My father would always have hay in the wagon for the horses to eat. On top of some of the hay he would put an old quilt. We would sit on the quilt and cover up with another one. When we rode in the buggy father would sit on the front seat and Wayne would sit with him. Mother would sit on the back seat with the rest of the children. Always we had a 'Lap Robe' to cover over us to keep off the dirt and dust of the road. When there was no seat we all sat on a quilt over hay."

Winnie's father, Joseph Kirkman, Sr., was with them at this time, helping with farming and doing outside work at his carpenter trade. In

Rigby Winnie was a visiting teacher in the Relief Society. Here a third child and second son was born on 23 January 1915 and named James Elmer¹, the James being for James Hyrum Baird, the father of Asa Baird.



*Wayne, Jim & Vera
This picture was taken in the
fall of 1916 in Shelton, Idaho*



Jim & Vera 1916



Jim, Vera & Wayne 1916



Jim & Carlo

They farmed in Rigby for two years and then moved to Shelton, Idaho to the old Edmund's place on Willow Creek in the spring of 1916. This was a 160-acre farm. Here Winnie was a visiting teacher in the Relief Society again. The first year they lived at Shelton Winnie was Assistant Superintendent of the Religion Class, a class taught in the schools to teach the children religion. Sister Josephine Newman was the Superintendent. They enjoyed this work very much; and also went Relief Society teaching together, and would take turns taking the team and buggy or team and sleigh if it was winter. Winnie and Josephine were both excellent horsewomen and could handle a team and buggy or a team and sleigh as well as the men. During the winter the snow got so

deep they would drive through the field over the fences, and had some good times together visiting the sick and in the homes where there were deaths in the families. The second year in Shelton Winnie was Superintendent of the Religion Class.

Winnie's father Joseph Kirkman, Sr. came to this locality and again lived with the family. He also had a tent that he pitched along the bank of the Snake River. Here he panned for gold and paddled his boat up and down the river trapping for muskrats. The family often went to visit him at his tent, to take him food and to check on his health. On one of these trips Wayne found his grandfather's gun, picked it up and accidentally pulled the trigger. A bullet whizzed through the air and went through the bob of Winnie's hair, and out through the tent. Grandpa Kirkman heard the shot and came home from the river very soon. He had forgotten to unload the gun. Actually everything turned out to be all right.

In her memoirs Vera wrote: "I remember the fall of 1916 before Beth was born. Grandpa had his tent pitched along the Snake River, and was out trapping and mining. Dad knew where he was. Mother, on Sunday made some pumpkin pies, and we took him some along with some other food. We didn't find grandpa at his tent, so mother thought she would fix our dinner. I remember so clearly the incident. The door to the tent opened at the north end. The grub box was to the left of the door, as you would be going out. The bed was along the south side of the tent. Mother said we were to play on his bed, and I was to tend Jim. Then I heard a bang. Mother screamed, "I'm shot, I'm dead." Wayne had found Grandpa's gun under his bed, and pulled the trigger. The bullet went through the bob of Mother's hair, and did make a scratch on her skin, and out through the door. Dad told Mother that there was nothing there, just a hole in her hair, but I remember Dad looking under the bob of hair and seeing a mark that looked like a scratch. Then Mother was mad, and screamed some more, "You might have put me out of my misery." I'm not sure if she meant she was sorry he hadn't killed her, or just mad that he had played with Grandpa's gun. Grandpa heard the shot and came running. Then Mother was mad at him for leaving a loaded gun, and he told her she should have been minding the kids, instead of messing around. Asa said he was ready for dinner. Winnie said they could fix their own dinner and that she was too upset to fix or

eat any food. It was a tragic day, but it ended fine, and we were all sure, especially Grandpa, that our Heavenly Father was watching over us.”

The fourth child in the family was born in Shelton. Winnie said, “I thought it was past midnight, and Christmas day when she was born. The doctor said it was yet five minutes before Christmas, so your baby was born on Christmas Eve.”² Darius Sessions, a second cousin to Asa had lived in Milo for several years, his first wife had passed away, leaving him with a daughter and six living sons. The daughter Phoebe had taken care of these boys until he had married Asa’s sister Eliza Jane the November before this baby was born. Winnie needed someone to help take care of the children and to help with the new baby and the housework. Phoebe came to help and spend the holiday season. Phoebe was then given the privilege of naming the new baby and she chose the name Beth. This made Beth a Christmas present for the whole family.

During the summers of 1916, 1917, and 1918 they lived on this farm in Shelton on Willow Creek. During each of these summers several of Asa’s brothers came up from Salt Lake City area and helped run the farm. They farmed during the summer and usually went back to Utah to College in the winter. These brothers were Clarence, Edwin, Abner and Chauncy. While living there Wayne started to school at an elementary school called the “Old Buck School.” At first they lived in an old shack. While they were there they moved into a tent while the old house was torn down and a new one built in its place. Winnie’s father Joseph Kirkman, Sr. was a carpenter by trade and he did a lot of the work on the new house. All of Asa’s brothers helped to build this house. They worked nights, mornings and all the daytime they could spare from work in the fields until the house was finished.

In Shelton the house faced the east with trees in front of the house, both shade and fruit trees. This is where the children were allowed to play. One time Wayne was supposed to be raking leaves off of the grass and Vera was supposed to be tending Jim. Jim got in Wayne’s way and Wayne came down with the rake just as Jim ran along. Wayne hit Jim on the top of the head with the rake. Some of the teeth made a deep gash in Jim’s head. Blood spurted out and Vera screamed, “You’ve killed him!” Winnie came out and took Jim away, washed the blood from his face and hands and bandaged his head with a white rag.

Another time Wayne was up in a tree playing. Winnie had called him to come into the house but he didn't come. Vera was sent out to tell him to come in. She was telling Wayne to come in the house, but he said he wouldn't come out of the tree. Vera opened her mouth to tell him again and he dropped a birds egg in her mouth. Wayne thought he had pulled a good trick on her. All of the uncles laughed and thought it was a great trick.

There were some aggravating times while these uncles lived with the family. They tried to get the children to hold snakes, worms and caterpillars. Wayne and Jim would do this but Vera was always too squeamish. At times Winnie would put water or food in a bucket and send Wayne to the far end of the fields with a drink for Asa and his brothers. One time they put a snake in the bucket and sent it to Winnie. When she opened the bucket and the snake came out she was furious. She said they could just starve and choke from then on. They lived together until World War I broke out, then his brothers all went in the service, leaving Asa with too much land to farm, so he was forced to give up this place and move to something smaller.

Asa wrote in his notes, "World War I broke out. My brothers all went to war. I had seven brothers in this war. Chauncey decided to go, got on his motorcycle and took off down the road. The next we heard from him he was in France in the 145th Field Artillery. Clarence followed in his path very soon. Not very long after this Abner did likewise, and was on his way to war. In a little while Edwin climbing in a car started south from the rented farm, and he was next heard from in France. I desired



Chauncey



Clarence



Abner



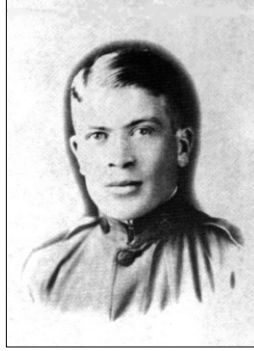
Edwin

to go to Utah to see the rest of my brothers before they all went to war. So drove a car there and back. My other brothers who joined in this war were Orrin, Sam and Reese.

Asa and Winnie
Their Life Story



Orrin



Samuel



Reese

This left me alone to run the farm and get crops harvested with the help of my wife and four children. We stayed here until fall doing the best we could to harvest the crops. We thrashed 2,300 bushel of wheat, which was mostly all taken for army food. We had on this farm 242 shote hogs and 30 mother pigs (sows) and 2 hogs (boars). Trouble hit us. Cholera hit the farm animals. A U.S. Veterinary came and vaccinated them all, but I lost many of them.”

Asa and Winnie purchased an automobile, took their children, and went on a trip to Utah to see his brothers before they left for the war. While driving to Utah there was an eclipse of the sun and they all got out of the car to have a look. Most of the time in Salt Lake City they stayed with Winnie’s sister Susie and her husband Orson Streadbeck. Some of their relatives came to visit them while there. The car they bought was an old style Oldsmobile touring car. Asa didn’t like to drive this car, he preferred to drive horses. He had a problem with his car. It wouldn’t stop when he said “whoa”.

In the fall of 1918, which turned out to be Armistice Day November 11, the family went to Idaho Falls to see about living there, because they had to move from the farm at Shelton. There was a very serious world outbreak of influenza. *(Note: The 1963 Edition of “The Book of Knowledge” Vol. 4, page 1330 states that: A disease of the upper respiratory tract caused by Viruses is influenza. Influenza is marked by fever, headaches, pain in the joints. Influenza is highly infectious. The complications are what make influenza a dangerous disease. When a world-wide epidemic of influenza occurred in 1918-1919, twenty million lives were lost, mainly because of complication that followed the disease.)*



Vera in the back
Jim, Wayne & Beth Armistice Day 11 November 1918

Wayne and Winnie both contracted the flu and become ill. Winnie was terribly ill and the doctors found that she had a bad heart, and said that she wouldn't live until morning. Asa went to Rigby and got Stake Patriarch Chandler to come to their home in Shelton and administer to them. Patriarch Chandler had at one time, in Utah, lived with and worked for Asa's father. He came and blessed the sick and they all got well. *Note: Patriarch Chandler blessed the sick and promised Winnie that if it was her desire, and she had the faith, she would get better and live to raise her children, but in her old age her heart ailment would be the cause of her death. Winnie did get better.*

They moved to Idaho Falls for the winter and lived east of the railroad, up toward 1st Avenue. At times when the family walked to town they traveled on 1st Avenue because it provided the best road to walk on. However, it was shorter to go straight west to town. This winter in Idaho Falls they looked for a farm to move to and finally found one at Riverside, Idaho. Although they kept the car around until just before they moved to Riverside, and he did learn to stop it, Asa preferred to drive horses.

In the spring of 1919 in time to start farming, the family moved about thirty miles south. They took the household goods on the wagon. The family went by buggy as they moved to Riverside, Idaho. The place they moved to was called the old Bailey place. They had only been there three days when the fifth child, a daughter, was born on the 8th March 1919 and named Reva. The family lived there for three years and on two different farms and a different house the last winter. Here Asa was quite active in both the ward and the stake. He was a Gospel Doctrine Class teacher in Ward Sunday School, a counselor in the Ward MIA and second counselor in the Elders Quorum of the Blackfoot Stake. Winnie was very active in the ward and served as a Relief Society Teacher, counselor in the Young Ladies Mutual Improvement Association (YWMIA), and a class leader in the YWMIA.



The house in Riverside, Idaho where Joseph Kieth was born

After living in Riverside for one year they decided to buy a farm. This farm was located about a mile south and a little east of the LDS Church. While they lived on the second farm their

sixth child, a son, was born on 15 June 1921, and named Joseph Kieth. Riverside is a farming community across the Blackfoot River southwest from Blackfoot, Idaho. This farm was close to the river on the southern outskirts of Riverside.

In 1921 Asa's sister Zina Baird Reed and one of her daughters came from their home in Wyoming by train to visit and stayed a week with the family. Then Asa took his daughter Vera, Zina and her daughter and went to Twin Falls by train to visit another sister, Chloe Baird Lee. This sister and her husband had gone to the Big Horn Basin with the colony that was sent there by the church and were now living in Twin Falls. Aunt Chloe was in the hospital with stomach cancer and was very ill. Asa and Vera stayed in Twin Falls for about one week and then took the train back to Blackfoot.

When the family moved to the second place in Riverside they had cows, horses, sheep, chickens and some machinery. Most of these, except the sheep were mortgaged for security and down payment on the farm. The

sheep were taken by a man from Thomas along with a lot of other people's herds to summer range. The Standard Bank of Blackfoot was a branch of a Spokane, Washington bank. It was from this bank that Asa and Winnie had taken out a mortgage to buy the farm. The Spokane bank went bankrupt about 1921, this affected the Blackfoot bank and they began recalling all mortgages.

Asa and Winnifred thought they had an ace-in-the-hole with their sheep and could fall back on them for the payment. As it turned out the man who had their sheep also had a mortgage that was foreclosed. The bank not only took this mans sheep but also all that were being herded with them. They tried to get something out of this but never did. It was a complete loss. The holders of the mortgage told them to pay their bill or they would be foreclosed on. They took the crops for that year for payment but that wasn't enough. With this loss they couldn't make their payment and the sheriff served a notice to pay by New Years Day or move out. They didn't have any money, nor could they get a second loan, and so the mortgage was foreclosed and they were forced to move off.

Asa said, "They turned me out of my home in the dead cold of winter, with my wife and six children, with no place to go." This was about right. They did find a shack in which they could move. Nothing else could be found so quickly, so Asa bargained for this for the winter months. They moved to this shack for about three months. It was a two-roomed affair on the highway from Riverside to Blackfoot.

Asa wrote a little note that read, "This Standard Bank in Blackfoot hurt many people. It held a mortgage on my stock, cattle, machinery, etc., all but my sheep and they got them too. The mortgage was for security for the farm I was buying, and my sheep was security for something to lean on for the mortgage payment. I lost \$5,720 with the closing of this bank, and 42 other farmers lost their homes as a result of this. I then moved into a two-roomed shack on New Years day in a bad hail and rainstorm. Had six children and was a poor destitute man and family."

Vera comments: "This place was really a shack, a two roomed affair in which they stuffed eight people. It leaked, so that in places we had to put buckets to catch drippings. There were holes in places in the walls. I remember helping mother use some of our oldest clothing to stuff the

holes in the walls to keep out some of the cold, also some of the holes where it leaked. This was such a cold winter. I remember walking to school from there and felt frozen by the time I got to school, so I know that all of us were cold when going to school. Some of the time our father wouldn't let us go to school because it was so cold, and we had just got started into the new school in Riverside. Sometimes our father did take us to school in the sleigh, but many times he was up early and away trying to find something better for his family. Asa nearly always kept a few hogs that he could use for meat, some chickens and a milk cow, which were the family's main food supplies. He also kept at least one horse of some kind that could be used as a saddle horse. This was about what he had left that he could call his own."

That winter they did find a place in Wapello, Idaho that they thought was an answer to their prayers. Minnie Woodland was looking for someone to run her farm. This was a place that had some animals and machinery that would be with the farm. They were offered a percentage of the crop and of the increase of the animals. It was really a good bargain for them at that time. In spring of 1922 they moved north of Blackfoot and lived in Wapello. Here Asa was a Councilor again in the M.I.A.

This farm was northeast of Blackfoot, while Riverside was located southwest of Blackfoot, both of them in Bingham County. It was called the "Woodland" place because it was owned for many years by the Woodland family. James Elmer says that the reason Woodlands were looking for someone to run the farm was because Minnie Woodland's son had gone on a mission for the Mormon Church. He remembers that, because of the loss of the place in Riverside, the sherrif and two cowboys came to the Woodland place and rounded up the stock and drove them off, completing the foreclosure action on the place in Riverside.

Their seventh child, a son, was born while living on the Woodland place in Wapello on 23 June 1923, their 14th wedding anniversary, and named Clair Kirkman. They lived on the Woodland farm about two years. At this time someone in the Woodland family decided to run the farm. Probably Woodland's son had returned from his mission. In the spring of 1924 they moved to another place in Wapello. This place was owned by a family named Cooper, so it was called the "Cooper Place."

Clair was a weak, sickly baby and child. While doing our weekly washing lye was usually used as a water softener. Clair got the can of lye and ate some of it. Then he screamed. His mouth was badly burned. He wouldn't nurse, so all kinds of things were done to keep him alive. Winnie thought he was going to die. This was in the spring or early summer and Clair wasn't quite a year old. He survived on gruel and soup, and after a few years was very healthy.

An outstanding memory of this place was that Winnie's father Joseph Kirkman Sr. came to spend the summer with the family. Since the last time he had been to Idaho he had suffered a stroke, so for three years previous to this he had lived with his daughter Susie Streadbeck in Salt Lake City. Winnie fixed up one of the bedrooms for him. Grandpa Kirkman was having a hard time getting around this year. He walked a lot with a cane. It had been six years since he had left and gone to Utah. He was still quite independent and liked his tea. He stayed about two months that summer. At the end of his visit Winnie took him to Blackfoot where he caught the train and went back to Salt Lake City. This was the last time that Winnie saw her father. The next spring he went to Los Angeles, California to visit his children that lived there. He died there the following spring and was buried in the FORREST LAWN CEMETERY in Los Angeles.

Canning was nearly always done in the fall. All of the girls had to help with this chore. Although this was called canning, in our house it was processing in bottles. Many bottles of fruit and corn were put up. Winnie always made her own bread, cake and cookies. As her family got larger some of these tasks had to be repeated two or three times a week. Sometimes bread had to be baked every day.

In those days food items like lard and syrup were sold in buckets with a lid and bail for a handle. When these buckets were empty they were used for all sorts of things. All of the children took their lunch to school in these buckets. Most of the time their lunch was a sandwich made with homemade bread and butter and an egg. Nearly all the time Winnie had a homemade cookie or piece of homemade cake to put in the lunches. She felt the children needed this for sustenance and energy. Many times these were supplemented by a tomato, an apple or what else was grown on the farm and in season. As each of the girls came along and grew to

be old enough they were taught the homemaking skills needed to help lighten the load on their mother.

Vera comments, "I don't remember the day I didn't know how to make bread and cake. I remember mother putting me on my little table, and doing some bread mixing and cake making while we lived in Shelton, so it seems that I always knew how to make these things. I remember one time when I was about eight years old. Mother left me in the house to tend the baby and cook the dinner, while she went out to work in the garden. I let the fire go out. In the years of living with my parents we always had a coal-wood burning stove, in which to cook food, and with an oven to bake, and a reservoir on the side to heat water. I remember that on this day mother was really mad and disgusted with me. She expected to come in and find the meal cooked the table set, and ready to eat. I had certainly failed. Now she had to start the fire and cook the meal. I have always remembered that she said, 'I wouldn't be afraid to go to Hell, if you had to be the fireman.' "

While they lived in Wapello the children wanted to go back to Milo and visit with Aunt Eliza and Uncle Darius (nicknamed Died). Asa took Winnie and all the children up there in the wagon. He left them there for a week, and then came back and got them. Vera said, "My father had used every dish, spoon, knife and kettle in the house. They were all dirty in various places in the kitchen. Beth and I got the job of washing these dishes. We had to get water from the well. Warm it on the stove, and because there was so many of them we put them in the wash tub to soak. I've always thought that if the family had owned more dishes father would have left us in Milo longer. He didn't have any more dishes so he came and got us. We were gone a week and Beth and I were soaking and scrubbing dishes for another week after we got home."

At Wapello Winnie was Relief Society Visiting Teacher, Social Science Class Leader of the Relief society, and Primary President. When the Bishop asked her to be Primary President she told him she didn't feel that she could fill that position. If it had been any other organization perhaps she could have done it as she had worked in them all, but had never even been to Primary more than a dozen times in her life, so didn't know a thing about that work. He said, "Well, when you get through with this position you will be pretty well educated, won't you." So she accepted it and learned to love the work with the children very

much. When they sustained her, the Bishop said they were releasing Sister Scott because she had such a big family she couldn't take care of them and the Primary too. When they called Winnie's name for the new president the people laughed. Sister Scott had five children and Winnie had seven. She held this position until they moved to Basalt, Idaho.

In the spring of 1925 they moved again to Basalt, Idaho, where they lived for the next 10 years. They rented a farm on the Goshen Highway east of Basalt, Idaho and moved up to take possession of it and get ready to start the spring work. This farm was bisected by a railroad that ran from East to West. This was a spur of the railroad that was used to transport sugar beets and potatoes from the farming communities in the foothills to the Sugar Factory at Shelley, Idaho and to the potato processing plants at Blackfoot, Firth, Shelley, and Idaho Falls. The cows were pastured in what was called the lower field. This was South of the railroad and in the opposite end of the farm from the house.

This move was about the time of Reva's birthday, 8 March. One of the first things to be done was to make her a birthday cake. Winnie never seemed to fail to bake a cake or to have a cake baked for each child on its birthday, as long as they lived at home. Sometimes ice cream was supplied with the cake that made it a very special treat. When possible, Winnie would get an item of clothing for the child whose birthday was being celebrated. Many times money was not available to buy a present, so Winnie would make an item from a used item that was too small for the original owner. Many times she made an article of underclothing out of flour sacks. She always tried to bleach out the brand that many times wouldn't wash out. A famous brand of flour was the "Yellowstone Special." It was a big joke in our house, as well as in many other houses that the children were wearing their "Yellowstone Special Underwear."

Their eighth child, a fifth son, was born on 11 August 1925 and named Lewis Reed. They got this place by renting it for one year with an option to buy at the end of the year if they wanted to do so. They had planned to accept the terms of their lease and buy this farm in Basalt. When they went to make the deal to buy rather than rent, they were told that a man had been found that would give them more money for the farm and they had sold it to him and they would have to move out. Of this deal Asa said, "There's a nigger in the woodpile somewhere".

Jim says that Asa ran the half of this farm south of the railroad the next year after they had moved to a place in the village of Basalt. There must have been some kind of compromise reached with the bank to allow this. When the family lived in Shelton a family named Bain lived close to them. One of the girls in this family named Minnie had married a few times, and by her settlement from one of these marriages had obtained property in the village of Basalt. She made a deal to rent it to the Baird family for about one hundred dollars per year if they would fix up the grounds, repair the house, and make the place look better. They accepted and moved there in the spring of 1926. The house had two large rooms in the front, which faced the west, and a lean-to on the back. The family liked this place because it was only about three blocks from the school, church, store and post office.

The lot covered 1/4 of a Basalt ten-acre block and had a house, an orchard, a barn, and a garden spot. This was large enough to give room for the horses, pigs and cows and to raise a garden. They lived there for three years.

During the time they lived on the Bain property in Basalt Asa

worked wherever he could to earn a living. He did trucking and several unusual things. Part of the time he ran a milk route. He had a truck that he drove out through the country to the farms, picked up the milk that they had in cans and took them to Blackfoot, to the Creamery.



Baird Family in Basalt, Idaho in July 1926
Back row left to right - Kieth, Vera, Wayne, Winnie holding Reed, Asa,
Jim & Beth
Standing in front Reva & Clair and the dog Carlo

Asa and Winnie
Their Life Story



Wayne



Vera



Jim



Beth



Reva



Kieth

Asa and Winnie
Their Life Story



Clair



Reed

These pictures were taken in Basalt Idaho in July 1926 by their Uncle Orson Streadbeck



*Winnie's sister Susie Kirkman Streadbeck and her husband
Orson Streadbeck and their children Arval and Rela
Basalt, Idaho July 1926*

One season he contracted to slaughter a flock of turkeys for Thanksgiving. He brought them home for his family to help. They got the job accomplished, but had a feathery mess around the house.



LDS Church in Basalt, Idaho where the Baird family attended church from 1925 - 1935

Asa was a Ward Teacher and Boy Scout Committeeman from 1926 to 1929. He got involved in a couple of business schemes where he got left holding the bag and was prosecuted for someone else's mistakes. Asa had so many reverses that he became discouraged

with himself, his friends, the church and many people who had dealt unjustly with him.

One summer, while living on the Basalt town site, Winnie's sister Susie and her husband Orson Streadbeck brought their younger children, LaVon, Ivy, Arval and Rela on a trip to Yellowstone Park. They stopped in Basalt to visit. Rela, their youngest child became sick. They took her to a doctor and he said she had suffered an appendicitis attack and that she needed surgery. They had their camping equipment with them and found a camping spot in an Idaho Falls Park while Rela was in the hospital. They did, however spend a lot of time with the Bairds. Arval and Jim rode the white pony, Dot, up and down the Goshen Highway.



*Baird home in Basalt, Idaho
Where the family lived from 1926 - 1929
This picture was taken June 1998*

Basalt was settled about June of 1885. The original townsite was west of the highway and the railroad, with the road lying west of the railroad. Later the townsite was moved east about a mile, up on the hill where it was laid out according to the Mormon concept of having the houses and lots in town, with farms in the outlying vicinity. The place was originally called “Cedar Point” but was changed to Basalt because of the large formations of Basalt Rock in the area and the railroad called its Postal stop “Basalt Crossing.”

In the spring of 1929 the family moved to a farm on the Yellowstone Park Highway. It was part of the original Cedar Point townsite, about two miles north of Firth, Idaho. The house had been originally used as a store. It was situated between the Yellowstone Park Highway and the Snake River. It was one of the original buildings in Cedar Point. At this point the river and the highway were separated by a narrow neck of land about 500 feet wide. The river was on the west and the highway on the east. There was a railroad joining the east border of the highway right-of-way. Whenever a train came along and blew its whistle as it approached each railroad crossing the sound reverberated through the valley and startled the people and the livestock.

Asa, remembering his youthful experiences in Utah, planted some sugarcane on this place. He hoped to be able to make molasses out of it to use for stock feed. It never panned out.

On 9 October 1930 Asa had several of his children out in the fields harvesting squash, corn and other vegetables and storing them in the cellar for use during the winter. During this time Winnie was in the house giving birth to their sixth son and ninth child. This was their last child and they named him Robert Neil, in memory of his Great Grandfather Robert Lomax Kirkman. Mrs. Laura Larson, who had been a neighbor across the street in Basalt came and stayed the day this baby was born. She oiled the baby and cleaned him off soon after birth.



Robert Neil Baird

October 29, 1929, was “Black Tuesday” the day the stock market crashed. Many people thought that the stock market crash would not affect everyone. Soon workers lost their jobs as manufacturers began to cut back their factory production. By 1930 the resulting depression was a national disaster. Millions of unemployed persons could find no jobs. People out of work would do whatever they could to make a living. This was the condition soon after the Baird’s last child came into the world. The next few years were extremely harsh. Not only the Bairds were struggling but nearly every one.



*Cement House NE of Basalt where the Baird’s lived
for one year - 1931*

During the year of 1931 the family lived in one more house in northeast Basalt for one year without farming. This house was constructed of poured concrete and has been known by some of the family as the “cement” house. While living in this house during the summer of 1931 Asa took his oldest son, Asa Wayne and went on a trip to the Big Horn Basin in Wyoming, this was the first

time he had been there since being released from colonization of it in 1903. Asa said, “I got a truck, after that I was asked to take the MIA on a stake outing. Early in the summer of 1931 I took a group of MIA and other ward members to Island Park for a week on a stake outing, after which Wayne and I went to the Big Horn Basin. We worked as salesmen for a book company. This was not very profitable during these depression years. Here we visited with old friends and relatives. The place where I had filed for a homestead while in the Big Horn Basin was now one of the largest oil wells in this community. The whole Big Horn Basin country was now a land of many oil wells and not much farming. After this I worked for Alfred Fisher, who managed the Midland Elevator in Firth, Idaho.”

Although the family owned a car during this time Asa and/or Wayne had it out looking for work and the family had to walk, or ride a horse, to town for any household needs. It was 2 – 2 ½ miles to the Basalt townsite from this place. There wasn’t a well on this place so we carried

water for household use in buckets from neighbors. Winnie had lost about half of her teeth, one at a time, and the rest of them were in poor condition. She went to a dentist's office and he called in a doctor to assist him. They gave her ether and then pulled out her remaining teeth. She had a bad time. Her face was out of shape. Her mouth bled a lot and she couldn't eat solid food.

A house had burned down across the street from the cement house leaving a row of large shade trees. The owner wanted them cut down, so Asa contracted to cut them for the wood they contained. The wood cook stove was the only source of heat in the house. Because of the long, cold, Idaho winters, it took stacks and stacks of firewood to keep the house warm. Once a fire was going this green wood burned clean and hot. Asa and Wayne would cut the trees down and Jim, Clair and Kieth would saw them into splitting size chunks. After they were cut to lengths, Wayne, Jim and sometimes Asa would split them into burnable sticks. Beth, Reva, Clair and Kieth would carry the split wood across the road to the house. It seemed that all winter was spent packing wood across the road. During this time Vera was most always found in the house helping her mother who was not well. She did much of the housekeeping and cooking. She did live at home but did do housework and field work much of the time to help out the family.



The Basalt Grade School where the Baird children attended

The weather was very harsh during this winter. Everyone rode a sleigh to school. This was a bob sleigh with bows and a canvas top (the box and top was like those used by the pioneers while they crossed the plains) and a wood/coal stove in the center. The snow was deep and

drifted into high drifts. The horses really had a struggle in pulling this sleigh through the high drifts. After living in the cement house for about a year they moved back to the farm on the Yellowstone Park Highway in the spring of 1932 and lived there until April 1935. While living there for the second time Asa acquired a team of grey horses that he named Kate and Steel. This was an exceptionally good matched team and worked well together. They were kept for many years.

In Basalt Winnie was Theology class leader and visiting teacher in the Relief Society, Primary teacher, Primary counselor, and Primary President. She went out to help the sick, helped prepare several bodies for burial and on many confinement cases. She helped direct several plays put on by the Mutual Improvement Association and the Primary.

On 21 August 1934 while she was at the church house to a play practice someone sent for her to come outside. There were their oldest son Wayne and Isabell Grange wanting her to go to Bishop Frank Christensen's house with them while they got married. They went home and got Wayne's father and then to Granges and got Isabell's mother and father, after which they went to Bishop Christensen's and watched them get married. Then Winnie went back to play practice. Their first grandchild was born to Wayne and Isabell in the spring of 1935 and named Marjorie.



*LDS Church in Firth, Idaho
Completed in the summer of 1935*

On Winnie's 59th birthday 27 April 1935, the Baird family moved from Basalt to Firth, about two miles south down the Yellowstone Park highway. Here she was asked to be Theology Class Leader in Relief Society and held that position for thirteen years. She was

Special Interest Class Leader in the YWMIA for three years, councilor in the Relief Society for one year, and a Relief Society Visiting Teacher

throughout this time. She continued to visit the sick and went on many confinement cases during these years.

The place they moved to in Firth contained twenty-six acres of farmland where they raised sugar beets, potatoes, grain and hay. Originally there had been a two-roomed house built on the north end and also a two-roomed house on the south end. By the time the Baird family moved there these two houses had been combined into one T-shaped house containing four rooms on the south end of the place.



*Baird home on the highway south of Firth 1935-1941
Picture taken in the 1980's*

On the night of November 18, 1936, James Elmer came home and into the bedroom and told his mother that he was going to get married the next morning. He got up the next morning caught the 8 o'clock bus to Blackfoot and was married on 19 November 1936 to Betty Jean Hudson, a girl he had been going with for some time. Soon after their marriage Jim and Betty went to California where Jim worked at construction for some time. They returned and lived in an apartment in Firth and then moved to Blackfoot where Jim became a building contractor.

Wayne was working for his father-in-law Frank Grange and made a deal with him to obtain a building lot on his property. He went to Island Park, cut and hauled logs and built a 16 x 24 feet log house. Asa helped lay the logs and Kieth and Asa helped to do the chinking and flooring. Kieth worked almost every Saturday while he was not in school helping to complete this house.

In the month of February 1938 Asa and Winnie went to Salt Lake with Frank Eugene Lyon and their daughter Beth and saw them married in the Salt Lake L.D.S. Temple on 24 February 1938.

During the harvest of the beet crop in the fall of 1938 Asa injured his hand by hitting it with a chain. In the spring of 1939, he had a skin

cancer removed from this place on his hand and was doctored by a Dr. Reese Richards of St. Anthony, Idaho, who was a church doctor. The method of his doctoring was with different kinds of ointment, which he made himself from a recipe passed to him by his forefather, Willard Richards. Willard Richards claimed that the cure and method had been given to him by the Prophet Joseph Smith. Through the years Asa had more skin cancers that were removed by this same Dr. Richards, some on his face and on his hands and arms. He suffered with, at that time, an inoperable double groin hernia and wore a truss to help control the pain.

Asa and Winnie bought a seven acre plot of ground and several city lots west of Firth and close to and south of the High School. About 1½ acres on the north end was a gravel and sand bar. Sometime between May 1939 and December 1941 an addition was built on the Firth High school. This addition consisted of a gymnasium with bleacher seats on both sides and boys and girls locker rooms. The sand and gravel for the concrete foundation and the floor and the sand for the mortar for the bricks were furnished by the Baird family from the property they had bought by the school. Asa built a set of “dump boards” for his wagon that were patterned after the ones he had used as a young man in Utah, Colorado and Wyoming. Asa, Kieth, Clair and Reed filled this box with hand shovels and delivered it to the school construction site.

In the summer and fall of 1941, with Jim as the general contractor, they built a four-room basement home in the hole caused by taking the gravel from this property. In his notes Asa wrote, “In April 1935 we moved to Firth, Idaho where I again did some farming. During our years in Firth many changes came into our lives and our family. Winnie’s and my health began to fail. After we had lived in Firth for about five years we got some land near the town of Firth, on which we built a basement house and moved into it. It had four rooms. We made this move in the fall of 1941. Some of our children were married and left us for their own homes. This was our home when our four youngest sons married, and also our daughter Vera.”

“On Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, Japanese air and naval forces bombed the (United States) Pearl Harbor Naval Base in Hawaii. Matters had been heading toward a crisis of some sort. Yet the country was stunned by this sudden attack, launched without warding. The following

day, congress passed a declaration of war against Japan. Similar declarations were adopted December 11, after Germany and Italy declared war against the United States. America was now in the war – all the way” (The Book of Knowledge, Vol. 9, page 3208, 1963 Edition.) Since that time December 7 has been known as “Pearl Harbor Day.”

Since war had been declared in December 1941, the family knew that some of the sons would undoubtedly end up in the service. We all wanted a family group picture before any of them left. Consequently, arrangements were made and a picture taken in Idaho Falls on 8 February 1942.



Picture of the family of Asa Baird and Winnifred Kirkman taken in Idaho Falls on 8 February 1942. Front Row – Asa, Winnifred, Kieth, Neil is standing between Asa and Winnifred; Middle – Vera, Beth, Reva, Wayne; back – Reed, Clair, Jim

They had three sons in the service during World War II.

Joseph Kieth on 22 October 1942 went to the induction center at Pocatello and signed his induction papers. He was then sent home with instructions to return on 4 November prepared to receive an



PFC Joseph K. Baird

assignment. Winnie wrote; Kieth left home November 4th 1942. He stayed at Fort Douglas in Salt Lake City until the next Sunday night, then went to Camp Kerns. That was about the 8th of November. He arrived at Lincoln, Nebraska Air Base November 20th 1942. At Lincoln he attended the Air Force technical Training School for aircraft mechanics. He left Lincoln May 10th 1943 arriving in Santa Monica, California on May 13th. Was promoted to Corporal when he left Lincoln. Left Santa Monica the 15th or 16th of June, went to Daggett, California in an airplane. This was about a 40 minute ride. Arrived in

Memphis, Tennessee on June 28, went to Orlando, Florida August 25th, and to Dunnellon, Florida on September 3rd. All the places he has gone since he left Santa Monica he has gone by plane. Kieth was in the Air Force and served in several places in the mechanical line. He returned February 16, 1946. He was an aircraft mechanic and crew chief in the Army Air Force.”



*Clair Kirkman Baird-
Probably taken in England*

Clair Kirkman went to Salt Lake 23 January 1943, and joined his company at 8:51 A.M. on the 26th, went to Fort Douglas. Left there about February 3rd, went to Fort Custer, Michigan for basic training. I don't know when he Left Fort Custer, but it was up to Beth's that I got the letter. He had been promoted to P.F.C., and had finished their training and would be going

some other place. Next we got a card telling us that he was back in the United States. It was dated June 4th. They had embarked from Stoken, New York to go across after prisoners, and took the prisoners to Birmingham, Alabama. Arrived at Florence, Ont. Camp



*Cpl. Clair K. Baird- Probably
taken in France*

June 7th. Left there for a furlough home on July 22. Left Salt Lake to go back on August 5th. Was sent to Ontario to report there on August 18th. Since then he has been sent to Yuma, Arizona Side Camp. Spent time escorting prisoners. He returned November 15, 1945. He was in the Military Police Escort Guard Service in the European Area.



Lewis R. Baird

your son successfully passed the mental, moral and physical exam of applicants and was at Boise this date, voluntarily enlisted in our country's oldest military service, the U.S. Marine corps. – Signed and typed by Paul S. Boyd, Captain U S M C R. He was in battles in Japan and on Pacific Islands and was in the Battle of Iwo Jima. He was one of 5 of his battalion to come out of the battle alive. He returned home on July 21, 1946.

Lewis Reed was married on 23rd May 1944 at Shelley, Idaho to Lola Mangum, by Bishop Randall Anderson of Shelley 1st Ward. He left for the service on 21 June 1944 and entered the Marine Corps at the Western Recruiting Station at Boise, Idaho. A letter Asa and Winnie received from the station reads, “I am pleased to be able to notify you that



Reed & Lola

Vera was married to Thomas Herbert Farnes of Lovell, Wyoming on the 27 December 1945 in the Salt Lake Temple and went with him to Lovell to make her home.

Clair Kirkman was married on August 31, 1946 to Janell Carma Hult at Beth's home by Bishop Austin S. Brown of the Basalt Ward.

In September 1946, Reva went on a mission to the New England States; she returned home in April 1948.

Kieth was married 26 May 1948 to Donna Elizabeth Rainsdon in the Idaho Falls Temple.

Robert Neil was married 3 October 1949 to Ethel Jean Dial in the Salt Lake Temple. Ethel was killed in an automobile accident and Neil married 7 November 1957 to Katie Marie Elison in the Idaho Falls Temple.



Asa & Winnie's home in Idaho Falls at 1099 Canal Ave.

Asa spent most of the days that the Temple was open doing temple work there. For several months he went every morning to do sealings, following this by as many endowment sessions as he could do per day. Winnifred went with him whenever she could go to a session, but her health wouldn't permit her do the temple work as much as her husband could.

Winnie wrote, "Ever since the Idaho Falls Temple was opened for ordinance work in December 1945, we have gone as often as we could and have done work for the dead there. In February 1949 with my husband, I was called to fill a Temple Mission, and was set apart for this calling by Arnford Christensen, my eighth grade

Asa was an instructor in the Firth Elders Quorum for 1948,1949,1950. In the summer of 1953 Asa and Winnifred rented out their farm in Firth and moved from Firth to Idaho Falls, and in turn rented a place in Idaho Falls to live in. It was a block or a little more from the Idaho Falls Temple. After that time



Idaho Falls Temple in the summer time

school teacher, on either the 8th or 9th of February 1949. My husband was set apart by Bishop Stanley G. Dye on the same day. For this mission we were required to go two days a week or do sixty endowments in a year for the dead. My husband did seventy-two his first year, eighty-three the second year, and over two hundred a year since that time up to now, (1954) and in 1954 he did more than 300 endowments. I did nearly as many as my husband. In the year 1950 my husband did more temple work than any other Elder in the Shelley Stake.” Several couples were given this calling to insure enough people to hold sessions. The Temple was so well patronized that soon it was over-crowded. After a year a release for the time of going to the Temple was given, but we were still expected to go every week, and do all we could.

In November 1953 Asa and Winnie moved from Firth, Idaho to Idaho



Asa & Winnie in their backyard in Idaho Falls

Falls, Idaho to be closer to the Temple. They moved into an old house at 1099 Canal Avenue that had been remodeled into two apartments. They had a small garden space in the rear where they loved to raise a few vegetables and some flowers. Their iris, gladiolus and dahlias were especially beautiful.

Winnie said, “The 17th of February 1954 I fell and broke my wrist, this is the first bone I have ever broken, while my husband has one or two broken every year.”

In later life Asa said, “During my life I have broken many bones. When a small child I had my leg crushed and head cut

and skull cracked. My fingers were smashed in a derrick in Clearfield, Utah. I had my finger broken while playing ball at Syracuse. I cracked my right elbow while greasing a wagon in Shelton, Idaho. In Blackfoot Idaho I had my neck hurt and out of place. While living in Basalt I

broke my right arm cranking the old Ford. My breastbone was broken while working for the Midland Elevator. I slipped and fell on the icy highway and dislocated my hip. My left arm was kicked by a horse and broken. I hit my finger with a wrench and broke it. Have had my toe broken and have had my ribs broken many times. These bones have healed rapidly and I still have the use of all of them.”



*Winnie & Asa in their garden at 1099 Canal Ave.,
Idaho Falls, Idaho*

In Idaho Falls Asa worked with the Adult Aaronic Priesthood group. He completed a class taught for this group and received a diploma. He said, “This is the first diploma I have received in my life, and at the age of seventy-four.” Asa Baird was ordained a High Priest in the Idaho Falls Stake Center, on 8 August 1954 by Samuel A. Hill, president of the North Idaho Falls Stake High Priests Quorum. He worked as a home teacher in the Idaho Falls First and Fourth Wards of the North Idaho Falls Stake.



*Asa and Winnie on their 50th
Wedding Anniversary*

By June 23, 1959, they had been married fifty years, and celebrated their Golden Wedding by asking all their children, grandchildren, relatives and friends that could do so, to spent the day in the Idaho Falls Temple doing temple work that day. In the evening the family met at the home of Frank and Beth Lyon in Firth, Idaho, and a buffet was served. Fifty-five people were present, including all nine of their children, three sons-in-law and six daughters-in-law and many grandchildren. Asa’s Sister Eliza Jane Baird Sessions and her son Glenn and his wife and Mrs. Elizabeth Godfrey who lived in the other apartment at 1099 Canal Avenue were also present.

Asa and Winnie
Their Life Story



*The family of Asa & Winnifred Kirkman Baird
50th Anniversary – 23 June 1959
Back row- left to right – Jim, Wayne, Clair, Kieth, Reva, Beth, Neil
Front row left to right – Vera, Winnie, Asa & Reed*



*The Inlaws
Back row left to right – Bill Corbett, Herbert Farnes, Frank Lyon, Isabel Grange Baird,
Donna Rainsdon Baird. Front row left to right- Betty Jean Hudson Baird, Janell Hult
Baird, Lola Mangum Baird & Katie Elison Baird*

During the movings and migrations of the family, they had moved right to help build or assist in financing of the Stake Houses in Rigby, Idaho Falls, Blackfoot and Shelley. Also the LDS Hospital and Temple in Idaho Falls. Asa made several visits to the building spot of the Idaho Falls Temple and also attended the temple's dedication.

After Asa became too ill to attend the temple, he became a great burden to Winnie. She could not leave him alone and go to the temple. However, even then she went all that she could. Her neighbors, friends and family helped to tend her husband while she went. She was very anxious to see the temple work completed for her ancestors. She did all that she could with her training and personal knowledge to further this work.

Asa and Winnie's grandchildren loved to go stay with them and they were always given a warm welcome. Kieth and Donna's son Bruce says: "Grandpa always had a pocketful of treats, white and pink peppermints and Sen Sen." He also remembers eating raw peas out of their garden in Idaho Falls.

On 15 February 1969 they moved from 1099 Canal Ave into a house on the other end of the block at 599 ½ H Street. This house had also been converted into two apartments. It was on the corner of Sage and H Streets, and was directly east of the LDS Temple. It was in this home that Asa suffered a stroke during the night of Friday 20 June 1969.

On 23 June 1969 Asa and Winnie had been married sixty years. They desired to have a family reunion on this day. They asked all their family to come to Idaho Falls for this occasion. Although Asa was in the hospital, Winnie decided that the family should go ahead with their plans for a celebration. The family had the celebration for the 60th Wedding Anniversary on Monday 23 June at Beth's home.

Asa went to bed early on Friday night 20 June. He said that he was getting pretty tired and didn't feel very good. He became very sick later that night and vomited a lot. He kept telling Winnie that he was going to die. She told him, "Yes, but not tonight." He said, "I might, but I am going to die soon." Next morning Dr. Hatch was asked to come and examine him. He told them that Asa had suffered a stroke and sent him to the hospital. He was taken to the Idaho Falls LDS Hospital by his Grandson-in-law Ronald Nichols. He gradually became worse. Much of

the time he was in the hospital a member of his family was with him. His youngest son Robert Neil Baird and his wife, Katie were with him when he passed away about 5:00 a.m. on the morning of 3 July 1969. He had been in a coma since Sunday 28 June and after that time he didn't recognize members of his family when they came to visit.

The Williams Funeral Home was called and hired to take care of the body. Funeral services were held in the Williams Funeral Home chapel on Monday 7 July 1969. Interment was in the Firth Cemetery at Firth, Bingham County, Idaho, on a lot that Asa had picked out himself. At his death Asa was eighty-nine years, 1 month, and 9 days old.

Winnie continued to live in the apartment house at 599 ½ H Street, however she moved into the smaller apartment in the home. She visited around with some of her children. Winnie wrote this statement on her personal record sheet, which was found recorded in her Book of Remembrance after her death, "We have raised a family of nine children, six boys and three girls. Have moved around a lot but I have always tried to attend church and fill to the best of my ability the positions I have been asked to do. And have been happy in the work of the Lord and raising my family and the associations with them and their families. I have met many wonderful people in our movings around and have been blessed with a testimony of the Gospel."

Winnie became ill and her daughter Beth took her to the hospital on Thursday morning March 25, 1971. The doctor said she had a gall stone attack, and needed an operation, but her heart was not in a condition to undergo an operation, so they endeavored to do the best they could with medicine. She died in the Idaho Falls LDS Hospital about 5:30 p.m. on Good Friday, April 9, 1971.

In the blessing that was given to Winnie 53 years before her death by Patriarch Chandler she was told that her heart ailment would be the cause of her death. This turned out to be a true prediction. *Note: Patriarch Chandler blessed the sick and promised Winnie that, if it was her desire, and she had the faith, she would get better and live to raise her children, but in her old age her heart ailment would be the cause of her death. Winnie did get better.*

Once again the Williams Funeral Home was called to care for the body and the funeral was held in the Williams Funeral Home on 12 April 1971. She was buried in the family plot in Firth, Idaho beside her husband. She would have been eighty-five years old on the 27th of the month in which she died.

Reva wrote her memories of mother and dad during their later years and tells us that:

In 1954 I worked as a nurse at the Magic Valley Memorial Hospital in Twin Falls, Idaho. I came to work one morning with a rash on both arms. The doctor who checked me said go home and have your doctor take care of you. You are allergic to something here. I had been working in the Polio Isolation Unit doing the routine "Hot Pad Treatments" for several children and also the many other tasks that needed to be done. I hated to leave but went home to mother and dad in Idaho Falls. It was a long summer and fall. The bug was hard to get rid of and part of the time my whole body was covered.

I remember as we visited in Byron, Wyoming in 1946 with my sister and friends. I had just been called to fill a mission. As we visited an old friend of Fathers there who had made his fortune in oil, his children had received fine educations and those things money can buy, but cared little for the church. This friend asked how they could afford to send someone on a mission that he never could, and my mother replied, "How can we afford not to."

During that time I got mother and dad to tell me their life stories. I copied as they talked and then typed them up. If I were to finish the stories in my own words now I would say they had a wonderful retirement time. They were doing the things they enjoyed the most. They spent the rest of their days in a home they had made by the temple and enjoying the great family they raised. Some days dad went for four or five or more sessions and then helped people with baptisms, sealings or whatever was needed.

They had a beautiful flower garden and delicious vegetables to eat and share. Their children and families visited them often and they visited their children often, especially mother. Dad sometimes had a difficult time traveling with his health. There were visits to Lovell, Wyoming to

visit Vera and her family and for dad just to go back to the Big Horn Basin. When I had a car I took mom to Denver. We also went to Seattle to visit Kieth and Donna and family.

After I was married they came to Salmon several times. One trip I remember was hunting season. Dad said how he would like to get just one more deer. Bill took him out to the apple orchard next morning and he got his deer. He said, "the last deer I got can be just as great as the first." Mom also came to Montana to visit us there and she made a trip to Pine Ridge, South Dakota to visit with Clair and Janell and family. She enjoyed traveling.

When I worked and lived in San Diego Mom came down there to visit with me and also she had family there to visit. She enjoyed trips to the ocean and to Balboa Park to see the animals. We went up to Los Angeles to visit with her sister Tryphina or aunt "Trice" as we called her. Aunt Trice, mother and I took a boat trip to Catalina Island. While in Los Angeles aunt Trice's daughter-in-law drove us around. A special place I remember was to Forrest Lawn Cemetery and to the grave of mother's father, Joseph Kirkman. What a great place, and for her to finally see where her father was buried. It's such a beautiful place. A large fountain is behind his grave.

Another highlight of that trip was Uncle Myron coming to our apartment and visiting with mother. It had been many years since she had seen this brother. I remember that she often talked about his service in the First World War and about the injuries he suffered there, and about his being homeless for so very long. By this time he had married and settled in a home in Riverside, California. If I remember correctly he was a member of a bishopric there.

I remember too the trip when I took mom, dad, and Aunt Zina from Salt Lake City to Reno, Nevada and then on to the coast and through the big redwood forests. Dad really had a wonderful time. He always pointed out the beautiful things, the big oaks and the pinion pines. We stopped to pick up some big pinecones and to see the rock piers or monument type rocks and we enjoyed the ocean. Then we went on up the coast to Seattle and left Aunt Zina with her daughter Fannie for the

visit she had so long wanted to make. We had a good visit with Kieth, Donna and family. On the way home we spent the night with Aunt Zina's daughter Goldie in Boise.

Several times I took dad to Salt Lake City where he showed us the old homes, cemeteries and places where he had lived in Bountiful, Syracuse, Centerville and Farmington. He loved these places and said, "They didn't look this way fifty years ago."


Dad loved to visit with his old cronies around Idaho Falls, with his brothers and sisters on their stops to visit in Idaho Falls and at the Temple. He even had quite a shop under the house where he kept their bottled food and vegetables. In his life he had been a good veterinary and had treated many sick animals. He had lots of those "get well" ideas from his Great Grandmother Patty Bartlett Sessions. He could make anything, just heat a piece of iron and make a part to fix his machinery or make a cultivator to get rid of the weeds.

He and mother did a great job of raising their nine children thru hard times. Mother saved and made Christmas gifts for her children and grandchildren. She was a visiting teacher, took food to and cared for the sick. She enjoyed her Relief Society.

"Our father and mother have left us gifts more desirable than the great jewels of the world. Elder Owen Woodruff's statement 'You will make no money, but you will be blessed far better than the wealth of the earth' given to father as he called him to the Big Horn Basin, has been the keynote of his life. I'm sure our Heavenly Father knows how much we can wisely spend and provides our needs in the hour when they are needed. Although our father has never given us the wealth or riches of this world, he has given us, his children and those who come after us, his testimony. This is the greatest gift of all, which he, his fathers and the Prophets and great men since the beginning of time have left for their children and those who come after them.

They did a great job with their children and grandchildren thru hard times and war times. I hope to be part of their "eternal family."

Asa and Winnie
Their Life Story

In Memory of	
	
ASA BAIRD Born May 24, 1880 at Centerville, Utah Died July 3, 1969 at Idaho Falls, Idaho	
Services at WILLIAMS FUNERAL CHAPEL Monday, July 7, 1969 — 1 P.M. Counselor Donald C. Dew, officiating Member of the Fourth L.D.S. Ward Bishopric	
Family Prayer Joseph K. Baird Prelude Music Helen Anderson Double Mixed Quartet "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" Lois Bolander, Allene Lyon, Patrina Lyon, Wanda Crooks, John Chapman, Lloyd Bolander, Gary Bolander, Hyrum Mecham Carolyn Lyon, accompanist	Invocation John Schwendiman Life Sketch Cary Baird Organ Medley Carolyn Lyon Speaker Bp. Talmadge P. Grimmett Vocal Solo "How Great Thou Art" Richard Baird Carolyn Lyon, accompanist Speaker Willard Dye Remarks Donald C. Dew Double Mixed Quartet "Oh My Father" Benediction Sylvan Olson Pastlude Music Helen Anderson Dedicatory Prayer Reese Baird
HONORARY PALLBEARERS Fourth Ward High Priests Group	
PALLBEARERS (Grandsons)	
Calvin Baird Ray Lyon Robert Baird	Gene Baird Brent Baird Jay Farnes
FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS Fourth Ward Relief Society Presidency Lola Hendricks, Frances Schwendiman, LaFon Haack, Vida Hulet	
FLORAL BEARERS Grandchildren	
Interment Firth Cemetery	

Asa Baird's funeral program

The Obituary of ASA BAIRD

Asa Baird was born on May 24, 1880 in Centerville, Davis County, Utah, being the seventh child of the seventeen children of his mother, who was Fanny Emmoret Sessions, Fanny Emmoret Sessions was the first wife of James Hyrum Baird, being the parents of Asa Baird. A second wife of James Hyrum Baird was Margaret Ellen Randall, who had ten (10) children. Nine of the children of James Hyrum Baird died as infants or small children, with eighteen (18) of these children growing to adulthood and marriage, always feeling great love and a very close bond together. Today three of his sons and one daughter survive Asa.

Asa knew pioneer life in Utah as a boy, & lived in several other towns in Utah, north of Salt Lake City. His father, James Hyrum Baird had learned the blacksmith trade and was working at this trade, having his own shop in Centerville at the time of Asa's birth. Knowing this trade James Hyrum Baird worked as a contractor and builder of various roads, railroads and shops in the west, some of which times his son Asa

was with him and helped him. Asa as a boy learned to be a blacksmith, to doctor any kind of domestic animal and was also a farmer, which he continued until his health forced him to quit, which was about sixteen years ago.

Asa's ancestry was that of pioneers who were ever pushing westward with civilization growth. Both of his parents, all four of his grandparents, four of his great grandparents and four of his second great grandparents joined the Mormon Church during their lifetime, living Mormon joys, trials and pioneer life. This was Asa's heritage and the way he grew up, having a great love for the Mormon people and their way of life. He loved everybody, whether of his religion or some other religion.

One of his ancestors, Chauncey Loveland came into Utah with Brigham Young in 1847. His Sessions ancestors followed two months later; others came with the main body of saints in 1848 and 1850. His father came to Utah about 1862-3.

His formal schooling was of elementary level of pioneer life, but he loved books, papers, & to read, especially about the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the works of his fellowmen.

In the spring of 1900, he was called to go with his Uncle Byron Sessions into northern Wyoming with a colony of Mormon saints to settle the "Big Horn" basin. His job was to take care of cattle and some horses. They landed at their destination on his 20th birthday. After three years in the "Big Horn", he returned home to his parents in Syracuse, Utah, & was called to go on a mission for the LDS Church to the Colorado Mission, with headquarters in Denver, Colorado. He was in Denver, Glenwood Springs, Mancos, Manassa, and other Colorado towns for the two years of this mission.

One of his missionary companions was Joseph Kirkman, Junior, whose sister Winnifred he later met, and married on 23 June 1909 in the LDS Salt Lake Temple.

Next he homesteaded on the Uinta Basin in Northern Western Utah, where his first child Asa Wayne was born in November of 1910. In 1912 Asa & his wife, Winnifred (or Winnie, as she was called), moved back to

the Salt Lake City locality, living on Provo Bench (now Orem) for awhile, then moving to Salt Lake City, where the second child & first daughter, Vera was born in January 1913. In the fall of 1913, Asa, Winnie & 2 children moved to Rigby, Idaho, and since that time have lived in seven towns in Idaho, on farms. Seven more children were born in Idaho, namely, James Elmer, Beth, Reva, Joseph Kieth, Clair Kirkman, Lewis Reed, and Robert Neil. All nine children and his wife survive him, 41 grandchildren & 27 great grandchildren all survive him.

He has served in LDS Church capacities of Sunday School, MIA (Mutual Improvement Association), Priesthood Presidencies and Scout work. About 1947, Asa and his wife were called as temple missionaries of the Idaho Falls Temple. This calling they served faithfully to help get the Idaho Falls LDS Temple progressing for about two years.


In the fall of 1953, Asa and Winnie moved from their home in Firth, Idaho to 1099 Canal Avenue in Idaho Falls, Idaho. After this Asa went every day [that the temple was open] to the temple to do temple ordinances & sealings for the dead. This was the life of his latter years, until about five years ago when his health forced him to quit going to the temple.

He held the priesthood of High Priest, being ordained thus in August 1954.

During the last five years his health gradually became worse. In February of this year he moved to the other end of the block, with the address of 599 ½ “H” Street. Here at his home on Friday night, June 20th, 1969 he suffered a light stroke, and was taken to the LDS Hospital the next day, June 21st, where he was until his death on Thursday morning of July 3rd, 1969. His final resting-place will be in Firth Cemetery, which spot he chose and purchased for himself.

He enjoyed a rich full, long life, sixty years of which he was married. He suffered and endured many trials, and hardships, being happy for the opportunity of having a body and life upon this earth. He died aged 89 years, 1 month and 9 days.

Asa and Winnie
Their Life Story

In Memory of		Speaker Robert N. Baird
		Remarks Bishop Wilburn Frandsen
WINNIFRED KIRKHAM BAIRD		Sextet "That Wonderful Mother of Mine"
Born April 27, 1886 — Died April 9, 1971		Lola Hendricks, Uvon Murdock, Florence Love, Delva Edwards, Suzanna Leavitt, Marjorie Frandsen — Maureen Hansen, accompanist
Services at		Benediction Carey Baird
WILLIAMS FUNERAL CHAPEL		Postlude Music Maureen Hansen
Monday, April 12, 1971 — 1:30 P.M.		Dedicatory Prayer A. Wayne Baird
Bishop Wilburn Frandsen, officiating		
		PALLBEARERS
Family Prayer Joseph K. Baird		Gene Baird Fred Baird
Prelude Music Maureen Hansen		Ray Lyon Clay Baird
Vocal Solo "The Lord's Prayer"		Wayne Lyon Hal Baird
Richard Baird		
Carolyn Ann Lyon, accompanist		FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS
Invocation Lewis R. Baird		L.D.S. Fourth Ward Relief Society Presidency
Life Sketch Calvin Baird		Lola Hendricks, Francis Schwendiman, LaFon Haack, Kathryn Price
Organ Medley Carolyn Ann Lyon		FLORAL BEARERS
Speaker William Warner		Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren
		Interment Firth Cemetery
		Firth, Idaho

Winnifred Kirkman Baird's funeral program

Obituary of WINNIFRED KIRKMAN BAIRD

On the 27th day of April in the year of 1886 a baby was born to a couple known as Joseph Kirkman Senior and his wife Josephine Crandall. The birth occurred at the family home in Burrville, Sevier County, Utah. This was the sixth child and fifth daughter born in this family. The baby was named Winnifred, which name is found recorded on Church and civil records, however soon the nickname of "Winnie" was used by relatives and many friends.

Ancestors of Winnie were very important to her, because they helped her very often in her life. Her father Joseph Kirkman Sr. was born in Harwood, Lancashire, England where his father Robert Lomax Kirkman first heard the gospel of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in a street meeting en route to his daily work. In the early summer of 1850 the Kirkman family left England to join the Saints in Utah. At Iowa a sixth son was born, then the family assembled necessary supplies and joined the Martin Handcart Company of pioneers to come to the Salt

Lake Valley. En route the father and baby brother froze to death in Sweetwater County, Wyoming. The widow and sons moved on, and in December 1856 the Kirkman family reached the Salt Lake Valley all suffering severely from hunger and some of them from frozen parts of their bodies.

Joseph Kirkman Sr. was 6 years old at this time and walked every step of the way across the plains from Iowa to Utah. When the Kirkman family arrived in Utah, the LDS Church leaders sent the Kirkman family to Springville, Utah where the LDS Saints were assigned to care for this family and nurse them back to health.

Later Joseph Kirkman Sr. married in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City, Utah to Josephine Crandall a daughter of early pioneers into Utah.

In January 1890, when Winnie was 3 years 9 months, her mother was clearing away the dishes from dinner, and picked up the broom to sweep the floor and fell forward on her face. When family members went to pick her up she was dead, having died suddenly from a heart attack, leaving a family of 7 children.

The family took the mother back to Springville to bury her. After the burial, the father, Joseph Kirkman Sr. took some of the oldest children and returned to the Burrville home. Winnie and the younger brother Myron were left in Springville with relatives ... It seems that the Maternal Grandmother Susannah Wimmer [Crandall] was in charge of their care, but they lived around with other relatives in Springville. Latter, and according to Springville records, Joseph Kirkman Sr. moved back to Springville in the early spring of 1892, where he married a second time to Matilda Ostler, making a trip to Manti for this purpose. Matilda was a widow of Robert Blackett. They took Winnie back home with them to live. A child named Jennie was born to them, and the second wife died by the time Winnie was ten years old. She went back to living with relatives again, living 1 year with her grandmother Susannah Wimmer [Crandall].

In 1897 when Winnie was 11 years old she was sent to Manti, Utah to live with her maternal grandmother's sister Elizabeth Wimmer Thornton, and her husband Horace Thornton, who had never had any

children of their own. Horace had been one of the vanguard scouts of the Brigham Young trek of the 24th of July 1847 into the Salt Lake Valley.

Elizabeth Thornton, or Aunt Betsey as Winnie always called her, and her husband Horace Thornton were ordained LDS Temple workers in the Manti Temple. Winnie lived with them in Manti for 11 Years, until the death of Aunt Betsey in 1907. Here in Manti, Winnie did her first temple work helping Horace Thornton do necessary paper work, and then being baptized for his dead ancestry. Also people would come to Manti to do temple work for their dead relatives, and Winnie was given the privilege of being baptized for them. In Winnie's own words, she said, "I never did keep a record of this, but I did proxy baptisms for several hundred women in the Manti Temple during the years I lived in Manti".

Winnie started to school in Springville, Utah and graduated from the eighth grade in Manti. Here she did her first service in LDS organizations being a Sunday School teacher for 4 years.

After the death of Aunt Betsey, Winnie went to Salt Lake City, where she accepted jobs doing housework for her living. Most of the time Winnie lived with the family for whom she worked. While working in Salt Lake City, she met Asa Baird, who had been a missionary companion to Winnie's brother Joseph Kirkman Jr., while they were both doing Missionary work for the LDS Church in the Colorado Mission. The mission headquarters were in Denver, Colorado.

Winnie continued her work in Salt Lake City until about the first of June 1909. She received her own endowments in the Manti Temple 9 June 1909, making a trip to Manti for this purpose and to visit with friends and relatives.

Winnie was married to Asa Baird in the LDS Salt Lake Temple on 23 June 1909. During the time Asa had been on a mission, homesteading was opened on the Uintah Reservation in Wasatch County, Utah, at which time Asa Baird took out a homestead. Asa began living and working his land, and this became the first home of Asa and Winnie. Also their first child a son was born there, whom they named Asa

Wayne Baird. Here for many months Winnie's father and her sister Jennie lived with her.

Early in July of 1912 Asa and Winnie moved to Provo, Utah, living there for several months. They then moved to Salt Lake City, where their 1st daughter was born. About November 1913 Asa and Winnie and their 2 children moved to Rigby, Idaho, where a son was born. Asa and Winnie lived in several farming communities in Idaho. While living in this state they had 7 children born to them, namely, James E., Beth, Reva, Joseph K., Clair K., L. Reed, and R. Neil.

Winnie acquired a great testimony and a firm conviction of the truthfulness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ from her pioneer relatives and ancestors with whom she associated, which faith never left her throughout her entire life.

During Winnie's life she gave service to God through many church callings, assignments and duties, some of which were:

RELIGION CLASS, assistant Superintendent of and a teacher until this organization was discontinued.

PRIMARY ORGANIZATION, being a teacher and the Primary President in two wards for many years during the time her children were small.

RELIEF SOCIETY, she was the Social Science and Theology Class leader in 2 different wards and a counselor in Firth Ward. She was a visiting teacher for many, many years of her life in 7 different wards.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, While in Ioka a branch was formed, which she helped much to get started, then served as teacher in Sunday School, also served as Sunday School Teacher in Manti, Basalt, and Firth Idaho.

TEMPLE WORK, Since November 1953 Winnie has lived in Idaho Falls, Idaho, where she has spent much time assisting with temple work. She spent all the time that was possible, that her health and that of her husband Asa would permit her to spend, up to her recent illness.

Her husband preceded her in death on July 3, 1969. Her parents, two brothers, three sisters and two grandchildren have preceded her in death.

Winnie wrote this statement in her personal record sheet, found recorded in her Book of Remembrance. "We have raised a family of 9 children and have moved around a lot. I have always tried to attend church and to fill to the best of my ability the positions I was asked to do, and have been happy in the work of the Lord and raising my family and have been blessed with a testimony of the gospel".

Winnifred Kirkman Baird died after a short illness in the LDS Hospital, Idaho Falls, Idaho on Friday, at 5:30 p.m., April 9, 1971.

¹ The birthplace of James Elmer was actually in Milo, Bonneville County, Idaho, however his birth certificate shows him being born in Rigby, Madison County, Idaho. Winnie explains that they continued to attend church in Rigby while living in Milo and therefore his birth was recorded by the church in Rigby.

² Beth's statement follows, "Mother always told me that I was born at 7:00 in the morning of December 24 but when I got my birth certificate it read 3:00 PM December 24." Whether this birth was 7:00 AM, 3:00 PM or just before midnight makes no difference to when she celebrated her birthday. It was always the day before Christmas.