

Dr. Ray Hunter Barton III, Great Grandfather, Goompa

By

Noah Schone 4<sup>th</sup> grade February 25, 2009

I am writing my report on my Great Grandfather, Ray Hunter Barton III, better known to me as Goompa. He grew up in Minersville Utah and Beaver Utah. His Grand Father came across as a pioneer after joining the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Independence Missouri. His father raised cattle and cut lumber in the mountains of Beaver Utah. As a young boy, he always wanted to learn to play a musical instrument. When he was 9, my same age, his father bought him a violin. Today at 93 years old, I still hear him play the violin. He also enjoyed playing marbles and having foot races as a young boy and building model airplanes.

He remembers enjoying being a boy scout and earning his Eagle Badge Award. He recalls sleeping in the snow at scout camp with just a sleeping bag, ooh cold!

Ray served a mission for his church in Eastern Canada. After returning home he worked two jobs while attending University of Utah. After graduating, he went back east to attend medical school at Temple University. Dr. Barton delivered thousand of babies in the Salt Lake area, including my mom when she was born. During world war 2 Ray served at the Naval Hospital and worked as a specialist on a cure for Asthmatic Patients. After serving in the war for 18 months in San Francisco, Ray H Barton returned home to their little white bungalow on 1200 East near the university of Utah in Salt Lake City

Dr. Barton served as mission president for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in England. In 1989 he was called to be the bishop in the ward that Gordon B Hinckley, the Prophet of the Church lived in. He developed a strong friendship with the prophet. Latter he would donate to the construction of a building in his name at Brigham Young University.

Dr. Barton joined the Son's of the Pioneers 30 years ago. And in 2000 he was elected president. He raised money and built a new National Head Quarters. He also organized groups all over the United States. He gave a lot of money for a statue at Emigration Canyon the honors the first pioneers that entered the Salt Lake Valley.

Dr. Barton organized a traveling assembly called "Straight Talk" to elementary and secondary schools where for 15 years doctors from the Utah Medical Association have taught children and youth the horrors of smoking and drinking. As of last week, at 93, he has spoken to 240,000 students over the years, while each time playing his violin. He teaches them about the dangerous affects of tobacco and alcohol on the body. For his service in July of 2004 he received the modern day pioneer award.

I loved learning about my Great-Grandfather; he has lived a great life. I hope I can follow in his footsteps.

