

My great grandfather, Norman Wayne Romberger was born on March 8, 1927 in Cedar City, Utah. His parents were George Nibel Romberger and Maggie Mae Condie. He had a son Claudia.

He signed up for the Navy when he was only seventeen years old and served on a Destroyer ship in World War II. One thing he had to do in the Navy was to keep the ship shipshape. One way to do this was to keep the ship painted before the rust could eat the metal on the ship. To paint the sides of the ship, grandpa would hang off the side on a long rope swing. Once he fell out of the swing and he said, "It was a really looong way down to the water."

He attended school in Cedar City and graduated in 1948 BAC which is now called Southern Utah University or SUU. He married Florence Mortensen on December 9, 1948 in the St. George Temple. They had three sons and three daughters.

He taught 5th grade at East Elementary and taught History, Social Studies, Art, and ceramics at Cedar City Junior High School. He was a teacher for a total of 34 years. He was known for his great story telling.

During the summers, he would spend his time with his two older boys teaching them how to survey. After he retired, he was a tour guide that drove a tour bus to the national parks like Zion, Bryce, Cedar Breaks and Grand Canyon.

Norman served as a Board Member of Sons of the Utah Pioneers and was also the President of the Iron Rangers Horse Riding Club. Anything about horses, Norman loved and they loved him. He owned several purebred Arabian Stallions and loved going on a horseback rides.

You could also always find my great grandpa with a paintbrush in his hand, painting on a canvas. He was an excellent painter and displayed many of them in his home. All of his children and most of his grandchildren own a painting and some even hang in the old Dixie Regional Medical Center.

Norman loved being in the outdoors either camping with his family at Panguitch Lake or Cedar Mountain. He was the best dutch oven cooker that I have ever tasted. My grandpa, his son, has his old dutch ovens that we use every year at family reunions. My grandpa says, "They are the best. You can't find'em like this anymore!" Great grandpa Rombergers garden was his pride and joy. You could always drive by and see his beautiful flowers and amazing vegetable garden. His sweet corn on the cob was the best I've ever had

When Norman Wayne Romberger died on July 6, 2004, he had total of six children, 23 grandchildren, and 27 great grandchildren and I was only five years old. Even though I didn't get to really know him, I miss him a lot. I am excited to know someday I will be able to be with him again and he can tell me stories about when he was a kid.

By Kyler Stubbs