

## Eldon Eugene Hafen

I was born in St. George in 1927. I was the 10<sup>th</sup> of 14 children born to Arthur K. and Orilla Woods Hafen. Even though I grew up in the great depression of the 1930's, I had a happy, wonderful childhood. I attended local school and graduated from Dixie High School and Dixie Jr. College. My playground was from the Virgin River to the Red Hill with many friends.

My father was a school teacher at Dixie College but also had a small farm on the Price Bench(now Bloomington). All farming was done by horse drawn equipment and hard labor. There was no bridge across the river then and we often found ourselves stuck in the quicksand. Later dad sold the little farm and bought one just south of town about where 400 east meets the 1-15 freeway.



After graduating from Dixie High in the spring of 1945, my older brother and I were drafted in the U.S. Army. After basic training we were sent to Germany where we served in occupation duty. After returning home and graduating from Dixie Jr. college I took over the management of our family tire business located on west St. George Boulevard (OK Tire). We did retreading and repairing and for many years were the only complete tire service store in Washington County. We later expanded our business to Henderson and Las Vegas, Nevada.

In 1963, two brothers and myself purchased the cattle ranch in Clover Valley, (Barclay) Nevada. This was where my mother was born and raised. We are the fourth generation to ranch there.

In 1953 I married Maxine Pymm in the St. George Temple. Through the years she's never let me down. We have seven children, all currently living in the St. George area, 27 grandchildren and 8 ½ great grandchildren.

I have had many church callings including Bishop of the 6<sup>th</sup> ward from 1967 to 1973. Maxine and I served a mission in southern California in 1988 & 1989.

I am now enjoying my full time hobby on the cattle ranch in Nevada. I feel that I have been blessed more than anyone with a good life, a good wife, a good family and friends.