**Chapter 20 – Update on My Parents & Siblings**

**Dad** had been in the High Counsel of the North Davis Stake for quite a few years. He really enjoyed this position. Shortly after, Dad was asked to be **the Bishop of the Sunset 2nd ward** as Bishop Nicholas was being released after being Bishop for eleven years. What a challenge for dad. Dad Chose Carl Grimstad and Dwane Baldwin for his counselors. A few months later, Duane had to move so both he and Carl were released since Carl's work affected his time too much. Clayton Peterson and Brother VanBrocklin are his new counselors. Everyone loved dad and he was a wonderful bishop.

**Mom** is the Primary **Stake Secretary of the North Davis Stake**. She enjoys this very much. (I have written much more about Mom in other chapters)

**Bryce** is on his mission in Uruguay. Mom lets us read his letters and lately they are very wonderful and enlightening. During the first part of his mission he was quite discouraged and homesick. I think this was because most of his companions were just about ready to come home so they just went sightseeing and buying souvenirs and didn't do much missionary work. Now that he's senior companion, things are working out better for him and he's enjoying his mission.

**Hal** is still the same old carefree "live for today, for tomorrow you may die" fellow. He is a fireman here at one of the fire stations in Ogden. He lives with the folks, and is a pretty good kid other than he isn't a bit religious and spends his money as fast as he gets it. He is good to help the down trotten though. He always felt sorry for Uncle Royal and Aunt Maurine, and would go visit them and take them gifts. When he was in the Air Force and stationed on the island of Crate, he was always helping the poor people there - buying groceries for them, especially his house helper as he felt sorry for her and would buy groceries for her to take home to her family.

**Terry** is a Junior at Clearfield High School. He's six foot four inches tall and is really thin. A beanpole you might say. When we would invite him to our home and I would fix us meals, I wondered if I would ever fill him up, especially with pancakes. I thought he must have a “hollow” leg. He's a good piano player and is really studious. He likes to read. I wish I was more like him in that respect.

**Georgia** is a Freshman at Sunset Junior High School. She's really getting cute. She's a sweet girl and I'm really thankful for a sister like her. She went up to camp with me this year and really had a great time. She tends Sandy for me sometimes and is really good with her. Sandy just loves her. I'm eleven years older than Georgia, and Georgia is eleven years older than Sandy - give or take a few months. When I was eleven, Grandpa Porter passed away, and when Georgia was eleven, Grandpa Bushnell passed away.

**Kim** is feeling his oats right now and is a worry to our parents. He isn’t as respectful to our parents as he needs to be. I hope he changes and realizes what wonderful parents we have. (He did and is a wonderful man, son, husband, father, brother, friend and a righteous son of God. I am proud of him and love him very much.)

**HAL & JEAN** - Hal met Jean Duke as her parents were friends of our neighbors, the Thompsons, who bought Grandpa and Grandma Bushnell’s home after they passed away. Jean and her parents came to visit the Thompsons and Hal and Jean met. Hal had been going with a cute girl, Kathy, who I really liked. She was sweet and kind and pretty. She loved Hal and he liked her, but she was Catholic, so I think our parents were not as excited that he might get serious and marry her.

**When Hal met Jean, he started dating her and they got married. Dad was the Bishop of the Sunset 2nd ward at the time, so they asked him to marry them and they asked Ken and I if they could be married at our home. We were happy that they wanted to do that.** I think it was just the two of them, their parents and Ken and I at the wedding. Ken put cans on a rope and tied it to the back of their car. They had their reception at the Sunset Church the next night. It was decorated beautifully, and turned out nice. Our little Sandy was their flower girl.

Jean had been semi active in the church, but I don’t think she went to church after she married Hal. They bought a home not too far away from our home in Ogden, so we got together often and while **Hal and Ken played Chess, Jean and I would visit. Hal would usually win as Hal was such an intelligent kid that he was good at everything he did. Ken won once and was really excited about that**.

 Hal & Jean had a daughter, Cindi, who Hal adored. Hal took her to amusement parks, other parks and played with her a lot. She loved him too. Hal took our kids on rides in his little Volkswagen. He would take them on roads down in Hooper and go fast as the road went up and down hills, they loved that. He also took them to Lagoon with Cindy, and would play the games there and won them all a stuffed animal. **They thought he was the greatest**!

Hal & Jean, Bryce & Deana and Ken & I would do things together also.

**Hal was addicted to sleeping pills as when he was in the military, they got him on them. He had not slept well as a child, but no one knew this. Hal just figured that everyone just mainly rested at night. I don’t know how he was able to function at school and get good grades, but he did. He used to tease me by saying:** **“Why do you spend so much time studying for school?” and I would tell him that I wasn’t smart like he was and had to study to get good grades**. **Hal could just listen to the teachers as they taught and explained the information the students were to learn and then he could ace the tests. He didn’t do much homework, but he still got good grades.**

Anyway, **Hal would overdose on sleeping pills at times and Jean would have to call an ambulance to take him to the hospital, and then she would call Mom and say “Well, your son did it again.” Mom said how hard this was on her, that her heart would seem like it went up into her throat, when she heard these words. One time I was just getting out of the hospital after having David, and Mom & Dad were getting in the elevator as Ken, our baby and I were getting out. At first, I thought they were coming to see me, but after looking at their faces, I could tell something was wrong – they were coming to see Hal as he had overdosed again. When Bryce & Deanna were having their Bryce & Deanna were having their reception, he did it again and put a damper on their reception, especially for Mom & Dad**. Hal would call Bryce sometimes and ask him to go hiking with him, so he could wear off the drugs, and Bryce would but Bryce would become upset, when at the top of the mountain, Hal would pop in more pills.

**I would visit Hal at the hospital and we had some good talks. I loved that brother now.** **He and Jean were having problems because of his overdosing, so he would call me, and we would have long talks**. **Ken and I had moved to Arizona, but moved back to Utah at this time, and I believe it was because Hal needed me, and I was so glad I was here for him.** He told me that Jean didn’t love him. I talked with her about this and she said she didn’t know how to love, as her parents hadn’t shown her love as she was growing up. That is so sad. Jean eventually decided to take Cindy and separate from Hal for a time as she felt by doing this, he would miss them so much that he would get help and get off the sleeping pills, but this backfired. **He took his life.** He had told me that he would only marry once as he had seen the grief his buddies had had when they got divorces, and how hard it was that they had to pay child support and alimony. I think that Hal loved Jean and Cindy and thought he was losing them and it was too much for him. Mom & Dad’s Bishop was a social worker and he said that when a person has been on sleeping pills for over 7 years that if something traumatic happens in their lives they can’t take it.

I well remember the day that Mom got the word that this had happened. We were living in the home I grew up in, in Sunset. Mom would call me every morning to see how we were doing and just to talk. This morning she didn’t call, and I felt something was wrong. **I called her, and she was hysterical. I finally got it out of her that the police had just come to tell her Hal had taken his life**. When he hadn’t reported to work for a couple of days and hadn’t called in, his boss called the police and the police found him in his home. I jumped in the car and drove down to Mom & Dad’s, but I know the Lord blessed me that I didn’t get in an accident as **I was crying so hard, I could hardly see where I was going**.

Jean felt bad and felt that we blamed her for his death, but we tried to reassure her that we were not blaming her and that we still loved her and Cindy and wanted them to still be a part of our family and our lives. Mom & Dad were great to invite them to all our family activities and they came, and they were in our family pictures too. We felt bad that Jean didn’t let Cindy come to her father’s funeral or see him in his casket, so that there no closure for Cindy. I think Cindy suffered the rest of her life partly because of this.

**My parents are expecting their mission call today, June 30, 1979.** I've written most of my life story as I've lived it, but now I'm typing it up.

**Dad & Mom went to the Boston, Massachusetts Mission.** They loved it there in many ways, but because of the roads, turnabouts & traffic, it was easy for dad to get lost, so they went with the young Elders some of the time. Mom & Dad did convert at least two families and they stayed friends with them.

They also became great friends of a lady whose husband had passed away and she had a terrible phobia that she couldn’t leave her Highrise apartment. She had too much anxiety, so mom & dad would get her groceries, pay her bills, get her medicine, etc. This lady loved my parents, especially mom. Everyone loved mom, and dad too as they are great people and love the Lord and his children. This lady wanted to join the church and be sealed to her husband, so she asked Mom if she would have hers and her husband’s work done after she passed away. They didn’t have any children.

Mom and this lady would call each other frequently and when this lady passed away, **Mom kept her promise and got the work ready and Ken and I went to the temple for mom to act as proxies for this good sister and her husband.**

Mom had problems, while on her mission, and had to have a hysterectomy and other surgery. They felt this was a blessing from the Lord as the Mayo Clinic is in Boston, so Mom had good care. While mom was recuperating, she could make phone calls and set up appointments for dad and the young Elders. Mom & Dad set a great example for their family.

**UPDATE ON PARENTS & SIBLINGS - 1971**



**Family dinner at our home in Ogden** **Family dinner on our patio in Arizona**

**Mom & Dad** moved from their little home in Sunset to a nice new home in Clearfield in Feb. 1970. They are enjoying it there. Mom was very reluctant to move as she loved her little home in Sunset, being near the church, highway, her friends, etc. They had lived there for 28 years. Mom was a “Horter”, so when we were helping them move, Hal took a truck full of stuff to the dumps. Mom found out and was so angry at Hal. Ken & Hal also took a load of old magazines, papers, etc., to their new home. Ken finished the basement for them and he put those magazines in the rafters before he put the ceiling tile up. Mom asked him where her magazines were and he told her that he brought them there, so they must be there somewhere.

**Hal and Jean** love their little girl, Cindy. She is now 3 years old.

**Bryce married Deanna** on the 5th of September 1970. They are expecting their first baby in October.

**Terry** is 22 years old, living with the folks and going to Weber College. He went on a mission to Germany. At one time, he and his companion went exploring, on a “P” day and as he was taking pictures, someone called out (if I remember right, or he was told afterwards) that if he had stepped a few steps further back, he would have been on the D Military Zone border and could have been shot. He wrote to our folks and said that the castles there were big and beautiful in a way, but they were damp and cold. He said how blessed we were to live in America where we have carpets on our floors and furnaces to keep us warm. The kings and queens used to live in castles, but they were not warm and comfortable like our homes.

**Georgia** is almost 20 (September 7th) She’s living with the folks, going to Weber college, has a part-time job, dates a lot, but is waiting for Max Blair who is on a mission. One summer when she was in high school or college (can’t remember which), we invited her to come down to Arizona, where we were living at the time, and stay a week with us. She rode the bus down and we had a great time. Georgia really blossomed now that she’s in college. She had worn glasses since she was 3 years old as she had crossed eyes. She got contacts while in college, has long beautiful hair and is a beautiful girl. She dates a lot.

**Kim** is almost 15. He is a real nice kid. Enjoys his Priesthood activities, was on an Olympic Seminary Bowl and did very well.

**Ken’s mom remarried after Charles (Ken’s father) died in March of 67. She married Leo Jensen in June of 1970.** They are both temple workers in the Idaho Falls Temple. This is a family picture taken at a family reunion with Marge’s children – Rich (Dad Browning’s youngest son by his first wife), Margaret (Marge’s daughter by her first husband, Less), Roy (Ken’s older brother – he, Ken & Irven are children of Marge and Charles Browning), Irven is standing at the left of Leo Jensen. Ken is on the front with his older brother, Bob (Floyd Robert, but he was called Bob.

Bob was also a son born to Marge and her first husband, Less)

Leo and Marge live at 90 Boise Ave. in Idaho Falls. They are happy.

Bob, Carroll and family have retired from the Air Force and are now living in Sunset, Utah.

Margaret and family are living in Salt Lake.

Roy, Linda and two children, Steven and Barbara, are moving to Fresno, California the first part of September.

Irven is dating a real nice girl in Salt Lake and is working as a milk man.

**UPDATE ON PARENTS AND FAMILY – 2018**

**GLENDON & MILDRED PORTER FAMILY**

This is one of the last pictures we had together before my wonderful father passed away. I have been so blessed to have such wonderful parents and siblings. At this date, dad, mom, Hal, Jean & Cindi have passed away, but thankfully I have my other three brothers and my sister. I am thankful for them and their good families and how they live their lives. We get together with our spouses every three months to eat, visit and play games or talk about experiences we had growing up, etc. Ken and I look forward to these times. Kim & Jeanenne just got home from South Africa where they spent eighteen months on their second mission. They are great missionaries. Georgia & Rick have been serving their second mission in the Salt Lake area for eleven months and will be released the end of this month. With them living in their home and having a lenient mission president, they have been able to come to our tri-month gatherings, and now Kim & Jeanenne will be with us at our home this month (October). We are glad to have them back with us.

**HAL:** Hal, Jean & Cindy have all passed away. Cindy’s daughter, Samantha “Sam” Dugan. Sam was raised by Brian and Mercedes Dugan as they had her as their “foster daughter” whenever Cindy was in rehab. Finally, Cindy’s caseworker told Cindy she had one more chance to get off drugs and if she couldn’t, Samantha would be given to the Dugan’s to adopt as they loved her and wanted to adopt her. This happened, and it was tragic for Cindy as she loved Sam so much and was what she was living for. The Dugans were not members of our church, but they were good people and good parents. They also had a son and Sam and Leam enjoyed each other. He was younger than Sam. Sam graduated from high school, college and became a lawyer. He met a good guy and they hit it off and lived together for several years and just got married this year. I invited them to dinner with us a few months ago before they were married, and I was disappointed that we were not invited to the reception they had in Salt Lake. The Dugans live in Colorado, so they were married there and had a reception there, but Sam has lived in Salt Lake while going to the University of Utah, and so they had a open house there also. Nolan, Bryce & Deanna’s son, has stayed close with Sam and so was invited to their wedding in Colorado, and did go to it.

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**GLENDON & MILDRED PORTER’S CHILDREN: (LEFT TO RIGHT) KIM BYRON PORTER, GEORGIA HOPE PORTER TEW, TERRY GLEN PORTER, IVA “MAE” PORTER BROWNING, AND DENNIS “BRYCE” PORTER.**

**MAE IS THE OLDEST SINCE HAL PASSED AWAY, BRYCE IS NEXT, THEN TERRY, GEORGIA & KIM.**

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**SIBLING & SPOUSE GET TOGETHER AT OUR HOME IN ROY. WE GET TOGETHER EVERY THREE MONTHS AND TAKE TURNS HOSTING IT.**

**Back: Bryce & Terry, front, from left to right, are: Ken & Mae, Deanna, Angela, Georgia & Rick. We missed Kim & Jeanenne, who were on their mission to South Africa.**

**BRYCE, DEANNA & FAMILY:** Bryce and Deanna had five wonderful children, three sons and two daughters. Nolan, Shanna, Wendy, Chad and Darin. They raised their family in Clearfield, then after their children were all married, they went on a mission to Spain. It was a difficult mission mainly because of their strict mission president. Bryce was a Branch President there and they served to the best of their ability. I think because of this experience, they didn’t care to go on another mission. After their mission, they sold their home in Clearfield and bought a home in Willard. They are happy there. Both Bryce & Deanna served as officiators in the Ogden Temple and then transferred to the Brigham City Temple after it’s construction. Deanna was diagnosed with cancer in her liver. They found a large tumor and had to shrink it with Chemotherapy before operating to remove it. Two more tumors came back later, and they operated again to take them out. This about did poor Deanna in, but she is strong and recuperated. It came back again, so they again put her on Chemotherapy. It didn’t help, so they have done radiation. We sure hope this kills the cancer cells as Deanna is such a wonderful person. She was their Relief Society President before her first bout with cancer and she wasn’t released. She had two good counselors, and they took over and just talked with Deanna by phone or came to her house for meetings. Everyone loves Deanna. All our children were so sad when they heard she had cancer for they all love her too. Bryce still serves as an officiator in the Brigham City Temple and has been their High Priest Leader and has held several other positions. Bryce has health problems too, lung and breathing problems, COPD, I think. They have several grandchildren also and Shanna’s oldest, Breanna, went on a mission, went to college, met a wonderful man and married in the temple. Tanner has a beautiful voice and uses his talent. He went on a mission and is now in college. Wendy’s oldest went on a mission but came home early and is struggling with her testimony, which is a heartache to her parents and we understand this. The other grandchildren are still in school – Elementary up to High School.



GEORGIA & RICK: (I need to write up about this special family and also Kim & Jeanenne

KIM BYRON & JEANENNE:

These children have all grown up and all are married with children except Kaleesee. Joshua is homosexual, so is married to a male. We are sad that he has gone this way, but his partner is nice and Joshua is a good nephew. Charity lives in Virginia and has four daughters (I think), Dezeree has a cute little boy born last year, Summer has a little daughter and a son. Mysha has two little boys, one is adopted and the other was born a couple of months after they got the cute little adopted son. They had a son who passed away right after birth, and they hadn’t been able to have any other children until this happened last year. Joshua and his partner are fostering some children. Caleb has three children, I think. I haven’t kept up with them since Charity, Dezeree and Caleb live out of state.



Hal was close to Kim when Kim was growing up and he took Kim hiking and other places. This is a picture of them when Kim was little.