

William Edward Tracy

27 May 1865 to 12 May 1948

William Edward Tracy was the son of Silas Horace Tracy and Fannie Marilla Garner Tracy, the 3rd wife of Silas. William (Billy or Edward) was the 4th child of a family of nine, seven boys and two girls.

David Samuel, 15 Aug 1860, Marriot ville, Weber Utah. Joseph Franklin, 1 June 1862, Mary Elizabeth 24 April 1864, William Edward, 27 May 1865. Charles Benjamin, 17 June 1867, Harrisville, Weber, Utah. James Alonzo, 10 Oct 1869, Marriotville, Weber, Utah. Sarah Ann, 06 Feb. 1872, George Andrew, 25 May 1874, Albert 24 Aug 1876.

In 1869, Silas received a contract to lay track for the railroad from Ogden to Hot Springs. He continued laying track working as a laborer, until the railroad was completed to Corrine, Utah.

Silas took Fannie and the children and an orphaned girl named Annie Tracy, to help with the work. They lived in a railroad car pulled by a team of horses. William was four at the time of this adventure.

William was baptized the 6th of July 1876 at Marriotville. He was eleven years old at the time.

William lived on West 12th St. in Marriotville with his Mother and brothers and sisters. His father had two other wives with families and they lived a few blocks east on 12th St.

Fannie divorced Silas in 1879 and moved her family first to Park Valley, Utah, William was 14 at the time. She then moved to Yost, Utah and took up a section of ground to farm.

Williams' father Silas died 28 July 1881 in Marriotville. William's mother, Fannie, married David Graham in 1882 and a girl was born to this union, May Graham, 8th May 1884. Fannie decided Mr. Graham wasn't the man she thought he was and divorced him in 1884.

Fannie moved the family over to Almo Idaho. May Graham died there at the age of 8 in 1892.

William married Hannah Holden 1 Jan. 1886 in Almo, Idaho. They were endowed and sealed to each other 25 May in the Salt Lake Endowment House.

They settled at George Creek, which was later named Yost.

The first Sunday School was held in the home of William and Hannah at Yost with E. C. Richardson taking charge. Yost began as a Branch and Part of the Park Valley Ward. There were no records kept, or minutes until 1890, just a short history stating E. C. Richardson was set apart as presiding Elder and Supt. Of the Sunday School with Joseph F. Tracy as Assistant. They were set apart by O. G. Snow.

The L. D. S. Church was built by Fall of 1886, by E. C. Richardson, Warren Richardson, Joseph F. Tracy, David S. Tracy, William E. Tracy, Charles Yost, James Whitaker, and A. Singleton.

The branch was reorganized 3 Aug. 1890 and annexed to Almo Cassia, Idaho Ward, Raft River Stake, By Bishop Thomas O. King, with E.C. Richardson Assistant Sup. Joseph F. Tracy first assistant and David S. Tracy 2nd Assistant. Betsy Holden Tracy, Secretary.

William and Hannah's first child, Emily Tracy was born 25 May 1887 in Yost, Utah. Their second child, Willim Edmond Tracy Jr. was born 27 Feb 1889 in Ogden, Weber, Utah .

Hannah died with the birth of this second child the 4 Mar. 1889, and was buried in Ogden Utah.

William Edmond Tracy Jr. was blessed 7 Mar. 1889 in the Salt Lake 3rd Ward. The baby lived two months dying 7 May 1889 and was buried beside Hannah in Ogden.

Mary Ann Holden, Hannah's youngest sister, took care of Emily, William's 2 year old daughter. William married Mary Ann in a civil ceremony in Salt Lake City Utah, 24 Dec. 1889.

In 1890 William moved his second bride to Yost Utah where he farmed the next ten years. Six children were born to them during these years. Richard, 3 Dec. 1891 Clarence, 28 Jan 1893 Alma, 1894 died 1894. Henry, 6 Jun. 1896, Manie Inez, 1898 died 1898. Nellie Arzelda born 10 June 1900 Buried 25 Dec 1900.

William was a small wirery man, lots of energy. He was born with a hair lip he kept covered with a mustache. This defect made him speak as English speaking as Mary Ann.

William moved constantly, building lovely homes where ever he lived, leaving monuments of his agility and skills throughout the valleys of Yost and Johnson Creek, Utah. Almo, City of Rocks, and Oliver Springs in Idaho.

William and Mary Ann's seventh child, Leo Edwin Tracy was born in Almo, Idaho, 28 Feb. 1902.

William went back and forth farming and building between Almo and Yost. He built a large 16 room house in Almo, with the help of his older sons and while he was in partnership with his youngest brother, Albert Tracy in a Grocery-Hardware store there.

William also went into business with an older son Clarence Tracy. They held in partnership the Circle Ranch up the canyon **by the City of Rocks above Almo. They built a rock house on this land.**

William tried for years to get the road improved and the main road routed through the canyon so more people would come through and enjoy the unusual rock formation found through the City of Rocks Canyon.

William and Clarence sold the Circle Ranch and William bought the Yost Ranch at Yost, Utah.

When the the 16 room house burnt down in Almo. William and his older sons built a large rock house on the Yost Ranch. Clarence and Henry hauled out the finishing lumber with two wagons and teams of horses, from Burley, Idaho. That is about sixty miles.

Mary Emma was born to them in Yost 30 Jan 1906. Amelia Marilla was born in Almo, 20 Oct. 1907. Richard their first bor died 19 Mar 1908 andd was buried at Yost. Wallace Harold was born 22 Mar. 1910, and Edith Priscilla, 4 Dec. 1912. Both in Yost, Utah.

Around 1914 William bought the Campbell Field on Johnson Creek. This land had been settled by Levi Nelson Campbell in 1880. (Eddie Stevens's Great Grandfather.) Campbells had built a log cabin on it.

William built a three bedroom house on the Campbell Ranch and farmed this place about 16 years. (located 2 miles over the hill north of Yost). In the winter months, William and Mary Ann would move

with the younger children to Ogden and put them in school there while the older boys stayed on the ranch. In the spring they'd move back out to the ranch.

William leased the Campbell Field to Frank Lee in 1923 and 1924

On 25 May 1924, at the Campbell Field home, William helped deliver a granddaughter, Leola Lorraine Tracy, the first child of Leo and Sarah Virginia.

Mary Ann returned in the spring in time to deliver Miles Edwin, 22 April 1926, the second child of Leo and Virginia Tracy, born at the Tracy home.

Clarence md. Dora Walters 21 Feb. 1914.

Henry md. (1) Myrtle M. Howell 23, Dec. 1920. After her death he md. (2) Belva Hiener 5 June 1924.

Mary Emma md. (1) George Melvin Cranner 18 Nov. 1922. (2) md. Henry Edward bowles, 10 May 1940.

Amelia md. (1) John Clarence Cranner 14 Jan 1925. (2) Joseph Eliason Dahlquist, 24 June 1943.

Leo Edwin md (1) Sarah Virginia Wright, 3 July 1923, (2) Myrtle Cobia 1 May 1946. (3) Racel Fifield Hubbard, 22 June 1952.

Wallace Harold md. Viola Chatelain 23 Jan 1940.

William bought the Waddup Ranch on Wildcat Creek and sold the Campbell Field Ranch to Adams, a son-in-law to John Whitbeck, about 1926. John and Emily Whitbeck finished paying for it and took it ove about 1 Jan. 1934.

William, Mary Ann and the two youngest children wre living I Sandy , Utah I the Spring of 1929 when Mary Ann went to Marion Idaho to visit some of the married children, While there the youngest daughter, Edith Priscilla, was critically injured in a car accident and died at the age of 16, the 5th of May 1929, and was buried in the Yost Cemetary.

William leased the Waddup Ranch to his son Leo in 1930, Leo built a two room log house on property. Later adding more rooms. And in 1936 buying the place from his Dad.

William bought the Brown Field, and leased Oliver Springs next to it from John Blyth, John Blyth died in Mar of 1931 and when the estate on that property was cleared William E. bought the ranch.

William helped reroute a new road from below Oliver Springs to Yost, Utah, and built a home on the new main road. (1933 to 1934)

In 1939, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Williams' youngest son md. In 1940 and returned with his wife. Wallace and Viola went into partnership with William and Mary Ann.

In 1943 William was kicked in the forehead by a horse, while out irrigating in his fields.

William and Mary Ann retired in 1945 and moved to Oakley, Idaho. Their son Wallace Tracy and his wife and two sons stayed to run the ranch. William was 80 when he retired.

William passed away the 12 May 1948 and was buried the 17 May 1948 in the Yost Cemetery.

Mary Ann continued to live in Oakley until her health failed. Then she lived awhile with some of the children finally going into a rest home in Burley Idaho. She died 11 Sept 1959 and was buried the 17th of Sep. beside William and the five children who had preceded them in death.

By Dorthy Nadine Tracy Stevens

Information from: ,Marriotville Ward Records, Salt Lake 13th Ward records, Salt Lake Marriage records, Burley Marriage records, Raft River Stake records, Clarence Tracy, Eddie Stevens, Box Elder co. 1880 census, #1790 d Book of Deeds #8 Recorded 13 July 1915 pg. 503 & 504, Abstract Ed. J. Page 52, and Leola Tracy Hurd.