

*The English Ancestry
and American Posterity of*
**JOSEPH
SOUTHWICK**
1703-1980

by

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With Special Genealogy Section Compiled

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Chapter 18

William Isaac Southwick

by his son Raymond Southwick

Vital Statistics

William Isaac Southwick was born 2 July 1882 to Joseph Southwick and Louisa Maria Shupe in Ogden, Weber, Utah. He was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints 6 August 1891 by James M. Ferrin. He was ordained a Deacon in the priesthood 11 March 1900 by Charles E. Clark; an Elder on 4 December 1907 by William W. Riter; a Seventy on 22 July 1916 by Charles E. Clark; and a High Priest on 9 June 1935 by J. Dwight Harding. He married Mary Louise Campbell 20 January 1904 in the Salt Lake Temple. They were endowed, married and sealed on the same day. On 16 May 1976 he left this earth to return to his Father in Heaven and was interred in the Liberty, Weber, Utah cemetery.



Wm I Southwick

William's first wife and the mother of all his children, Mary Louise Campbell, was born 9 December 1885 to Warren Campbell and Mary Eliza White in Ogden, Weber, Utah. She was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints 4 October 1894 by James M. Ferrin. She died, after many years of being diabetic, on 16 March 1958 and was buried in the Liberty, Weber, Utah cemetery.



Mary Louise

There were ten children born to the union of William Isaac Southwick and Mary Louise Campbell. They are:

Veda, born 24 March 1905 in Liberty, Weber, Utah. She died the same day.



Standing back row: Verlon, Ralph, Harold
 Standing middle row: Raymond, Dale, LaVene
 Sitting: Mary Louise, Lee, Earl, William Isaac

Earl William, born 8 February 1906 in Liberty, Weber, Utah. He died 10 July 1976.

Lee, born 22 December 1907 in Harrisville, Weber, Utah.

Harold, born 12 December 1909 in Liberty, Weber, Utah. He died 31 July 1972.

Ralph, born 21 April 1911 in Liberty, Weber, Utah.

Glen Warren, born 25 February 1913 in Liberty, Weber, Utah. He died 17 March 1913.

LaVene, born 25 August 1914 in Liberty, Weber, Utah. She died 16 June 1955.

Verlon, born 22 July 1916 in Liberty, Weber, Utah.

Raymond, born 6 June 1923 in Liberty, Weber, Utah.

Dale "C", born 20 April 1925 in Harlem, Blaine, Montana.

William's second marriage was to Jennie Mae Ellis on 13 May 1959. She had been previously married to Albert Thayne. Jennie Mae died 6 Sept 1962.

William's third marriage was to Sarah Rebecca Wadman on 20 June 1963. She had been married previously to Royal Jack Shupe and William's



Jennie Mae

brother Samuel Hensley Southwick. Sarah died 30 January 1971.

William's fourth marriage was to Birdie Josephine Davis on 2 July 1971. She had been married previously to Charles Echols Sorrels and also to Benjamin Pate Reynolds. Birdie and her two children from her first marriage were sealed to William in the Logan Temple on 2 July 1971. Birdie was still alive when William died in 1976.

William's philosophy was that marriage was ordained of God and that men and women should not live alone. In his later life he was often heard saying that the woman was to be a help-mate to the man as the scriptures teach; that man should always have a mate. He lived this philosophy as each of his subsequent marriages took place within a year and a half of the passing of his current wife. His children all accepted each of his wives and treated them warmly and lovingly as a stepmother. They also attest to the value and blessing that each marriage was to William.



Sarah Rebecca



Birdie Josephine

The Tender Years of Youth

William was two years old when his family moved from the house in Liberty (where the Liberty Church now stands) to the north end of Liberty. There his father homesteaded a one-quarter section of land. It was here that William would experience the tender years of his youth.

As a boy, William led a life not uncommon to other youths of that area. His life was filled with much work, some schooling and fun whenever he found the opportunity. With his father and brothers he cut logs near the North Fork of the Ogden River. William attended school quite regularly until the age of twelve. After that, he only attended in the winter months. Although William lacked a formal education, he had an outstanding ability in mathematics and mechanics. Throughout his adolescent and adult life he was able to build almost any tool that he needed.

At the age of fourteen he worked for John Shaw, performing all kinds of physical labor. The earlier years of working in the timber made William very strong for his age. He was considered exceptionally able to do the things required of him and never was outdone in work or play.



Young William



William at about age 20

At the same time William was working hard and growing strong, there was a young lady learning many responsibilities of her own. Mary Louise Campbell was the oldest child in a family of fourteen children. She learned to take on many of the responsibilities of raising her brothers and sisters. Mary's father was very strict. The children were never allowed to show any disrespect.

William and Mary attended the same school and had many opportunities for building a friendship. Even from this early time, William and Mary seemed to be destined for each other. William was quite a tease and when school was over he would jump immediately from his seat to stand at the door "swatting all who passed except for Mary Louise".

Both William's and Mary's younger years seemed to prepare them for the times ahead. Because of their early training and sense of responsibility, William continued to be a hard worker all his life and there was probably no young lady any more prepared to accept the responsibility of a home and family than Mary Louise.



Young Mary Louise



About age 25

Dating, Courtship & Marriage

William and Mary Louise (William preferred the name Louise to Mary), started dating when he was fifteen years old and she was twelve. They were in school, it was Washington's birthday and Louise sat across the aisle from William. He wrote a note on his slate asking her if she would go sleigh riding with him. William held the slate so Louise could see it, she quickly nodded yes. This was the first date for both of them. Neither dated anyone else and when Louise was sixteen, they started going steady. This courtship lasted two years and consisted mostly of William walking Louise home from Mutual or a dance.

On the 19th of January 1904, they went to Salt Lake City by themselves to be married in the Temple. The events of that night started a way of life for them by being obedient to gospel principles which they had been taught by their parents. This example set by William and Louise should be a guide to all of their posterity who know them or read of their life history. This is what happened, as told by William: "We went to Salt Lake to the Temple to be married and we had to go the night before and stay at a hotel for the night. We stopped at the first place we saw after we left the train depot. It was late at night. She was afraid to be separated from me, so we got two rooms with a door in between. I teased her and asked her if I could take her stocking off. She quickly told me she was going to the temple with freedom of conscience. I went to my room and turned out my light and sat on the edge of the bed with the light switch in my hand. When she turned out her light and



Louise and William - Wedding

opened the door in between, I switched my light on. She stood there in her night gown and was so embarrassed that she ran and jumped into her own bed.”

They were married on the 20th of January 1904 with a clear conscience and a promise of holy inspiration to guide their lives. This paid off, for all of their eight living children have followed their example and have been married in the temple.

Their Family

William and Louise’s first child, a girl they named Veda, was born 24 March 1905, a year and two months after they were married. They suffered a severe trial in their life when their new baby girl died within a few hours of her birth.

Earl William was born 8 February 1906. He had red curly hair and brought much comfort to William and Louise. Earl liked to go to his grandparents, where they enjoyed spoiling him. He grew up taking much of the responsibility of a growing family and easily earned the respect of his younger brothers and sister. He married Rula Jane Porritt 21, June 1926. They were sealed in the temple 15 September 1926. They had four children: Earl Melvin and Ellen Louise as well as two stillborn daughters. Rula died 2 February 1935. Earl married his second wife,

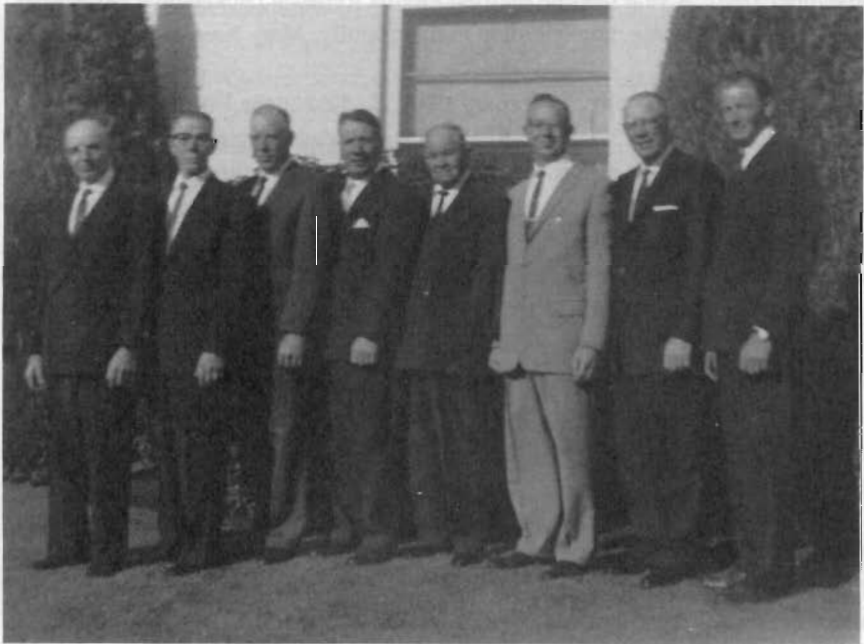
The children of William and Louise:

Right: LaVene



Below in order left to right:

Earl, Lee Harold, Ralph, William,
Verlon, Raymond and Dale.



Tura Virtue Shaw, 9 June 1938. They had five children: Val Edmund, Leta (died at age 7), Joyce, a stillborn daughter and a stillborn son. Earl died 10 July 1976.

Lee was born 22 December 1907. He was very dependable and a good worker. Nothing ever stayed undone very long if Lee was around, even if it was not his responsibility. He married Eunice Stoker 14 January 1931. They had six children: Barbara, Duane Lee, Dixie, Carolyn, Clair "J" (adopted) and Craig Stoker. The three girls and Craig died of RH negative blood factor, in their infancy. This was a trial in which Lee and Eunice showed much faith and courage.

Harold was born 12 December 1909. He seemed to be the comedian and put life into most family gatherings. He was liked by everyone. He married LaCelle Shupe 21 November 1935. They had six children: Karen, Harold Roger, Neal Shupe, David William, Theron Blake and Mathew Dean. Harold died suddenly of a heart attack on 31 July 1972. It was a shock to the family and he is much missed by his brothers every time they get together. He served in the United States Army in Ordinance Supply (military weapons, equipment and ammunition).

Ralph was born 21 April 1911. He being the youngest boy for quite some time, had a mind of his own and was never pushed too far by his older brothers. His love and concern for all the family is responsible for bringing them together many times and is enjoyed by all. He first married Erma Sophia Shupe 11 December 1936. They had two children: Patsy Ruth and Ralph Bruce. Erma died 27 November 1940. A year later he married Phyllis Rebecca Dickerson 5 November 1941. They added three more children to their family: Mary Kay, Anne Elizabeth and Rodney "D".

Glen Warren was born 25 February 1913. He died on the 17th of March 1913.

LaVene was born 25 August 1914. She was a beautiful girl and took her place in the family like no one else could. She brought much comfort to the family. She married Simon Bosgieter 3 June 1935. They had three children: Sherma Kay, Monte Lynn and Mary Louise. She died along with her daughter Mary Louise in an auto accident in the prime of her life on 16 June 1955.

Verlon was born 22 July 1916. He was quite small for his age early in his life, but never was small in doing good deeds. He has set a good example for all to follow. He has never been seen by his family to waiver in his faith of his Heavenly Father. He married Edith Martha Bush 19 July 1939. They had seven children: Jay Wanless, Alona, Stephen Verlon, Sandra, Mark Edward Bush, Marcia and Aaron Phillip.

Raymond was born 6 June 1923. He served in the United States Army during World War II. He was in five of the major battles including the Battle of the Bulge with the Army Engineers. His brother, Ralph, says that he has always been very successful in his business and all his undertakings, even in his hunting and fishing. He married Ruby Alice Dickerson 26 September 1945. They had six children: Leonard R. (stillborn), Raymond Dee (stillborn), Scott William, Wayne Dickerson, Ruby Renee and Clyde Raymond.

Dale "C", the tenth and last child, was born 20 April 1925. Being the youngest, he had a mind of his own, but developed traits much like his father William had. He served in the United States Army as a Military Policeman in Hawaii during World War II. He married Eathe Johnson 1 June 1947. They had four children: LuDale, Kareleen, Teela and Jess William.

William and Louise reared their family by example as the best method of teaching. All had to work hard but knew the value of mixing in the right amount of play along the way. Louise made sure her children learned the value of the gospel and William lived by principles far more rewarding to the family than most realized. They made their children feel that a good family life together was in keeping with the Lord's commandments.

Places of Residence and Occupations

William and Louise started their life together renting the Jim Ward farm in Liberty. He was doing some of the things that his Dad had trained him to do; milk cows and farming. This lasted only one year. Then they rented Louise's father's place in Liberty. After two years there they moved to a small place belonging to Walter Whitely.

William changed his occupation by buying a quarter interest in a threshing machine with two of his brothers and Edward Clark, as partners. Exactly how long this venture lasted is not known. Some time later, William, his two brothers and Alfred Penrod bought William's father's sawmill and moved it to Cache Valley Divide, in what is known as South Canyon. This changed his occupation again, but having had experience in the sawmill business from his younger years while working with his father, William found this more suited to his liking than anything he had done previously. Along with the sawmill, he bought part of his father's homestead, where he raised hay and grain for livestock. The mill took him away from home a lot of the time and Louise accepted the hardships of raising her family and caring for the farm.

When William's brother lost his wife through death, the partnership started to break up. However, William continued to farm, ran the thresher and operated the sawmill from time to time.

Because of a small scratch on his hand while working in the mill, William contracted blood poisoning and was in the hospital for about six weeks. While recuperating from his long illness, William went to Montana to visit his brother, Joe. While there he decided to buy a farm, which he did, and then moved his family to Harlem, Montana. This venture proved costly as the crops were not good and he lost the farm. He worked for others for a year or two and then moved the family back to Liberty, Utah. He continued to farm and operate the sawmill.

He made another venture, this time into the dairy business. The prospects looked good as milk prices were high, but so were the cows. Also his place was

very well suited for livestock. However, going in at the time he did turned out to be disastrous. Milk prices suddenly dropped from 54 cents a pound to 18 cents a pound. The obligations of the loan finally ended by William giving up the deed to the old homestead to the bank.

Once again, William started over. In 1941, he moved the family to North Harrison Blvd. in Ogden to a small tract of land. There he built a small house for his family. William and his sons Earl and Ralph as well as a nephew Ray Southwick, engaged in building houses. This time the tide changed and soon life became more pleasant because William didn't have any obligations that he could not take care of easily.

In 1942, William and his sons Earl, Lee, Harold, Ralph, Verlon, Raymond and Dale joined together in the sawmill business. The mill was located not far from William's home on North Harrison in Ogden. This time the sawmill business was profitable and extended to Prairie City, Oregon.



The Southwick sawmill - Ogden, Utah

In the summer of 1948, the mill was moved to Willits, California, where there was an abundance of timber. The small community of Willits could hardly contain the huge influx of Southwicks. Just prior to their move from Utah, one of William's nephews, Joseph R. Southwick (son of James Oatha), started up a sawmill also in Willits. And another nephew, Elmer Southwick (also a son of James Oatha), set up a sawmill just north of Willits.



The William I. Southwick & Sons Sawmill in Willits, California - 1949



The entire personnel of William Southwick & Sons lumber mill (left to right): William Southwick, sons, Earl, Lee, Harold, Ralph, Verlon, Raymond, and nephew Darwin.

In 1954 the mill was sold and one of the best experiences any family could have come to an end. William was financially well off enough to retire. He returned to Utah and built them a new home on the small acreage on North Harrison in Ogden.

William and Louise had several pleasant years there. They visited their children and grandchildren on occasion, enjoying the fruit of their lives together. They always gave the Lord credit for the blessings they enjoyed and never complained about their lot in life.

Personality Traits and Talents

William was considered by his children to be a giant of a man, not in physical stature, as he was about 5'10", but rather in his unselfishness. He was always doing something for someone else, not caring if he was ever repaid. He considered work a blessing and was thankful if others could provide the opportunity. His motto was, "go to work early and never quit first".

Selfishness was a trait that was totally foreign to William. He was always more concerned for others and their welfare than for himself. Business dealings were always honest and fair, many times going the second mile. For example, when he returned to Utah from Montana, he found that Harry Haramus, to whom he had leased his farm in Liberty, had not been very successful. Harry was unable to meet the lease payment so William took possession. However, he allowed Harry to stay on his place and even helped him financially to get his sheep through the

winter. At times William's generosity was extended at the expense of the family's welfare and even when repayment looked doubtful. When selling lumber or building for others, he tended to give more than was required, and he never demanded payment from anyone when they couldn't make it. It seems as though he was almost a soft touch for the down and out. It was not uncommon for someone to stop him and ask for help as he walked down the street. He just seemed to stand out as someone who would listen and help, and he would never refuse the requests.

William used to sing a lot to his children, especially when they were driving somewhere. He used to sing a lot of Irish songs. One of his favorite songs was "I'll Take You Home Again Kathleen."

Each successive marriage after Louise's death proved successful, primarily because William always had the attitude of "what can I do for someone" rather than "what can they do for me". When visiting his children, he always left the place better than it was when he came. Once, while he was visiting one of his sons in Connell, Washington, he was the first to volunteer to start work on the new LDS Chapel.

As a businessman, most would not consider him to be very good. However, his goal or ambition never was to stand out in the community as one with status derived of material possessions.

William considered a formal education to be a crutch used to take advantage of others or to keep from earning a living by the sweat of one's brow. His children were supported through an elementary education, but were required to help with family obligations, which to him was the best training they could receive. Later in his life he seemed to accept higher education as part of the gospel plan. He lived and taught righteousness and obedience to the gospel. His son Raymond penned a proverb which describes the success of William's life: "The art of living a full life is to realize the future always has something good to offer."

Louise always seemed to be strong where William was weak. Together they balanced each other out and gave their children the foundation for a better life than they enjoyed. Louise was very organized. She was always planning for the future, never for the present. With her ability to be frugal with their small means, William never had to rely on financial help from the Church, the state or from his family.

Things always looked nice, neat and clean in Louise's house. Her children all remember well hearing her voice calling, "Clean your feet", as they came in the house. She made every place they lived a beautiful home. Even when they first moved to California and had to live in a tent, it was an inviting and pleasant place to visit.

Louise always worked hard accomplishing a lot, even with the task of caring for a large family. William could always depend on things being taken care of at home when he was away working at the sawmill or with the threshing crew. She could milk cows or chop wood as good as any man. In 1920 during the 4th of July celebration, they had a nail driving contest for women. Louise entered and won a

beautiful picture for her top performance. The sponsors were so impressed with her ability with the hammer, they brought Chance Gardner, who was the best carpenter in town, to challenge her. She almost beat him.

Louise was often quite pessimistic and spent a lot of time and energy preparing for things that never happened. Her family was always prepared for the hardest winter and when traveling, she always carried extra supplies which were never needed.

A nice new home was something Louise always wanted and it was finally built on North Harrison in Ogden. She also wanted to be able to pay cash for a new car. When that dream came true she had to be escorted to the restroom twice to get the money out of a pocket in her petticoat where she had placed it for safe keeping. Most important, she wanted all of her children to be married in the temple, and they were.

Church Positions and Spiritual Experiences

William was called to be Mutual President in the Liberty Ward soon after he and Louise were married. Later he taught the Gospel Doctrine Class in Sunday School. During this time Louise worked in the Primary and Mutual.

In 1916 when William was to be ordained a Seventy in the Priesthood, the stake leader came to interview him on Sunday. They found him working; getting out wood. This became a valuable lesson. He learned from the embarrassment he suffered and this experience helped him to keep the Sabbath day holy from that time on.

In 1923 William got blood poisoning from a scratch on his hand and his life was extended by the Lord. His recovery stands as a testimony of faith, clean living and endurance to all his posterity. This experience is best told in his own words:

During the winter time while we were at the mill getting out some logs, I was lacing my boots and in running my hand over the hooks of the lacing eyes, I scratched my thumb. It was not enough to even cause it to bleed. While washing my hands for supper that night, I felt a little smarting sting on my thumb. I looked at it for a moment but thought no more about it as I had forgotten scratching it that morning. I went to bed and it continued to be painful. By ten o'clock it was so painful I was sick all over. I awakened Earl and we went home. The next morning we went to the doctor and he pronounced it to be blood poisoning. We stayed at the home of my sister, Orba Hulse, and followed directions of the doctor for a few days. My thumb swelled so tight the skin felt ready to burst. The doctor lanced it and it eased. However, it was only temporary, as it swelled again the next day. I was taken to the hospital and they cut through my hand in every direction trying to locate the source of the infection. I only continued to get worse day by day. It felt like my hand was frying in hot grease. Other doctors were called in and finally Dr. George Dickson was consulted. He asked me many questions concerning my past life. Among other things he asked me if I had used liquor or tobacco.

When he found out that I had kept my body clean, he said he would be able to give me a shot that would either kill me or it would heal my hand. It was the only chance I had. The next morning after the shot had been given, there was a soft lump on my arm and the doctor lanced it. This turned out to be the localizing of the infection. When my wife came to the hospital, she told me that she had been pleading with the Lord to save my life and that it had been made known to her that very morning that I would get better."

Not only had Louise and her family been praying, but all the people of Liberty were praying and fasting as well. It seemed as though it was like Job of old, the test included all but his life and friends.

William carried his left arm in a sling for three years and his hand drained poison until his arm was amputated years later. While living in Willits, California and working at the sawmill, he fell and broke his wrist. The poison in his hand had deteriorated the bone and had gone up into his arm. The doctors in Willits said the only hope was amputation. The decision was made and his arm was taken off just below the elbow.



William and his infected hand

William never once complained about his handicap. He had an artificial arm with a working hook on the end fitted to him. He managed to chop wood, pitch hay, milk cows, do carpenter work, and do all the fixing type jobs that he had been used to doing. He still worked as hard as any man and was never the first to say, "that's enough for today".

William was called to be a counselor in the High Priest Quorum in the 29th Ward in Ogden. He also served as a counselor in the branch presidency of the Willits Branch. His leadership abilities were also utilized by his calling as High Priest Group Leader in the Willits Branch and again the same position in the Ogden 48th Ward. His sons followed his example of working in the Church, serving in many positions. Five of his seven sons have served as bishops in the Church.

Louise was also a faithful worker in the Church, spending most of her later years serving in the Relief Society. She had the spirit of Elijah as she was conscientious in keeping records and collecting newspaper clippings of many important events.

Special recognition was given to William and Louise in a letter from John L. Murdock, President of the Santa Rosa, California Stake. Part of the letter said, "I personally know of no more ideal family in the Church than you two good people have reared."

Wallace F. Bennett of the United State Senate sent congratulations to them on their 50th Wedding Anniversary, stating: "I was happy to read, too, that you have maintained your activity in the Church wherever you have lived and that your formula for a happy marriage is based upon observance of Latter-day Saint principles."

William was also the subject of several newspaper articles. The Ogden Standard Examiner printed a story of the family sawmill on 12 April 1945, stating: "It was no mere accident because Dad has taught his boys to stick together and work together.... and not a day passes even in the high country where they are falling their quota of trees that Dad doesn't lead his boys in family prayer."