

# History of James J and Mary Alice Fox Booth

(As written by Tim Booth, their son)



James and Alice Booth

As I start to write this history I cannot think of Mom and Dad as young and single. It seems that they were always together having been married 11 years and four kids prior to me coming along. Their stories converge when they met and married just prior to 1935 in Minersville. I will first start with the stories of their early years. A better understanding of their lives can be had by reading this complete book. Other family member stories add to and give a more complete account of their family life leading up to marriage. I wish I had the ability to write in a manner that captures their personalities and mannerisms. Mom and Dad were hard working people and completely dedicated to their family.

James J Booth was born 6 November 1916 to James William Booth, born, 16 March 1880, and Marvel Riding, born 5 June 1890. Dad was born in Harrisburg, Washington County, Utah. He often said that the home they lived in was used as the school house prior to them living in

it.



This photo is of James J Booth (Dad) when he was a baby. It was probably taken by his grandfather James Joseph Booth.

Other chapters in this book tell of dad's family history. His brother Fred's story is more detailed and tells of the earlier days before the family lived at Harrisburg. It gives a indication of why they came to live in this area. Also the history of Elizabeth Booth Lee, Dad's Grandmother, tells of this period.

Harrisburg is located on the main highway North of St. George, Utah. I believe they moved to this area because of necessity as their ability to obtain money was limited. Jobs were scarce and there was empty abandoned houses and Grandmother Elizabeth (Tye) Booth Lee was living there. I wonder if they just moved into a vacant home or if they bought or rented it from someone.



The following story about Harrisburg leaves one to believe that there were several abandoned homes in the area during that time.



Orson Adams home in Harrisburg

Harrisburg started out as a farming community and later supported the boom town of Silver Reef and Leeds with food products.

“From 1864 until the early 1890s, Orson B. Adams, his wife Susannah, two sons, and eventually two granddaughters lived in this two-room sandstone dwelling. They were among the nine families "called" in 1861 by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints to settle at the confluence of Leeds and Quail Creeks; the new settlement was named Harrisburg.

William G. McMullin, a master stone mason, arrived here in 1862 and constructed the Adams home, as well as many of the other residences of Harrisburg, during the period between 1863 and 1865.

The settlers raised livestock and farmed, constructing a system of irrigation ditches to divert water from the two creeks. Between 1875 and 1888, the nearby mining boom town Silver Reef created a cash market for the agricultural products of Harrisburg, helping to sustain the settlement. During the winter of 1866, prospector John Kemple, the discoverer of the ore deposits at Silver Reef, boarded with the Adams family in this small already crowded house.

By the mid-1880s, however, Harrisburg's population had begun to decline, as upstream diversions of water from Leeds Creek for the new

settlement left too little water in the ditches to irrigate the crops. The Adams' fields, however, continued to be arable, since their irrigation water was diverted from Quail Creek. Orson and Susannah Adams remained in Harrisburg until she died in 1892. Soon afterward he moved to his daughter's home in Leeds, living there until his death in 1901.

After Orson Adams' death, his property changed ownership several times, eventually being purchased by William M. Emmet in 1910. Emmet, his wife, and seven children lived in this house and for years, the only family that remained in Harrisburg. They raised alfalfa, wine grapes, and other garden crops, including excellent melons. The family occupied this house until William Emmet's death in 1944, at which the house was vacated. Since that time the structure has suffered from the effects of neglect and vandalism. These structures remain in front of a RV Park. The land directly around the park is Privately owned.

In 2001, the land and structures remaining from the abandoned Harrisburg town site (Including the Adams House) were transferred to the Bureau of Land Management to protect the natural and cultural values of the site and enhance recreational access to the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve.”

In the above story it says that William Emmet family lived at Harrisburg from 1910 until 1944. That they were the only family in Harrisburg during that time frame. I believe that during that time the abandoned homes were used by several families. Some time prior to dad's birthday his grandmother was living in the house that is still standing today. A more detailed history of her life is contained in her life story.



This home is located at the entrance to the RV Park



This home is located a little farther South and is the one I believe was occupied by dad's Grandmother Elizabeth Lee

Dad was the 4<sup>th</sup> child of 7 children of Marvel and James William Booth. They were Fred, Elma, Esther, James, Shirly (Shake), Rea (Swartz), Johnny and a baby that was still born in Lehi just prior to Marvels passing. Dad said that his dad told him that if this baby had lived her name was to be Ruth.

The Harrisburg home Dad was born in was destroyed when the freeway was built thru that area. The home was located under the freeway at the bottom of a small valley. In the early 1960's when they were building the freeway Dad tried to salvage some of the stones from the building, but when they arrived, the home had already been bulldozed and he couldn't tell which rocks were which. He did take the hearth stone from his Grandmother Lee's home and had it displayed in his front yard. Since Dad and Mom has passed away and their home sold, I have the stone in my yard.



The above photo is rather interesting and was found in the display area in the Wells Fargo, Silver Reef museum. It appears to be a copy of a newspaper clipping. The old Kuhn home was located at the Grape Vine spring which was located on the north end of Leeds. One can find reference to the spring on maps of today and there is probable some history on the home in the town of Leeds history. The caption at the bottom of the photo indicates that Henry Peterson and his family were living there at the time the photo was taken. The women at the left is Mrs. Peterson's mother. Women with the baby is Mrs James Booth. The other children are Booth's and Peterson's.

Due to the fact that Dad was born in 1916 at Harrisburg, this photo was taken sometime around that time. The baby Grandma Booth is holding is probably Dad, James J Booth. The other children probably are Fred, Rea, Elma and Shake.



From Harrisburg the family moved several times. Fred's story tells of the moves they made. In the family's early days dad's father worked as a train conductor in Milford, but was blackballed due to some union issues. He had a hard time finding a job after that. I think they moved anywhere he could find work and a place to stay. In September 1921 they moved to Lehi and lived on a farm own by Mary and Clyde Herron. Mary was a sister to James William Booth, Dad's father.

Dad's mother died when they were living in Lehi. She had gall stones and was operated on to remove them. She lived a couple of days after the operation according to Fred's story and then died. Dad was almost seven years old when she died. It must of been a real tragedy for him as he can only speak of how much he loved her. Fred's story tell of the many hardships this woman went through. I think she was the rod that held the family together. She is buried in the Lehi cemetery where grandpa bought a full 20' x 20' lot. It is lot number 2 in the cemetery and very easy to find. Dad and his brothers put a headstone on her grave to mark it.

The railroad ran thru Lehi and on to Milford. They would climb on the train as it moved along slow and throw off coal. Later they would bring the horse and wagon to gather it up. This was the only way they could get something to heat their house. Times were tough for them. Dad said that there was a relative that worked on the train sometimes and he would turn his back when they would do this.

The location of this farm was pointed out to us one day by Dad when we had gone there to check on Grandmother's grave. It was located on the north west side of Lehi and close to where a sugar beet loading facility was for the railroad.

They had to move off the farm when Aunt Mary Herron moved back from the other farm they owned. Not much detail was given for their moving back. Dad's family moved into another home in the area.



Grandma Marvel Booth was born 5 Jun 1890 and was 33 years old when she died on 7 Jun 1923.

Grandpa Joseph William Booth was Born 16 March 1880 and was 70 years old when he died 6 September 1950.

He was 28 when they got married and grandma was 18 years old.

When she died Grandpa was 43 years old.

Each child was:

Fred - 14 years old.

Swartz - 13 years old.

Elma - 10 years old (She was 15 years old when she died)

Shake - almost 9 years old.

Dad - 7 years old.

Esther - 4 years old

John - 2 ½ years old

Baby Booth - died at birth 16 Aug 1922, 10 months before Grandma died.

After his mother died they lived in the area until grandpa Booth developed trouble with his legs and was put in the hospital. Aunt Rhoda Laub came from Enterprise, Utah and took Johnny who was the baby, about two years old. She was an adopted daughter of James Joseph Booth. She kept him till he was 8 or 9. Elma, Shake, Dad, Ester, and

Emma were put into a orphanage in Salt Lake City. Dad had told us where the orphanage was. It was located at approximately 11<sup>th</sup> South and 13<sup>th</sup> East at the top of one of the hills there. (Fred's wrote: "They put Elma, Shirley, Jim and Esther in the Orphan's home on 11th South 13th East in Salt Lake City. Swartz went to Sandy and worked on a dairy farm. Fred went to work in the County Hospital on 21st South Street.)"

Their time in the orphanage must of been a terrible time for them. They lost the love of the family and his mother. They must of felt deserted. One can only imagine the feelings these four must of had entering and living in this home. I have never had the opportunity to talk to any of the others of their experience there. I assume they were as devastated as Dad. They had little contact with each other while they were there. Dad said that he thought Elma was given to a family that lived in the Ogden area and later she died without ever being reunited with the family. See her story for these details.

Dad tell of the time when it became time to remove their tonsils. They were put on a city bus and given the return fare. No one accompanied them. They went to the county Hospital on the corner of 2100 South and State Street where their tonsils were removed. They were put back on a bus and sent back to the orphanage. He says they weren't treated very well there and it has affected him until his dying day.

Dads story of how he was able to leave the orphanage is an emotional one. I wanted to write it down as he told it to me before I forgot the details.

Dad says that he left the orphanage when he was 10 years old. His dad had arranged for Tuscarora and Sarah Booth Gillins and Tiny Marie and her husband to take him. Sarah Booth Gillins was the sister of James Joseph Booth.

Dad was supposed to live with them. But it was said that they couldn't control him so they sent him to his Father who was living in Nevada. Dad said that this was the only way they could get him out of the orphanage. The State wouldn't release him to his Father. Once they had him they could get him to Nevada to his father, where the State couldn't touch him.

Tuscarora and Sarah Gillins lived on a farm in Minersville.

Tuscarora and Sarah lived on one side of the house and the Tiny Marie lived on the other side. The house was added onto several times. He got there just in time to help them pick up the potatoes from the field.

*I talked to dad before he passed away, to try to clarify some things. Sarah Booth Gillins was a sister to dad's grandfather. They lived in Minersville in a home that was on several levels. It sounded like the ground was not level so they built some rooms on one level and some on another. When dad was taken there when he left the orphanage. His dad had arranged for Sarah and Tuss to take him from the orphanage. It sounds like they would not let his dad have him because there was no family unit (my opinion). After he was there for 9 or 10 months his dad sent for him.*

*He said Sarah and Tuss were living on one level and Tiny Marie and her husband Roy McGinty lived on the other level. In one of the other family stories, it indicated that Sarah and Tuss adopted five of his sister's children after she died. Tiny Marie being one of them. Dad says that there was a Jane and a Dortha (or Something like that). There was two other girls living there when he was there. Dad says that Sarah took in several children and raised them. He says that they were not adopted, but the other story says they were. Albert Kessler was also raised by them. He is someone that lived in Tooele also in later years.*

Dad says the Tiny Marie was a small woman, not quite 5' high. She became pregnant and they decided that they couldn't handle Dad any longer as he was quite wild, so she wrote to his dad and told them they were sending Dad to him. They took him to Milford and put him on a train to Caliente, Nevada. Dad carried a small sack that contained what few clothes he owned. He traveled on the train by himself. When he was let off at Caliente, there was no one there to meet him. He asked a person if they knew his Dad and where he was. They told him they didn't and to go up to the middle of town and ask. He went to a crossroad where he stood for a while and spying a candy bar thru a door of a pool hall he went in there to buy it as he had a quarter and was hungry. Something told him to go into the back where the pool tables

were and when he did he walked up to person there and started staring at him. This other person stared back and finally recognized him. The other person was Rea, dad's brother. He took dad to his father and he stayed with them. His dad had only a sleeping room in a hotel and that's where they stayed.

During the time that followed they found work on farms and lived in a tent out in the fields. Dad says of this time that he was often left alone to fend for himself. He had befriended a local farm boy and they would play cowboys and Indians together. He said that most of the time he was as wild as an Indian.

At some point Grandpa Booth took up being a salesman, going door to door selling mail order clothing to outlying towns and farmers in Southern Utah and Nevada. I think he continued this for several years.

It was Grandpa Will's wish to get the family back together again. Elma had died of Rheumatic fever in the orphanage. Will went to St. George where his sister Emma Larson was living. Through her he met Gladys Wilson, a maiden lady who had a home at 400 East Tabernacle. They were married in the temple and they had marvelous work done. All of the family came here to live except Fred, who stayed at Caliente and worked to keep the family going.

When Grandpa Booth and Gladys was married their ages were:  
Grandpa - 51 years old.  
Gladys - 41 years old.  
Fred - 23 years old  
Swartz - 21 years old  
Elma - She had been dead 4 years.  
Shake - 17 years old.  
Dad - almost 15 years old.  
Esther - almost 13 years old.  
John - 11 years old.

The family lived at this location for a period of time as Gladys owned the home. Dad remembered this time as a period where he had to work rather hard. He worked for a coal yard where he was required to unload

and load the coal for delivery. They delivered to several outlying area around St. George including CCC camps as far away as Cedar City. He told of driving a truck that had two transmissions in it. One was mounted backwards to the other so it could have low enough gears to climb to the camps. He said it was hard to shift and if you put both in reverse you would go forward.

Dad once said that he never talked about his dad much because he didn't have anything good to say about him. He treated his children quite bad and beat them often with a belt and kick them. Dad would often correct us when we would kick one of our own kids in the butt and tell us to stop. He was severely abused by his father this way. He told of the times when after he would shovel coal all week his dad would pick up his earnings. He never saw any of the money he earned. He would buy butter with their earnings and never let the kids have any. Dad said that his father had beat him with a belt and a 2 x 4. Later in life Dad found out that one of his kidneys was sideways in his body. He attributed this to his beatings.

The home I remember in St. George, where dad said they lived was a small home. When I saw it Dad's brother Swartz (Rea) lived in it. There was a small house and a granary building set back from the street. It was located next to an empty lot that formed a street corner. Dad says there was a lot of things left in the home and granary when he left home. Swartz wouldn't let anyone in the house, let alone the granary. He tells of a full Indian spear head he found when he was a boy that was there along with several other things of his. Dad says that there was a hat or cheese box full of photograph that his grandfather took. There was several boxes of glass negatives that his grandfather had taken. His dad would often have copies of these made and sell them. Dad asked Swartz where they had gone and he said that he threw them in the hole when they tore down the home on the corner. Dad says later that he heard that a lady in the area around St. George had some of them. He figures Swartz gave them to her. *(Later we found out that this lady's name is Lynn Clark and lives in St. George)* There was also a old fashioned school bell that belonged to him. I think this could be one of the three

located in the Daughters of the Pioneer Museum in St. George.

Smith's grocery store bought the lot and home and tore it down to build their new store.

Dad and Mom once told me the story of how they met. Aunt Esther and Rea and Rea's first wife went to Minersville to pick peas. They had heard there was work to be had picking peas there. During this time Esther and Jim Fox met and were later married. I don't know too much of the details. Esther and Jim came to St. George to live and had taken Dad to Minersville where he met Mom. Mom is a sister to Jim Fox. The time line of all this happening is not known. After Mom and Dad met they were married in Beaver. Mom was 15 and dad was 18. Someone they knew drove them to Beaver so they could be married. I don't remember who it was. There was someone else in Beaver that provided a cake for them. Mom's parents had moved to Tooele prior to their marriage.



This is the earliest photo we have of Mary Alice Eva Fox Booth. On the back of the photo she wrote "To Jim Booth from Alice Fox". She looks to be about 12 or 13 years old. This is probably a photo she gave Dad

when she met him in Minersville.



This photo is labeled “Alice, Norma, Shirley”. Alice is holding Shirley and Norma is hiding behind her. Alice was approximately 7 or 8 years old. Norma was approximately 4 years old and Shirley was approximately 1 year old.

Next I will provide some information about Mom’s parents. Hopefully this will give the reader a better understanding of what was transpiring at this point. This information is also contained in their histories.

Grandpa Charles Arthur Fox was born 14 May 1883 in Phoenix, Arizona He died 29 July 1955 in Minersville, Utah.



Grandma Ellen Cedairean Bradshaw was born 12 January 1887 in Minersville, Utah  
She died 30 March 1958 in Minersville, Utah. She was 71 years old when she passed away.

They were married 24 April 1913 in Dillon Montana.

Grandma Ellen Fox was married to Ernest Elbert Stewart prior to being married to Grandpa Charles Fox. They were married 22 December 1904 in Beaver, Utah. They were later divorced.

Grandma Fox was almost 17 years old when she married Ernest Stewart. They had five children.

Zelma was Ellen and Ernest's first child. She was born 19 November, 1905 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Grandma was 18 years old. Zelma died 4 Dec 1979 in Tooele, Utah. She was 74 when she died.

Ralph was born next. He was born 13 Dec, 1906 in Minersville, Utah. Grandma was 19 years old. He died 27 Oct, 1942 in Tooele, Utah. He was almost 36 when he died.

Leland was born next. He was born 15 Sep, 1908 in Minersville, Utah. Grandma was almost 21 years old. He died 16 Jan. 1958 in Tooele, Utah. He was 49 when he died.

Samuel was born next. He was born 20 Feb, 1910 in Minersville, Utah. Grandma was about 23 years old. He died 22 Feb. 1910. He was 2 days old when he died.

Merle was born next. He was born 3 May, 1912 in Ely, Nevada. Grandma was 25 years old. He died 5 May, 1912. He was 2 days old when he died.

Grandpa Fox was 30 years old when he married Grandma Fox. Grandma Fox was 26 years old when she married Grandpa Fox.

James Arthur Fox was first born of the Charles Fox marriage. He was born 20 August, 1914 in Gilmore, Idaho. Grandma was 27 years old. He died 21 Aug 1958 in Tooele, Utah. He was 44 years old.

Robert (Bob)Edward Lee Fox was born next. He was born 22 August, 1917 in Gilmore, Idaho. Grandma was 30 years old. He died 25 April, 1976 in Tooele, Utah. He was 58 years old.

Elvaretta Fox was born next. She was born 14 Jan, 1919 in Parowan, Utah. Grandma was 31 years old. She died 15 Jan, 1919 in Parowan, Utah. She was one day old. The death certificate says she was still born.

Mary Alice Fox was born next. She was born 11 April 1920 in Parowan, Utah. Grandma was 33 years old. She died 19 October, 2006 in Tooele, Utah. She was 86 years old.

Norma was born next. She was born 31 May, 1923 in Parowan, Utah. Grandma was 39 years old. She died 21 July 2000 in West Valley City, Utah. She was 74 years old.

Shirley was born next. She was born 31 May 1926. She was born in Parowan, Utah. Grandma was 39 years old. Shirley died 10 June 2006 in Mesquite, Nevada. She was almost 80 years old.

The following are notes I took on their lives:

8/27/2001

Over this last weekend I was able to ask dad a few questions about Grandma and Grand Pa Fox. Mom's mind is not there any more and asking her questions isn't possible. The following is a brief over view of what I remember and what dad told me.

Grandma Ellen Fox was born Ellen Cedairean Bradshaw. Her father was Samuel Bradshaw. The Bradshaw family was early pioneers into the Minersville area. Grandma had married Ernest Elbert Stewart and had five children by him. From the birth dates of each child one can assume that they were in Salt Lake City (Nov. 1905) when the first was born. Later they moved to Minersville (1906 thru 1910) where the next three were born. They moved to Ely where the last was born in 1912. Whether they were living in Ely or somewhere close by is not determined. At any rate she had divorced Ernest and married Grandpa Fox by 24 April 1913.

Ernest, as I was told was not a very good husband to grandma. She was left most of the time to endure on her own and take care of the kids. Dad says he was a womanizer and was prone to leave grandma alone most of the time. He was a barber Dad said. When grandma divorced him she was living in Frisco, a mining town west of Milford, Utah. She was taking in washing to buy food so they could survive. If you read the history of Frisco you find that it wasn't a very good place to be for a single mother. The town was known for its rowdiness. I wonder how she survived in that place.

Sometime during the year after 1912 she met Charles Arthur Fox. Maybe she knew him before then, who knows. Grandpa Fox was born 14 May 1883 in Phoenix, Arizona. During this period of time about the only work a man could find was mining or farming. It's my guess that grandpa had been following the mining claims and doing work where he could find it. He was 29 or 30 years old at this point. He was working for a mine in Frisco at the time he met grandma.

Dad says that he left there and went to Gilmore, Idaho to work in another mine. He must of got a little money together because he wrote to grandma and told her to come up there with the kids and they would get married. He sent money for them to travel by train. There's probably more to it than that, but that's all dad said.

They were married in Dillon, Montana on 24 April, 1913. Their first two children, Jim and Robert (Bob), were born in Gilmore. Jim in 1914 and Bob in 1917. They must of stayed there for sometime because the next child was born in 1919 in Parowan, Utah.

From 1919 until 1930 they stayed in Parowan. *(I found a newspaper article that stated “Mr. And Mrs. Charles Fox who have been residents in this valley for several years moved to Minersville where they expect to stay.” The article was dated 05/16/1930.)*

Grandpa share cropped a farm in the flats north of Parowan in an area called Paragona. While there, four more children were born. This brings a total of eleven children grandma bore. Three of these died when they were one- to-two days old. Two by Ernest and one by Grandpa Fox who's name was Elvaretta Fox. (Elvaretta Fox was born 14 January, 1919. She is listed as still born on her death certificate and is buried in the Parowan Cemetery.)

*Accompanying this history is a written dialog of a cassette tape Mom and Dad made. One of Brad Fox's daughters made the tape as a project for a high school assignment.*

Mom often talked of the times she remembered while living on this farm. She said that during the depression the only thing they had to eat was the grain the government gave them to feed the cow they had. The government would provide grain for the animals to help keep them alive thru the depression era. Most people were so destitute that they ate the grain and fed the cow what they could find elsewhere. Mom says that they would make a little gravy with bacon grease and flour and eat it over a little bread. They would eat the grain for cereal.

Sometime about 1934/1935 grandpa moved the family to Tooele. Dad and mom were married in 1935 and he says that grandma and grandpa were living in Tooele when they were married. Grandpa own the home located at 320 West Vine Street. Dad said that he also own another home at the same time located at 155 South 100 West. When he said that about this second home, it was the first time I remember hearing about it. Ned Fox, Jim's son, tell that while they lived in this home he was born.

Grandpa moved to Tooele to work in the Bauer mine. I think that Jim and Ester, Bob, Leland and Ralph were working there before he came. Aunt Zelma's husband Jack Miller, worked there also. I can remember them working there in my younger days.

Dad says that grandpa had a lease on a portion of the Calumet mine. This was a mine that was part of the Bauer complex. The Calumet mine is located above Stockton. One travels thru Stockton, up toward Soldiers canyon, to a turn off then climb up the hill to the mine. Today the road is not too accessible due to several homes being built in the area. The mine is a shaft that descends into the mountain several thousand feet. Grandpa's lease was at the 1200 foot level and contained the area 600 feet above there. He mined a quartz vein the ran upward. At times Leland, Bob and Jim worked for him. Dad says that Bob later went to work for the company that owned the mine. Leland got mad at something and quit.

The company that owned the mine would smelt the ore and take a portion of the money for payment on the lease. Dad says that he accompanied grandpa to the bank one time when he deposited a check for \$3000.00. That was a lot of money in those days.

Jim Fox had a lease on the 1300 foot level according to dad. Dad would help mine this area when he was out of work from the old smelter east of Tooele. He remembers riding the bucket down the shaft several times. He also said that one time him and Jim had to walk out of the Bauer tunnel which was several miles long.

There are several photos' in Mom and Dad's collection that were taken during this time frame. There is a photo of grandpa and two of his brothers. There are several photos that were taken from the home mom and dad lived in at this time. Just two houses east from their home (320 West Vine Street)is a lot that contains two homes, one behind the other. Mom and Dad rented the home in the rear.

Mom and dad were married 11 April 1935 in Beaver, Utah. Mom was just 15 as that is her birthday also. Dad had turned 18 the November before. They lived on the railroad for the first part of their marriage and moved to Tooele sometime in the fall of 1935. Sometime in 1936 they bought the home at 24 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street where they lived for 20 years. In the summer of 1956 they bought the home at 318 West Vine Street that they owned till they passed away. They lived there for about 45 years.

Dad says that grandma's father, Samuel Bradshaw, told grandpa

about a farm that was for sale in Minersville. Dad says that he took grandpa to Minersville when he bought it. Sometime later Grandpa returned to Minersville and bought their home which also included hay and grain fields west of Minersville. Their home was located on a large lot in Minersville. I remember going there several times when I was very young. It was a fun place to go and I have some very fond memories of this place. This is something else I can expand on later.

I don't remember being told much of their life living in Minersville up to the time I was old enough to remember for my self. Sometime Grandpa had shot off a finger on his hand and they say that he got cancer from it.

When I remember grandpa, I remember him with no arm below the elbow. They had cut off that portion of his arm to stop the cancer. He wore a hook that would open and close so he could pick up things. To a young kid it was something quite scary. He love us grandchildren with all his heart though. I remember sitting on his lap and enjoying him. I wish now that I could of been a little older so that I could of had a better relationship with him. I wonder what life would of been like for them if they had someone to help take care of them. I'm sure they lived a lonely life and had many hardships to endure. With only one good arm one wonders how they did all the things they needed to do just to live. Grandma's brother William (Bill) Bradshaw took care of them as much as he could. He lived just up the street from them. He ran the farm for grandpa. I don't know what kind of relationship they had but he done all of the work cutting the hay and so forth. I remember seeing Bill traveling to the fields every day that we were there. He would usually be driving some kind of farm machinery.

Grandpa's home consisted of a home and a yard that was quite large. It contained several fruit trees, a small garage, a garden area, an outhouse, an area where fire wood was kept, a large barn and corrals, a pond, and a out building that looked like a corn crib. Some of this we could roam at will, some areas we were told to stay out of. The older kids would play tag in the rafters of the barn, I was always too scared to do any more than climb up and watch. Grandpa let the Marshal family

keep their calves in the corrals in back of the barn. There were always several caves there when we visited. I remember one time when Brad and John had been chasing them and holding on to their tails. Brad was the recipient of a large present from one of them. He had to clean himself off before he went into the house. It was quite smelly. It's funny to know that I have finally realized that the Marshall family is who kept the cows there. I always thought that it was a Marshall as in the law.

I remember going there often when the apples were still green. We would get the salt shaker from the kitchen and climb on top of the small garage that was next to the apple tree. We ate green apples until we were sick. We had to take baths in a wash tub. Often the younger kids were all bathed together. Hot water was heated on a old coal stove located in the kitchen. I wish I had that stove today. It would make a great keepsake. Grandma would stoke the stove with wood. Grandpa had to go gather the wood from the hills around Minersville. I remember watching him chop wood with one arm. The outhouse was located on a path that went to the barn. Located next to the outhouse was the area where wood for the stove was kept. I wonder now how they heated the home in winter. The outhouse always contained a catalog that was used for toilet paper. I don't remember there being any modern toilet paper there. Across from the outhouse and on the west side of the lot was a garden area. There was always something growing there, but I didn't pay much attention to it. Irrigation water was brought from a ditch that was in front of the house. I traveled down the east side of the lot and crossed to the garden. It also traveled to the back of the lot where it filled a low spot near a corral that was in front of the barn. This was not kept full all the time. Most often when we were there it was empty. I remember seeing a large draft horse there in that corral. Mom told me one time about it but I don't remember what she said. I think it belong to someone else and they were keeping it there or grandpa was using it for something.

The kitchen sink was drained thru a pipe that ran from the house under ground until it reached the ditch that watered the garden. I remember the water running out of this pipe and how we always tried to play in it.

Sometime we could, most times they chased us out of it. One time I was playing with a rope and lassoed the pipe. When I jerked on it the whole pipe came up. Grandpa was standing a short way off and seen me. He said something and I ran away. I remember being rather scared. And thought I would get spanked or something. I stayed away a crossed the street for a while and when I returned grandpa had fixed the pipe. I don't remember getting in trouble for it at all. Under the house was a cellar. A set of dirt stairs went down to it. We were never allowed to go down there. I was always afraid to anyway. Dad later said that it contained a lot of their bottled fruit and other things. There was also a root cellar close to the house. This we were never allow in either. Dad said once, as joke, he had locked mom down there when they were first married. She was afraid of snakes and hollered to get out. She said she had seen snakes go in there when she was younger. She didn't like the spiders either.

Whenever we went there we always went fishing. I don't remember ever fishing on the reservoir. We always fish on the river that came from the dam. There is a farm located on the other side of the road below the dam. There was a bridge there that was used to cross the river. We would go to this location and fish. The river had several large holes that are not there now. The river contained a lot of big fish in those days. As you came out of Minersville on the east side, the river went into a canal that passed thru the town. At a place there dad would sean minnows out of the stream and that's what was used for bait. The adults would go fishing down the stream from the bridge. Us kids would stay with grandma and take the fish off her pole and re bait it for her. She always caught a lot of fish. After there was always a picnic with fried chicken. How I long for those days.

Grandma was a great story teller. She would hold us kids spell bound with her stories. One that she told often was about this farm across the road from the dam. There is a concrete silo there that was constructed with rebar imbedded into it that formed a ladder to the top. The area where the ladder was opened to the inside of the silo. This method of construction was typical. Grandma said that there was Spanish



buried treasure somewhere in the river. The ghost of a woman who was searching for her boyfriend would be visible on a night where the moon was full. She would come to the silo and climb to the top and jump to the bottom. If one had enough nerve to go ask her she would tell you where the treasure was.

Grandpa later was diagnosed with cancer thru out his body. I remember seeing him for the last time when we were in Minersville and mom was taking care of him. They had just cut off the rest of his arm to the shoulder. He was laying in bed in his bedroom and I was looking thru the door. They wouldn't let us kids near him as he was quite sick. I remember we went home and he died a short time later. Only mom and dad went to the funeral.

I remember grandma living with us several different times after that. We lived on the East side of Tooele in those days. Grandma slept in a bed that was located in the same room as the rest of us kids beds. She had arthritis real bad and always walked with a crutch under one arm. She couldn't make it to the outhouse we had at that time. She kept a coffee can under her bed and it was us kids job to empty it. I remember walking to the outhouse with it when it was full to the brim and there was always a little poop floating in it. We walked real slow so as not to spill it.

Grandma lived with us one more time after we had moved to Vine street. She slept in the back bedroom. After she left there she went to live in the old home in Minersville with her daughter Shirley. Shirley took care of her until she died there. Dad told me that each of her children had a share of the estate. Someone in Minersville, a banker of lawyer or someone, talked Shirley into selling her share to him. This left the rest of them in a bad spot as they had to sell the whole house and grounds to him. Mom got \$1100.00 from the sell as I remember. Most of the furniture was gone or destroyed. Uncle Jim took care of the rest. Dad says that when Jim went down to clean up the house he found someone had broken in and piled all the stuff in the basement into a pile and the poured honey and fruit over it. Most of the photos were destroyed.

Grandma Fox had a great memory. She could tell you who had married who and the date. She knew most of her and grandpa's genealogy by heart. What a resource was lost when she died. I have been able to piece some of it together from old information.

I remember bringing a friend home from school when we lived on 6<sup>th</sup> street. She asked me his name and then proceeded to tell us how he was related. We didn't know we were related! He was just someone I played with off and on. He ended up being a cousin several times removed. Grandma could recite the alphabet backwards faster than she could recite it forward. We enjoyed getting her to do this when we were younger.

Grandma's maiden name was Bradshaw. Her father was Samuel Bradshaw. One of her brothers or his brother made a family tree listing each member as a leaf on the tree. Mom ended up with a copy of this tree and I have it in my possession. I will try to extract the names at sometime in the future. There is said to be 3200 names on it. I think we have most of them listed in my genealogy program.

To get back on track here.....

Mom and Dad were married in Beaver, Utah on 11 April 1935 which is Mom's 15<sup>th</sup> birthday. Mom's parents had moved to Tooele. They lived in a couple of places before they moved to Tooele. Dad worked for the railroad as a section hand at Lund and Modena. These, in those days, were quite remote section stations where track maintenance gangs were stationed to maintain portions of the railroad tracks. Living out in this region during this time frame was pretty remote. The railroad furnished them a place to stay while he worked there. Dad says they lived there with no car or other means of transportation. The railroad was the only means of transportation.

Dad worked on a gang where they replaced the ties and rails and according to him, hid rock under the ties to stabilize them. They had to tamp the ties in solid after replacing them. They did this with a large, heavy steel bar. He said that many a night he came home with his hand a mass of blisters. I can hardly imagine working under such conditions. It

must of been hot in the summer and freezing cold in the winter.

They were only there for April until November of 1935. Mom was pregnant with Charles during this time and due in November of that year. As Mom's pregnancy progressed Dad sent her to be with her parents in Tooele (I think Dad said this was about August of September) so she could have better care from a doctor. Dad followed her in October, I think.

Mom and Dad first rented a home located just East and thru the field from Grandpa Fox's home. There were two home in this location, one in front of the other. They rented the home in the rear. It was here that they

became friends with the neighbors that live in the homes around there at the time.



This photo is of Pauline Fox, Charles Fox brother James's daughter. Notice the house in the background that was Grandpa Fox's home.

Dad went to work for the International Smelter and Refining Company shortly after they arrived in Tooele. This was probably early in the year of 1936. He was able to get a job there instead of working in the mines around Tooele.



Dad bought the home they lived in on 24 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street. He paid \$400.00 dollars for it and they always said it was a barn that the previous owners kept goats in. Dad fixed it up so they could live in it. They bought it from a family that lived next door to where they were living by Grandpa Fox's. They paid it off at \$10.00 a

month.

I took these photos in 2005. The house today, 2011, is in terrible shape. It is so derelict that no one can live in it. It is a wonder it is still standing. Soon it will be torn down, I'm sure.

I hate to see the old home go. This is the home I was raised to the ripe old age of almost 7 in. I have a lot of fond memories of this place. Some day I'll try to write some of them down.



This view is from the back yard. Dad always had a nice garden on the right of the sidewalk. On the left was a lawn where we all played. Dad's shop was the building you can just see the edge of.



This is what his shop looks like today. It is a wonder it is still standing. Someone put the doors on the back and destroyed the structures ability to stand straight.

One of the favorite pass times in the summer was to picnic in Middle canyon at the flat they called White Pine. Mom would pack a lunch and



they would go there to get away from the heat of the summer.

This is a photo of Alice Fox Booth with Charles Booth, her son, taken at White Pine flat in Middle Canyon. Notice the old water tank in the back ground. It was removed long ago.



This is a photo of Jim Booth take at the same location. He is holding Dennis Booth his second son.

Mom's fried chicken and potato salad was the staple at these picnics.

Dad worked at the old smelter east of town. What I remember him working at was on the slag tapping

floor of the blast furnace. He performed several jobs while working there and talked of several, but this is the one I remember most. He also ran a coal yard that was owned by the union. The yard was located across the street on 7<sup>th</sup> from our house and down on the other side of the railroad tracks. A fire station is now located at the location of this yard. They brought in the coal in rail cars and dumped them from a elevated railway section. I remember this section of track cause we always played there when we were little. I was scared to death to follow the rest of the crew across it because it was so high and there was nothing between the ties. Things look different and bigger when your little.

Dad talked of working at this coal yard in order to make enough money to make ends meet. With several kids to feed he worked as much as he could to keep food on the table. He said many a time that there wasn't a coal chute in Tooele that he hadn't threw coal down. The union would take coal to all the widows of their members. Dad says the guy that was running it for the union skimmed money from the operation.

This photo is of Alice Fox Booth, Ann Kesler, and Dennis Booth as a



baby. I don't know where this was take. I put it in here because it shows Mom as a young woman. It probably was taken somewhere in Tooele. Maybe their first home they rented.



This is a early photo of Jim Booth siting in the middle, with Charles Fox on the right. The fellow on the left is unknown as is the baby.



This is a photo of Alice Fox Booth. She is holding Sharon Fox and John Booth is standing. Sharon was the daughter of Esther and Jim Fox, Moms older brother. It was taken at the old home shown above. Notice on the ground behind the house is a door way to a root cellar.





This is another photo of Alice Fox Booth taken at White Pine Flat. She is holding Dennis Booth her son.



This is a later photo of Alice taken at the same location as the photo above. Her son Tim is trying to feed her a toasted marshmallow. What a difference a few years make.



This is Jim and Alice standing at the same location as above in later years.

They talked of the Pauladoors (not spelled right I'm sure) who lived in the home right next to their home on Vine Street. The Bevans that lived in the back of them and others I don't remember. I found several photos in their collection that were taken when they lived there.

I will end this part of this story here as this is getting too long for one story. I will continue it in a second chapter.

