

LIFE STORY OF ERNEST WILLIAM FELT 1891 - 1972

*his daughter
by Edythe Thurman*

Ernest William Felt, was born in Provo, Utah, January 1, 1891, to David Pile and Adeline Harris Felt. He was one of seven children. Six of his brothers and sisters grew to adulthood. They later moved to Salt Lake City, where his father had an office in the Felt Building. He was a printer.

Ernest was the fourth child. Frances Vernon was the eldest, and then Vera Adeline, then David Clyde, and then Ernest. George was next, but died a few hours after birth, then Renee Lola, and the youngest Norma Louise.

His father had a store in Provo where he sold organs, books and sewing machines. His father filled a mission for the church and was gone for two years while the children were little. While he was on his mission they lived next door to the Reynolds Hotel, and the workers from the hotel would take food over to the family each night that was not sold in the restaurant. Renee was about five, Ernest was about eight and Norma was a baby. Their mother would sell butter, subscriptions to papers, and magazines to help support the family. (This was according to Renee's memory.)

Renee also said that when Ernest was about sixteen his mother was in the hospital and his dad purchased a beautiful hat and dress and laid it on the foot of the bed, and he said "I know you will get well so you can wear this". Ernest mother was a beautiful woman and always dressed well and looked elegant.

They would visit their Grandma Silver's every Monday ~~and she had a little store~~ Ernest would pay Renee a quarter to make his bed and to teach him to dance. They attended Washington School and West High School in Salt Lake City, Utah.

at noon and she would have lunch for them

He was baptized August 7, 1899 by his Father David Pile Felt and confirmed August 7, by George R. Hill. ~~He attended Washington School in Salt Lake City in his early grades.~~ His sister Renee said that Ernest and her other big brothers would always protect her in school. It was thought that he served in the army during World War I. However after he passed away and when his daughter Edythe tried to locate Military Records, they couldn't locate a record of his service.

and lived across the street from their school.

There was a place on North Temple Street, in Salt Lake City, where the young people would gather and dance and enjoy the time together. It was here that Ernest met Edith Mae Martin. Ernest asked one of the ushers to introduce them, as this was the way it was done then. ~~They danced and began spending much time together.~~

Ernest and Mae dated about a year then on October 18, 1911 they decided to marry secretly because Ernest was still only 20 years old, and didn't feel he could get permission to marry. They were married by Reverend Elmer L. Goshen, that evening.

Three months after they were married, Ernest told His father they were married, and on the 11th of January 1912 while Mae was on the bus going to work, she was looking at the man in front of her who was reading the newspaper and she saw their picture on the front page and the article saying that the 'WEDDING SECRET IS OUT, GAURDED FOR MONTHS'. His father worked in the business office of the Deseret News and he was responsible for the article.

Ernest was ordained an Elder January 4, 1914, by Pres. Rudolph Stockseth of the Quorum of Elders in the Tenth Ward, Liberty Stake. On February 19, 1914 he and Mae entered the temple for their endowment and sealing, and their little baby Richard, who died at six days old from pneumonia while in the St. Mark's Hospital was sealed to them. He was later ordained a Seventy on March 14, 1921 by Edwin Wright, and a High Priest on June 11, 1933 by John Thomas Williams who was ordained by Pres. William McSachlan.

Renee said that after Ernest and Mae got married they would go to Murray to see Mae's relatives and they would go in a horse and buggy.

~~After the first baby Richard died in the hospital from Pneumonia while being placed without any clothes on in front of an open window, Mae would never have another baby in the hospital and all of the rest of the~~

children were born at home. Ernest and Mae had six children, Richrad their first born, was born in St. Mark's Hospital in Salt Lake City on September 28th 1912. When he was six days old Aunt Matt was visiting with Mae and as they let them go into the nursery to see the babies, she went into see the baby, and he was over by an open window with no clothes on. Aunt Matt asked who was suppose to be taking care of her niece's baby and one of the nurses or workers there said "Oh I forgot him", and he died at six days old. Mae would never have another child in the hospital. The rest were all born at home. The second child was Marguerite Mae, born April 10th, 1914, Paul Ernest born 29th Jan. 1916, Robert Brigham born July 3rd 1918 On Mae's 27th birthday, Kenneth Frederick born September 16, 1921 and Edythe Myrtle born April 16, 1926.

Ernest worked for years for Gardner Printing and then The Rocky Mountain Bank Note Company as a printer, and in later years for the Deseret News, and then when he retired he went to Welfare Square in Salt Lake and was in the print shop there.

He would get paid on Friday and after work he would go to the meat market and by a weeks supply of meat. He would usually pick out a roast, some hamburger and maybe some other things.

They had some close calls with their other children. Bob got pneumonia and the doctor suggested they take him to the mountains near a stream and it might relieve the congestion, and he did get better. Kenny had Spinal Meningitis, and he wasn't expected to live. A brother Loercher from across the street gave him a blessing and he said he would live. Mae ~~said~~ after that he would be OK and he was.

Knew

In 1937, the day after Easter, Paul entered the Mission Home for his mission to the Central States. Just after he left our house caught on fire. The house next door which was grandpas house and he was renting it out, and also the Nelson's house right next door to us also burned and some of our garage. Someone had been smoking in bed and a cigarette was left burning, and it caught the upstairs bed on fire in Grandpa Felt's rental. Kenneth and Edythe were asleep because there was no school because of Easter vacation. Mae went in and woke them up and Grandpa Felt's was ablaze.

In October 1941 Ernest was very ill, and in intense pain, but he would not go to the hospital. He thought he would be better in the morning. In the morning when the doctor came to see him, he made him go into the hospital. His appendix ruptured fifteen hours before gangrene had set in. In this weaken condition he got Pneumonia.

AND

One day while in the hospital he needed a blood transfusion, and Mae called South High School where Edythe was attending school, and told them to send her home right away that Ernest was ill and Edythe was needed home. Well, Edythe had a very dear friend who's father worked for the city and was in an accident, and someone called the school and told her to get right home that her dad had been killed in an accident. Well when they told Edythe this she thought her dad had died and she walked home two miles worrying all the way. Upon arriving home her mother told her that he was OK, but he needed a blood transfusion, and they wanted to check Edythe's blood..

During the time just before World War II and for quite a few years Ernest and Mae would go to the Coconut Grove on both Tuesday and Saturday. Tuesday was waltz night and Saturday was a little bit of everything. They would also take in a movie on Friday night. They never sat still very long.

The three boys Paul, Bob, and Kenny all served in the service in World War II. Paul was an Ensign in the Navy, and Bob in the Infantry and Kenny in the Hospital Corp. Mae worked at the Defense Depot during the war.

1960
In 1962 Ernest was very ill in the hospital with prostate cancer, he had surgery, and the doctor told Mae to tell the children to come home. However, he did survive the surgery and lived another ten years after that. Mae said that the doctor had told her if he hadn't had such a good heart he would never have made it.

Ernest was of the old school where the man handled all the affairs and the money. Mae would save money out of her grocery money and go to sales. Many times Edythe went with her. The sales were really sales in

those days. She would get there about half an hour to an hour early and stand at the door. All the doors in were packed with people. The sales were so good that you could usually only pick up one item because in a half an hour everything would be gone. She would send Edythe to one place and she would go to another, and they always did very well. She also went to many auctions, and Edythe would go with her, because she was the youngest and the only one home for quite a few years. Mae would always get something because she would get there so early and she could really run up and down the aisles, and up the stairs. Nothing lazy about her, she never did walk slow.

Mae was always up on her nutrition and clean living, and she didn't think that too many sweets were good for you. Usually when Edythe went to town with her and wanted to buy some candy, she would always say lets get a banana they are so much better.

Ern really missed the pies and cakes she made when she was younger and he would buy candy and let Edythe have some.

It was later realized in the family that when she said ice cream and candy and certain other things made her sick to her stomach that it was because of needing her gall bladder out. It took her a long time to recover from this, but she did eat some of those things after this surgery.

Just after Edythe moved to Oregon in 1965, Ernest and Mae move on 6th Avenue, and Mae would often walk up to the cemetery and see all of the beautiful flowers. *She had walked so much when they lived on 1st West and missed her neighbors there - she* Ernest worked at the Deseret News up until April 1970 and he hurt his hand in the printing press. After this Mae and Ernest, and Bob and Dru drove up to Salem to visit Edythe & Fred, while there he was so restless and they Ernest couldn't wait to get home. They left on a Sunday, Mother's Day, kind of all of a sudden, and Mae was upset and so was Dru because it wasn't a very long visit. At this time Edythe told them that they wanted them to come and live with them, and they wanted him to for a long time.

We realized later that the reason he was in such a hurry to get home was that he couldn't see a life without a job to go to and he was afraid he would not be able to work again. He was right he never went work again.

On Mae's Birthday July 3rd 1972 Edythe & Fred called to wish her mother a Happy Birthday. Ern answered the phone, and Edythe said he sounded so old and so tired. His cancer had been bothering him again after he was cancer free for awhile. Edythe asked him if he was ready to come and live with them. He had been sick apparently from some bad food.

Fred and Edythe left the next morning real early and drove to Salt Lake and packed up what they needed, and put Ernest to bed in the camper and didn't wait for anything because Fred was afraid that they would change there mind. They drove as far as Baker, Oregon and stopped for a little while to rest, but Ernest was so miserable that after about an hours rest Fred got in an began to drive and drove the rest of the way to Salem.

While in Salem Ernest couldn't get out to church much and his doctor never did send any of his medical records. Even though they were requested by the doctor in Salem to send them. It appeared he was doing pretty well until he had to go have some test run ~~because they had no medical records in Salem.~~

A few weeks before he passed away he started going down hill pretty fast. Fred and Edythe and Lisa were all trying to do everything they could, but he kept going down hill. Finally the doctor put him in the hospital. While in the hospital Edythe, Fred and Mae were walking down the hall to Ernest's room and when they walked in there was a nurse there and Ernest said: "Isn't she an angel, I could hear her waling all the way down the hall".

He was always studying his scriptures, books, the paper, Time and Life Magazines and couldn't seem to get enough reading.

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He would always admonish his children to stay close to the church, and he had a strong testimony of the Gospel, and was a very good honest faithful man.

A couple of weeks before Ernest died he said to his daughter, Edythe: "I think your mother will be happy here.

Ernest died in Salem, Oregon , in his daughter's home at 4481 Jones Rd. .SE,, Salem, OR. September 20, 1972.

Compiled by Ernest's children: Marguerite, Paul, Bob, Kenny and Edythe.