

DOYLE BOYD TANNER – EULOGY

Doyle was born to Ruby Jensen Tanner and William John Tanner on May 20, 1928 in Weston, Franklin County, Idaho. As was common at the time, Dr. Cutler, came to deliver the baby at Grandmother Jensen's home in Weston. Doyle was the third of six children. He had two older brothers, William Reed Tanner and Melvin Jensen Tanner. The Tanner's next child, Darlene, was a stillborn baby. Then there were two younger sisters, Ruby Joyce and Carol. These five children lived and worked on the two farms which William and Ruby operated. One farm was an irrigated farm with cattle, pigs, chickens, horses, a dog, and some cats. The other farm was a "dry" farm located about 15 miles away from the first farm. Both of Doyle's parents worked on these farms full-time and the children were required to do their share as they became old enough. The irrigated farm and farmhouse were located in an area of Weston, Idaho called Linrose.

Living and working together on the farm, Doyle and his family all got along really well and had a great time with each other. In the free hours of warm summer days, the children would swim in the West Cache Canal or go fishing in the Bear River, Cub River, and other streams. Doyle's love for camping and hiking

began in these early years of childhood, shared with his family, as they visited and explored the unknown territories of Yellowstone Park and Henry's Lake, Idaho. Doyle also had the opportunity of visiting the World's Fair when it was held in the bustling and exciting city of San Francisco. In the fall, Doyle would go deer hunting with his dad and brothers. Then as winter came along, Doyle would go skiing, ice-skating and go on sleigh rides for fun. Other activities that he enjoyed were the sports: softball, hockey, football, and basketball.

Doyle attended a small rural grade school with only a total population of about 40-50 students. There were eight grades at the school and two teachers—one for grades 1-4 and the other for grades 5-8. Only about 5-6 students per grade. According to Doyle, school back then was “much simpler and less hurried than today.” The subjects he remembers studying were reading, writing, arithmetic as well as science and geography, which were topics he enjoyed most. He once commented, “I must have enjoyed it as I taught it later” referring to his later career choice of teaching school.

Doyle had his first driving lesson at age 11, in the hayfield in his dad's dusty old ton truck. He learned to drive so that he could help with the harvesting of peas and hay.

As a young boy, Doyle had dreamed of being a pilot and flying high above the earth. While in high school, he took flying lessons in a piper cub airplane and earned his pilot's license. He flew small planes for recreation

While attending Preston High School, Doyle participated in several sports one of which was boxing. As a senior, he participated in the sport of boxing and won the Idaho State Golden Glove championship that year in his weight category. Doyle graduated from high school on his birthday, May 20, 1942 with his class of 145 students. After high school, on scholarship, he attended the University of Idaho at Moscow for one year. Next, he spent three months studying at Utah Stake University in Logan, Utah. Then he decided to go on a mission for the LDS church. He was called to serve in the Central Atlantic States Mission from 1948 to 1950. While there, the president and prophet of the church, George Albert Smith, visited the mission and Doyle felt very blessed to get a chance to meet him. He had many good experiences on his mission which he referred to often. He had a

strong testimony of the Gospel, loved the scriptures and read them often and continued being a missionary all of his life.

Upon returning from his mission, Doyle went back to Utah State to continue his education. While there, he attended a Winter Carnival where he participated in a downhill ski race and also met Laretta Frank, his future wife. He had room in his car and asked his friend to find anyone who needed a ride up the canyon. His friend came back with three pretty girls and Laretta was one of them. They began dating and in August 1952, Doyle proposed marriage to Laretta. On January 7, 1953 they were married in the Logan LDS Temple. They honeymooned on a trip from Logan to Las Vegas and back visiting each temple along the way.

Doyle and Laretta lived in Logan, Utah while Doyle finished his schooling at USU. They had a stillborn baby daughter in April 1954. They buried her in the Providence City Cemetery. In June of 1954, Doyle graduated from USU with a B.S. degree in Agriculture Education and a 2nd Lieutenant commission in the U.S. Air Force.

Doyle's first assignment in the Air Force was in South Dakota at Ellsworth Air Force Base. During his time there, a

daughter, Sandra, was born in November 1955. Doyle also spent about 3 months in training in St. Louis, Missouri and had an assignment to Thule, Greenland. Doyle served about two years in the military and then got a job teaching Agriculture Education to high school students in Martin, South Dakota. Many of his students there were American Indians.

After this, Doyle and Laretta returned to Logan, Utah in order for Doyle to obtain his Master's Degree in Elementary Education. While in Logan, another daughter, Kayalauna, was born in October 1957. Upon obtaining his degree, Doyle got a teaching job in Twin Falls, Idaho so the family moved and purchased their first home--located on the outskirts of Twin Falls on Eastland Drive. (Doyle was quick to point out that the new Twin Falls Temple is on the same street.) They lived in that house for several years enjoying the semi-rural area, a few close neighbors and a very large garden behind the house. During this time period, another daughter, Dianne, was born in September 1960.

After a few years, Doyle obtained another teaching position in Burley, Idaho. So the family moved again. They enjoyed living in Burley and the friends and neighbors there. But in 1967, Doyle

took another teaching job in Utah and the family moved to Kaysville, Utah. They rented a small home in Kaysville for a year while buying property and building their future home on Mountain Road in Fruit Heights, Utah. They have lived in their home on Mountain Road for 44 years and have seen a lot of changes in the area during that time.

Doyle decided that there were a lot of problems in the teaching profession and decided to try his hand at other jobs. He has been an Electrolux vacuum salesman, a finish carpenter and when he finally retired, was working for Zion Securities in facility maintenance.

Doyle loved to fish, hike, hunt deer and pheasant. Much of his free time was spent in the great outdoors. One summer after retirement, he and Laretta went to the Escalante area and worked as camp hosts at Barker Reservoir. This was a fulfillment of a dream he had had for a long time. Camping was an activity that he had shared with his children and grandchildren all of his life.

Doyle also loved to ski which he did as often as he could-- even trying to get someone to take him skiing long after he could physically do it. He enjoyed painting and singing with various

choirs both at church and in the community. He learned to play the organ that he and Laretta purchased later in life. He passed his love of music on to his children.

He and Laretta loved to grow a big garden and eat the produce grown. They taught their girls to enjoy gardening and continually gave tips to improve their crops. Since Doyle grew up on a farm and graduated in Ag Education, he had quite a bit of knowledge about growing crops.

Doyle served others continually in many capacities. After he and Laretta were both retired, they served as ordinance workers in the Bountiful Temple twice a week for three years. After that, he continued to serve by attending the temple as often as possible. Doyle served in humanitarian assignments, even the Monday prior to having a stroke; he insisted that he be given a ride down to the Kaysville Welfare building to help fill humanitarian bags for 4 hours.

For the past several years, Doyle spent many hours in front of his computer doing Family History indexing of names and has completed the indexing of 39,252 names. He really enjoyed this service and made it fun by competing with his sister, Joyce, on

how many names he had done. He would call her regularly to check in and see if he were closing the gap with how many she had done. He was also proud of this and kept the whole family updated on how many names he had indexed on a regular basis.

During 83+ years of life, Doyle has been a good example, a good friend, a good husband, father and grandfather. He was a “people” person and loved to talk to people everywhere he went. He shared stories and jokes with all that he met. He was always active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and striving to do what was right. He wasn’t shy about sharing his testimony of the Gospel. His positive attitude and zest for life will be missed by all who knew him.