LUNA JARDINE KINGHORN
1871-1955

She was old and her heart was humble. Laugh wrinkles starred her eyes. Her hands folded low in her widespread lap showed years of toil and strife.

She was old and she was happy. Proud of all the things she had done. Memories full of happiness and anguish and battles fought and won.

Through the years her children grew and grew, Frank, Leland and the rest. She did what she could in her humble way, and the way she did was best.

Her children had all departed now, and her blessings upon them she bore, As each had chosen a wonderful mate, increasing her children more.

Yes, she was old, but she was contented in what God had chosen to give In her wonderful home, in her wonderful love, and the beautiful life she had lived.

Thus was the life of Luna Jardine Kinghorn, born 13 Jan 1871 at West Weber, Utah. The daughter of Richard Franklin Jardine and Luna Caroline Ellsworth Kinghorn. She was the oldest of 13 children: Richard Franklin Jr., James Leo, Rowennah Wilmot, Edmund Leroy, Elizabeth Young, John William, Minnie Belle, Joseph Arthur, Ellen, Lester Hamilton, Mary Mildred and Ruth.

During her young girlhood at West Weber, Luna, worked for her grandmother Ellsworth for $3.00 a week. She was very happy with this job because it was a good wage and it helped a great deal.

On 16th of August 1882, when Luna was 11 years old, she with her parents and 5 brothers and sisters moved to the Snake River Valley. They were the first settlers in the Lewisville Ward and her father was called as Bishop and served in that capacity for over 20 years. This family spent much of their time in the up-building of the Lewisville community. They built the first cabin this side of the dry bed, raised the first crop and built the first water ditch and watered the first ground. They truly had the pioneer spirit and worked under the guidance of God. They raised 160 acres of grain for the maintenance of missionaries that were called into the field.

Schools were a scarcity at this time, so Luna had little opportunity for an education, however, she did have 4 years of school in West Weber before going to Lewisville. She has told of walking 2 ½ miles to school and the fun they had playing tag on the way home at night. Luna was an expert horsewoman and spent a great deal of time with her horses because she did love them and it was about her only means of recreation. When she was 12 she fell from a horse, breaking her arm and Uncle Brig Ellsworth set it for her.

Luna was very fond of dancing and if ever there was a dance someplace, she was usually there. It was at a dance that she met James Kinghorn, who later became her husband. Luna was 15 at the time and she has told of how worn her shoes were, and how she would take soot from the polates of the coal cook stove to black her shoes, so she could go to the dance. But this didn’t dampen her happy-go-lucky spirit, nor did the fact that she had only 1 dress. This romance
bloomed for 3 years and on 19 Jan. 1889 Luna and James were married in the Logan Temple. They built a little cabin just up the land from the present Kinghorn homestead. It was here that their first 2 sons were born: James Franklin born 24 Nov. 1889, and William Ray born 2 Aug. 1891.

In November of 1891, when their baby was just 3 months old, James was called on a mission to the Tonga Islands. Luna moved into Lewisville and operated the Post Office, which was quite a task with 2 babies. Their farm was rented, but prices were very low and little was realized from this source. From James’s diary, we note the $1, #2, & $3.00 sent to him at various times as she received her meager wages. His health was poor during the time of his mission and 2 ½ years later he was sent home due to his health. Upon his return home, he and Luna went back to their duties on the farm and devoted their lives to each other and rearing a family.

They were the parents of 11 children: Wilford, born 20 April 1895; Joseph Leland born 14 April 1897; Luna Caroline born 7 April 1899, Ruby Belle born 9 Dec 1901; Miriam born 27 April 1904-Miriam lived just 2 weeks and died of pneumonia 12 May 1904; One month later Wilford, who was 9 years old, began to complain of a pain in his side. This went on for several days and then he got up one morning and said, “Mama, I can walk, it doesn’t hurt anymore.” Then he became extremely ill and James boarded the train in Idaho Falls and took him to Salt Lake where Dr. Anderson operated and found a ruptured appendix. It had been ruptured so long there was nothing could be done for him and he died 11 June 1904.

Jane ElReita born 5 May 1905, Darrell born 23 May 1908. The dirt roof leaked and because of the dampness, the baby contacted pneumonia and died 12 June 1908. At this time Luna and James started to build a new home and in October 1910 they moved. Ellen Viola born 1 Jan. 1911; and on 29 March 1918, when Luna was 47 years old, her last child Grace Evron, was born. On 20 March 1923 Frank’s wife, Elsie, passed away leaving 2 children. Luna took Reva and reared her to womanhood loving her as she would her very own.

With her large family Luna’s church duties were never neglected. She served as secretary in the Young Women’s MIA and Relief Society for 5 years, counselor in the Relief Society for 20 years. Her girls tell of how she used to hitch the horse to the buggy every Tuesday as regular as clock work, and call for her companion to go Relief Society teaching.

Many tragedies filled Luna’s life. The sudden death of Ruby 8 Jan. 1934, leaving 7 children, the youngest 16 months. One year and 9 months later on 26 Sep. 1935, her husband, James, came in from the field, lay down on the cot, and passed away in good health and with no warning. This was a great shock to the entire family and it seemed Luna was certainly being put to a test, but she bore it with full trust in God. Just 2 years after this, her son, Ray, passed away after 4 days of suffering, due to a car accident 28 Dec. 1937.

In 1939 Luna moved in with her son, Frank, and kept house for him. One year later Aug. 1940, she took very will and her family was at her side night and day, but through her faith and the healing power of the Priesthood, she made a miraculous recovery.

In Feb. 1944 her first long trip from home was made. She spent 6 weeks in California visiting with relatives and the “time of her life.” Just a few weeks after her return, 5 June 1944, her son, Leland, was accidentally drowned in the Big Feeder Headgates by Heise. He was helping to remove debris from the gates and was accidentally thrown in. At that time Luna said, “If only his body can be recovered before dark, I will never complain.” The accident happened at 10 a.m. and she prayed constantly during the day. At 6 p.m. his body was washed onto a sandbar, her prayers had been answered. On 20 Nov. 1947 she fell on the ice in the yard, while
living with Frank. Noone knew how long she was exposed to the cold, but the neighbors hearing her cries came to her assistance. Her pelvis was injured and she was confined to her bed for 6 weeks. Her health continued to fail after that time and she suffered extremely from arthritis to the extent that she could no longer keep house for Frank.

In July of 1948 she was stricken at the home of her daughter, Evron, and for quite sometime her life hung on a thread. The Elders were called in one day about noon, Mr. Gerald Jenkins, who sealed the anointing later told that when he walked into her room, he knew noone in her condition could be healed and he could see no reason for asking the Lord to save her. Then it came to him that she had to become well and he gave her that blessing. On his way home he pondered on the thing he had done and wondered why he had promised her she would be better, and that night he returned to see how she was. She was sitting up in bed feeding herself and recognizing everyone, while that morning she had not even recognized her family. From that time on, she spent her time living with her daughters with gratitude in her heart for everything they did for her.

While staying in Twin Falls with ElReita in 1952, she had the opportunity of going to Bambury Hot Springs and taking a motorboat ride. She remarked of how she enjoyed that experience and it really was an experience for a lady of 81. She said at that time that the only thing she hadn’t ridden was an airplane, but circumstances did not permit this to happen.

Luna was always a very had worker, and regardless of her handicap in her declining years, she still wanted to share the household chores. Arthritis had crippled her hands and she was unable to talk without the support of crutches. Still each meal she would sit and clear away the dishes and then pull a chair to the sink and sit and dry them. Even at her sickest, she was seen sitting on her bed thanking her Father in Heaven for the blessings that were hers. She waited on herself as much as she possibly could and whenever anyone asked her how she was, she cheerfully said, “fine.” Her children and grandchildren will never forget the many doilies and hot pads, she had crocheted for them. She took pride in her handiwork and did this until her hands could no longer work for her.

On Tuesday 19 July 1955, she suffered a heart attack and her family was called to her bedside. She was in deep coma until the time of her death at 6:28 a.m. Friday Morning, 22 July 1955 at the home of her daughter, Evron, at Idaho Fall, Id. (New Sweden area)

Compiles by Caroll Lindsay Walker (granddaughter) Given at funeral 26 July 1955

AGED JEFFERSON MATRON DIES

Post Register 22 July 1955 page 8
Mrs. Luna Jardine Kinghorn, 85, a resident of Idaho since 1882, died Friday at 6:28 a.m. at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Bud Lindsay, Idaho Falls.

A member of the LDS Church, she filled many offices. At one time she cared for the Post Office at Lewisville.

She was born 13 Jan 1871 at West Weber, Utah. The daughter of Richard F. And Luna Ellsworth Jardine. She attended school in West Weber and came with the family to Idaho in the summer of 1882.

9 Jan. 1889 she was married to James Kinghorn in the Logan LDS Temple. In the LDS
Church she served as counselor in the YWMIA of the Lewisville Ward: Secretary of the Relief Society for 5 years: Counselor in the Relief Society for 23 years in the Bybee LDS Ward.

At the time her second child was born, her husband was called to fill a mission for the church in the Tonga Islands. During that time she operated the Lewisville Post Office. Her husband died 26 Sep. 1935. 6 of her 11 sons and daughters preceded her in death.

Survivors include one son and 4 daughters: Frank Kinghorn, Rigby, Mrs. Frank (Lula) Norton, Idaho Falls; Mrs. Charles (ElReita) Ford, Twin Falls, Mrs. William (Ellen) Clegg and Mrs. Bud (Evron) Lindsay, both of Idaho Falls. 39 grandchildren; 48 great grandchildren: 4 brothers and 5 sisters: Frank Jardine, Jr. Of Salt Lake City, William of Idaho Falls, Joe, Lewisville; Lester, Rigby, Belle Fisher and Ruth Norton, Inglewood, Ca.; Ellen Hoggan, Lewisville; Mary Birch, Ogden, Utah.

Funeral services are pending. The body is at the Eckersell Funeral Home in Rigby, Id.

Rigby Star 28 July page 8 Obituary

DEATH CLAIMS PIONEER MATRON

Luna C. Jardine Kinghorn, 85, well-known matron of this area, died Friday morning, July 22nd at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Evron Lindsay in Idaho Falls.

The eldest daughter of Bishop Richard Franklin and Mrs. Luna Ellsworth Jardine, who came to Lewisville in 1882. Mrs. Kinghorn spent most of her life in the Lewisville-Bybee area. She was born 13 Jan. 1871 at West Weber County, Utah and spent her childhood there until 1882 when the Jardine family came to the Snake River Valley. She attended Utah and Idaho schools, and on 9 Jan. 1889 she married James Kinghorn in the Logan LDS Temple, and they returned to Lewisville to make their home. During the years at Bybee she and her husband devoted much of their time to church work. Mrs. Kinghorn serving in all the auxiliary organizations and was a counselor of the Bybee Relief Society for 23 years. During the time her husband filled a 3 year mission to the Tongan Islands, she with her 2 small children, lived at Lewisville and she operated the Post Office.

Mrs. Kinghorn was the mother of 11 children, 6 of whom preceded her in death. She also helped rear 2 grandchildren in her later years. Her health had been failing for several years, and she had lived with her children. The eldest daughter of a pioneer family in a new country, she was instrumental in much of the cultural development of her day.

Surviving are a son, James Frank Kinghorn, Rigby Route 1, 4 daughters Mrs. Lula Norton, Idaho Falls, Mrs. ElReita Ford, Twin Falls; Mrs. Ellen Clegg and Mrs. Evron Lindsay of Idaho Falls. 39 grandchildren, 48 great grandchildren, 4 brothers and 5 sisters: Frank Jardine of Salt Lake, William of Idaho Falls, Joseph A. Of Lewisville; Lester of Rigby; Mrs. Libbie Andrus of Idaho Falls; Belle Fisher and Ruth Norton of Inglewood, California, Ellen Hoggan of Lewisville and Mary Birch of Ogden, Utah.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at the Lewisville Chapel with bishop Ray Thueson officiating. Family prayer was given by William Jardine and the organ prelude and postlude were played by Richard Jenkins.

A ladies quartet composed of Afton Broulim, Ruth Bright, Eva Tall and Edythe Casper sang, “We Shall Meet Beyond the River.” Darrel Norton gave the invocation, and the life sketch was read by Caroll Lindsay. Bishop Hyrum Lee was the speaker, followed with a vocal solo, “That Wonderful Mother of Mine.”

Dr. Aldon Tall spoke; a vocal duet “One Fleeting Hour,” was sung by Nellis Hart and
Betty Taylor, Gerald Jenkins was a speaker; Closing remarks were given by Bishop Thueson and the ladies trio sang “Softly, Sweetly and Tenderly.” Virl N. Jardine gave the benediction.

Interment was in Lewisville Cemetery and the grave was dedicated by Joseph Jardine. Pall bearers were grandsons, and the granddaughters carried the floral tribute under the direction of the Second Ward Relief Society.

TRIBUTE FROM RUTH JARDINE NORTON 8 Sep. 1980

My oldest sister, Luna, was a dear sweet and good woman. I would love her and Jim, her husband, if for no other reason than how good they were to Mother and Father. They were married and had 5 children before I was born. Frank, Ray, Wilford, Leland, and Lulu. Wilford died at 9 years of age. They used to come to Mother’s a lot, especially on Sunday, and I can still picture them coming in the door, Luna with her big dish pan under her arm filled with food, a loaf of bread, some butter, a big roast of meat, either pork or beef, and a nut cake. Jim always smoked the pork and it was so good. The nut cake only Luna could make, was so delicious. When Mary and I were little, Luna gave us little things. I still have a hankie, a mug and a tooth-pick holder that she gave to me. In my teens Luna and I were real pals, always together and treated alike. We all loved Luna. She was about 5 feet, 4 inches tall and was dark complexioned with dark eyes and hair.

MEMORIES OF AUNT LUNA 10 Aug 1991

Aunt Luna and Uncle Jim were always so sweet to me.

As a youngster, we didn’t get to Bybee very often, but I do remember going there with the plank board walk and Uncle Jim coming out and throwing his arms open to me and his smile. Aunt Luna came out with her apron on, her sweet smile, dark eyes, and her goodness to me. Aunt Luna had Frank and his 2 children in their home after their mother died. Uncle Joe and Aunt Luella took Frankie for some time.

They had a lot of sadness because of the loss of so many children before they passed on. They died more when Ruby died, leaving such a young family. A very young one and several others.

They were always so kind and sweet. Aunt Luna was with Evron when she died. She loved children and Evron’s family were very good to her.

Kathleen Jardine Woolf

A letter sent to Ellen Hoggan from Aunt Luna many years ago.

I am sorry I could not be with you. 2 families of us came to what is now Lewisville on 16 Aug. 1882, intending to settle on the Island, that is now Menan, but the River was so high when we arrived here and no way to cross only in small boats, so they decided to stay on this side, there was Brigham Ellsworth, and family and Richard Jardine and family and John Ellsworth.

So our tents were put up and we went to work. Putting up camp in the timber this side of the river. After camp was fixed up they went to work cutting and hauling logs for a house. In about 3 weeks we moved in our log house just South of Von Stallings home, now up on the corner. I never will forget how proud we all were of our lof rooms, we got settled in our homes and then we could see where we had to have a place to meet in for church and amusements. So they got logs out and build a meeting house. They split small poles and put on a roof and with
dirt on top, it was fairly good, as we could not get lumber to fix anything.

We went to Menan for a year before we got all this done. We went to church at Menan. There was not a house between Lewisville and Eagle Rock as of then, Idaho Falls now. Nothing but sage brush so far as the eye could see, and in June every year for 3 or 4 years, we would have to move up on Willow Creek and stay for about 3 weeks, the mosquitoes were so thick. Our animals could not stand them. They would run and beller. Could not keep them anywhere. To tell the truth we could not see through a screen door, when night came on. People that come here now would not believe this and so many other things like grubbing sage in daytime and sit up and burn it at night, until 3 o’clock in the morning so they could plow the ground next day. In 1884 people started coming in the Walkers, Kinghorns, Calls, Mylers, Goodys and some others.

In 1883 my father was put in as presiding Elder and his ward ran as far as Blackfoot and Ririe. In 84 he was put in as Bishop of the Lewisville Ward and was Bishop for 22 years. Lavina Walker was put in as Pres. Of the Young Ladies, Alice Ellsworth and myself were counselors for a while until they got better help.

Ellen will you please copy this and improve it in many ways. I am going down to ElReita’s Sunday morning and can not be there, as well as I would like to. Please do this for me, Hope it will not be too much bother.

Lovingly your sis, L. K. (Luna Jardine Kinghorn)

This letter is handwritten by Luna. Beautifully done.