

HORACE LYMAN BIRCH
1887-1968

Bennington is a small quiet community on the Bear Lake, Idaho Territory. This is where Horace Lyman Birch was born 14 Oct. 1887 in George Washington Birch and Elmina Ann Weaver Birch's log cabin on their farm.

George Washington Birch born 30 May 1850 at Rag Creek, Iowa, married 28 Feb 1871 to Elmina Ann Weaver, died 25 Feb 1928 at Rigby, Idaho His parents were George Wallace Birch and Susan Catherine Paine or Payne. Other wife was Josephine Malberg married about 1868. Elmina Ann Weaver was born 10 May 1852 Provo, Utah, her parents Franklin Weaver and Christianna Rachael or Rachel Reed. Married Lasley Martin Wright #1 sealed 1 Feb 1868, Temple Cancellation 1 Mar 1871.

Children:

Franklin Edward Birch born 19 Feb 1872 Millville, Cache, Ut. Married Ellsa? Rebecca Anderson, died 25 July 1900 riding a rodeo bronco.

George Washington Birch born 9 May 1874 Millville, Cache, Utah. Married Laura Elizabeth Hansen 3 June 1899 at Bennington, Id. Died 21 Oct 1941 at Taber, Alberta, Canada

Elmina Catherine Birch born 19 June 1876 at Millville, Cache, Utah. Accidentally shot at the age of 7-1883? Ancestral File died 9 Jan 1885? Buried at Bennington Cemetery.

Robert Abner Birch born 16 June 1878 at Millville, Cache, Utah. Married Ina Marigold Weaver 21 June 1905 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Id. Died 8 May 1960.

Michal Dart Birch born 6 June 1880 at Millville, Cache, Ut. Married Genina Oreka Falsner, died 11 Feb 1975. Ancestral File died 4 Feb 1972? Married Gemima?

Rachel Christianna Birch born 9 Feb 1882 at Millville, Cache, Ut. Married Chester Stanley Walker in 1907 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Id. Died Nov. 1953.

Martha Louise Birch born 15 Aug 1884 Millville, Cache, Utah. Married John Charles Tittsworth 20 Nov 1917 at St. Anthony, Fremont, Id. Died 23 July 1953.

Horace Lyman Birch born 14 Oct 1887 Bennington, Bear Lake, Id. Married Chloda Evah Grover 20 Apr 1907 St. Anthony, Fremont, Id. #2 Mary Mildred Jardine married 1 Aug 1919 Lewisville, Jefferson, Idaho

Alfred C. Birch born 23 Feb 1890 Bennington. Died 13 Oct. 1893 Buried Bennington Cemetery.

James Moroni Birch born 2 Aug 1893 Bennington, Bear Lake, Idaho Ruby Belle Kinghorn married 1 Aug 1918 at Rigby, Id. #2 Georgie Johnson married about 1942 He died 2 Mar 1956.

Lyman's father was a veterinarian, also a self-taught violinist. The only job he had was a night watchman at Rigby Sugar Factory. His mother had 10 children of her own and raised 5 of the first wife Josephine Malberg. They say you could not tell whose children were whose.

At 3 years old he saw this territory become a state.

They must have lived here until 1895. When Daddy was eight they moved to a farm in Ririe. There his father engaged in veterinary medicine. Daddy was only allowed to go to school until the 3rd grade. He had to quit to help support the family. Along with his own chores, he had farm chores such as herding cows and pigs. After moving, his first job was herding pigs for a Mr. Hoffman for \$1.00 a week.

His brothers and sisters did have fun playing together. Run sheep run, Hide and Seek, Button Button, Spin the Bottle, Mother May I, Kick the Can, and King of Bunker Hill.

Daddy was tormented by the tale his parents told him. His 9 year old sister was killed

accidentally by her father, who was cleaning his gun. It was so real to him, he thought it was his first memory, but that was 3 years before he was born. His oldest brother was killed riding a bronco at a 24th of July 1900 celebration at Etna, Wy.

His father decided he had to learn how to swim. So he threw him in the canal and told him to swim or drown. His father pulled him out as he went under the 3rd time. Daddy hated water after that.

Daddy met his first wife in a Mutual Roadshow that Chloda Evah Grover's group came up to St. Anthony, Id. To present. They were married in St. Anthony by Bishop Willard 20 April 1907. Their first home was in St. Anthony. There, Grace Anona Birch was born 17 Jan. 1908. She married Albert Morgan 29 Sep. 1925, #2 Thorn O. Bird married 3 May 1933. Grace died 3 July 1996 at Orem, Utah.

It wasn't a long stay and they went to Blackfoot where Elmina True Birch was born 9 March 1909 at Blackfoot, Id. She died 8 August 1909. She was an ill baby and could not thrive on her mother's milk. They found goats milk was all she could tolerate. There was only one milk goat in Blackfoot. Daddy went out and tried to buy it, even offered his wagon. The man refused. The sheriff went out and tried to talk him into selling, he still said no. So the sheriff said you will and put a rope around the goat to pull him on and choked the goat to death. So poor little Elmina died of malnutrition at 5 months of age, 8 Aug 1909.

Then they moved to Ogden where Rae Iola Birch was born 9 June 1911. They lived there until Chloda got sicker. Dad asked her where she wanted to go your mother's home or mine. She replied yours, so she was at Grandma Birch's when she died 4 Sep. 1915 at Lyman, Idaho.

In 1914 they lived all one winter in a little house built on wagon wheels. First trailer house. When Chloda died Daddy and his 2 little motherless girls lived with his folks until he re-married. There was Uncle Ephriam, Uncle Jim, and Uncle Joe besides Dad, Grace and Rae living with them. It was one crowded place.

At a dance hall Mother met Lyman Birch. Ruby Kinghorn, her niece, went with Jim Birch and they arranged the dat for them in the summer of 1917. Mary went with him on and off. In the summer of 1918, Jim Birch, borrowed Frank Kinghorn's Ford and the 4 went to Island Park on a picnic. On the way home they stopped in Rexburg and Jim and Ruby were married 1 August 1918 and Lyman and Mary were the witnesses.

In 1918 Daddy was working for Richard Franklin Jardine and boarding with them. This is where he met our mother Mary Mildred Jardine. While they were courting they went to Birch's often. They had a whole band in their family and every Saturday night their front lawn was the town dance hall. Aunt Ruby played the piano by ear or music. Aunt Mattie trumpet, Aunt Rae played the piano, and Daddy played the mandolin, guitar, violin and trumpet. Mother would sit behind the open door on a trunk and listen to the music mostly with Daddy.

They courted for about a year. Mother's folks were crazy about Daddy. They were married in the Jardine home in Lewisville by Peter B. Green 1 Aug. 1919.

When the Birch family sold their ranch in Rigby all Daddy got for his share was a Chalmers Car. This was the spring of 1919. They went to Rexburg to work for Bob Dow in a garage. He paid only a few dollars and traded off Dad's car. Bob lost the garage.

After Rexburg they moved to Rigby and this is where their first little angel was born on 19 March 1920 Jean Jardine Birch. She was born extremely premature and had no finger nails, toe nails, eye lashes or eye brows. She was only on this earth for 5 short months. She died on their first anniversary 2 Aug 1920. (Records differ 1st or 2nd)

Daddy worked all around the Lewisville area, so as Mama could be there to take care of her mother and daddy.

Next they had little Luna Joy Birch, who was born 16 Sep. 1921. She had cancer of the kidney and died 22 July 1925. In 1922 Daddy worked for Utah Power Co. As a lineman.

Then the apple of Daddy's life, his only son, Lyman Nolan Birch, was born 15 Sep. 1923. He died 13 May 1925. He had a bottle he drank water out of and someone filled it with water. But it was a wintergreen linament bottle. The doctor said it had burned everything at the time it went down his throat.

When Jean was born the doctor laid her on the kitchen table. Told grandmother there was no need to do anything for her, she wouldn't make it. But grandma took care of her. She made a kind of incubator by cutting a hole in a rocking chair and put a basket on it and a kerosene lamp underneath.

In 1925 Daddy drove a truck for Frank Norton at Parker Transfer.

Mother was pregnant with Laree at the time Nolan died and she just paced the floor and cried. She didn't want any more children. Laree Jardine Birch was born 2 Nov. 1925. Mama was so grateful after she lived a while, because now she hoped she would make it. She was past the danger point.

Daddy started working on the telephone gang driving their truck in April 1928.

At long last came Marilyn Jardine Birch born 6 May 1929 in Grandma Jardine's house in Lewisville, while big sister was hanging on a fence at her Aunt's house waiting for her to be born.

Sometime later they left for Boise. It was the first time the family had been together in a long time. In 1942 Daddy moved to Ogden, Utah leaving his family in Idaho Falls. He worked at the 2nd St. Army Depot. He was lead foreman for a bunch of women, (had to be women, there were no men left.) One was a cousin's wife who couldn't zip up her pants she was too heavy. So she always got Daddy to do it for her. Pants were something new to women.

Daddy rented a room in a hotel from a cousin. There were a lot of the family living there. Uncle Jim and his new wife Georgie, Gale and Donnie, a cousin Milford Birch and his wife Pearl. Laree moved?? Then Marilyn rode with the truck drivers and furniture. Mother on a bus. Laree had one room and Daddy another. But he gave the truck drivers one of the rooms, so Laree and Marilyn slept under the covers and Daddy on top of the bed.

Within a week we moved into a house in Washington Terrace. A big housing project built for defense workers. It was located 2 miles from 32nd street with nothing in between. It changed from a dust bowl to lawns and flowers. Each house was painted a different color, so they were camouflaged from the air. They were ugly colors.

In 1944 Daddy really became ill. He had ulcers so bad he couldn't work. The only way they treated them at this time was diet. Crackers and cream every 2 hours. Then Pabulum, (Pearl Harbor), it was as hard to take. Then to baby food. It was a year before he could work. Mother went to work for a film developing company, but was unable to do the job. Marilyn was working so she held back \$5.00 and gave the rest of her pay check to Mother. Laree made custard pudding every night before she got married.

1945 VJ Day—War was ended. Dad was phased out of Second St. Army Supply. They were closing down. He then went to work at Ben Lomond Hotel as a maintenance engineer.

In 1949 Daddy had a blood clot in his leg and was hospitalized. He came home on crutches. His brother Eph died of cancer. He had pulled his trailer up long side of Dad's house.

He was in and out of the V. A. Hospital a lot. Eph was a WW I Veteran. Eph signed his body over to science. When his daughter arrived drunk the day he died, she told them not to. But the doctor said the only next of kin was Lyman Birch, so they asked Daddy. And he said "Yes." We took Uncle Eph to Idaho Falls for burial. Just out of Shelley after just changing drivers, we threw a rod in the car. Marilyn was going to hitch hike into town to call Uncle Jim. Daddy wouldn't let her hitch hike alone, so he went with her on crutches. Some nice boy and his girl picked us up and took us to town and waited while we reached Jim and brought us back. He said his mother was sure going to say it took him a long time just to get a loaf of bread.

In 1950 Daddy was trying to clean a drain. He put caustic soda in it and it blew up burning his face and arms real bad. He closed his eyes and wouldn't open them. It burned a hole through his right ear. His boss threw cold water on him. They didn't even turn the siren on, just told Uncle Jim, he wouldn't make it to the hospital. Laree and Marilyn lived in Salt Lake so they were here. Bill a friend, took mother to the hospital. They gave him Dad's clothes to take home. He got burned just carrying them to the car. Grace came from Los Angeles and Rae came from San Francisco.

In the fall of 1954 Mom and Dad went out to New Jersey to visit Marilyn for the winter. They enjoyed Riki Lynn, Daddy's 3rd grandchild, but mother's first. Had a wonderful Christmas. So many gifts. Saw the Ice Follies in Philadelphia, Pa. Spent the afternoon at Independence Hall. Went to New York and the Statue of Liberty on the Island. First large boat we had ever been on. Went to the Empire State Building and used binoculars and saw plainly the United Nations Building. Dad and Tommy climbed up the arm to the torch.

2 March 1956 Uncle Jim died. He had been to supper with Dad and Mom at their house and went out to the porch. Dad heard him moan and ran to him just in time to catch him. It was too late to do anything. Dad always thought he should have known and done something. Doctor said if he'd been there, he couldn't have helped.

We to Rexburg to work for Thorn O. Bird, Dad's son-in-law, and Grace's husband. Bought a hamburger joint, called Hamburger Haven. Stayed there until Dad started a house in Lewisville. When the basement was laid up, Dad and Marilyn started to drill his own well. We got a block and tackle to drive pipe, but broke two sand points. Then an old customer told Daddy that was the wrong way, he was to use just a sledge hammer. We laid a plank across the top of the basement and drove a well with a sledge hammer. Hard Work, but we got it down.

Started to work in Mud Lake as a Janitor for the school. So Dad sold Rae and Warren the Hamburger Haven and they moved to Mud Lake. Continued to work on the house.

Marilyn and the 2 girls moved out there with them, where they had the school already for fall starting. Daddy would work some shifts as would Marilyn. They worked 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., when they got off work they went to Lewisville to work on the house until 9 to 10, except Monday Night. On Monday they quit in time to go to the wrestling matches in Idaho Falls, where Daddy had reserved seats. If there was a wedding dance or any other kind of a dance, Daddy made time for it. There wasn't anything Daddy loved to do more than dancing. He could even do soft shoe dancing, which he did in many minstrel shows, for church or family reunions. He was born a show-man. He sang with his brother, Jim, on the station KID in Idaho Falls in 1938. Also, he did road shows. Daddy was just the life of the party.

In 1958 he went along with Earl Anderson, Marilyn's husband, for a load of lava rocks in a trailer for his house in Lewisville. When they got there he was in so much pain, Marilyn could tell this. She took along Mama and went into Rigby to see Dr. Tall. I had to run in and tell them

I thought Daddy was having a heart attack. They emptied a room and took him in. The doctor said he died twice on the table. He was so nervous he couldn't find the medicine he was looking for. The doctor had him stable and told Marilyn to take him to the hospital. He said don't drive too fast, 80 is fast enough. So Mama sat holding a hankie out of the window and we drove off. We couldn't pick up a policeman, but we made it just fine. Daddy had to stay in the hospital a long time.

Moved Daddy and Mother in from Mud Lake to Marilyn's trailer at the back of their house, until they could move their renters out. They then moved into their house. It was finished. They had to replace Daddy at Mud Lake, so they were on Social Security only.

In 1962 they moved in with Marilyn, so as they could help with the children. He was 75 years old. Marilyn had 5 acres and in the middle of it was a whet cleaning mill. This Marilyn turned over to Daddy to run with a hired man. This really made him feel good. He was working again. Daddy and Marilyn were still going dancing mostly at weddings.

Daddy and Mama moved to a small 2 room house in Riverside. Rae was there visiting when Daddy had a stroke. The whole family came again. But he got better and returned to Marilyn's. Because of noisy kids they turned the original farm house into a 2 room apartment. They stayed there until they moved to Rexburg by Grace. They lived in 3 places in Rexburg before returning to their house in Lewisville.

He lived in Lewisville until he was 82. He suffered a blood clot to the right leg. He wouldn't allow them to amputate, so they removed it when it hit the groin. Mother was on crutches, so Marilyn stayed all day in the hospital from 6 a.m. to 10 or 11 p. m. at night. Then Grace would come with her little cot and sleep there. This went on for 6 weeks because we couldn't afford private nursing. Then they moved him to the geriatric ward. Marilyn went home to Boise to get a room ready for him. The nurses let fall of a gurney they had put him on. He died shortly afterwards 18 Oct 1968, at 82 years. Buried in Lewisville Cemetery.

Cars—10 cars in 10 years.

1934 Chevy Brand New.

We were living in Arco and a family Balattis on the gang went to Salmon on a Sunday trip. Coming back, they ran head-on into another car. We brought Mrs. B. (Almost scalped) and her 2 girls to the hospital in Arco. Some man standing told Daddy you can't put her in that brand new car. Daddy said "To hell with the car." Another man took his coat off and put it under her head. The coat was soaked with blood but not a drop in the car.

1936 Studebaker.

We had a brand new Studebaker and Daddy was driving at Beaches Corner (out North east of Idaho Falls). We came on to a badly injured man in a car wreck. The other man wouldn't put him in their car because he was bleeding. Daddy had him put in his car and rushed him to the hospital. It had been an on-going joke that a dear friend, (Paul Crowder) who was a police officer would be the one to catch Daddy speeding. Sure enough, Daddy was driving fast and Paul pulled up on his motorcycle. "Got you now, Birch," he said. Daddy said "The Hell you have, look in my back seat." Paul took him in with the siren going.

The Ancestral File has the following information about Uncle Lyman's step-mother's family.

George Washington Birch born 30 May 1850 Rag Creek, Pottawattami, Iowa. Died 25 March 1928 at Clarkston, Cache, Utah. Married 29 April 1880 to Josephine Eveline Malmberg born 24 Jan 1858 at Gottenberg, Gottenberg, Sweden. Her parents were Johan Peder Malmberg and Johanna Marie Johansson. She died 3 April 1898 at Bennington, Bear Lake, Idaho. Bennington Cemetery records show Josephine born at Eriksberg, Lundby, Sweden. Buried at Bennington. Children: Mary Evelen Birch Mills born 13 Oct 1881 at Birrington, Bear Lake, Id. Died 19 Oct 1955. #2John Peter Birch born 17 July 1884 at Birrington, Bear Lake, Id. Married Bertha Vilate Thompson 9 Feb 1907 at St. Anthony, Idaho. Mrd others. Died 2 Jan 1965 at Rigby, Jefferson, Id. Buried 6 Jan 1965 at Rigby Cemetery.

#3 William A. Birch born 3 April 1886 Bennington, Bear Lake, Id. Died 3 Sep 1893 at Bennington, Id. Buried in Bennington Cemetery

#4 Lillie May Birch Williams born 28 Feb 1889 Bennington, Bear Lake, Idaho died 26 June 1874 Married Leo Williams 1907 and 1 other.

#5 Joseph Malmberg Birch born 6 March 1891 Bear Lake City, Bear Lake, Id. Married Sadie Vada Shaw 30 Aug 1909-at St. Anthony, Idaho div. Married 3 others

#6 Ephraim Earl Birch born 20 Nov 1892 Bennington, Bear Lake, Idaho. Married Gladys Sparkman and 1 other. Died 19 Nov 1949

Ancestral File doesn't give another child, but the Bennington Cemetery Records have a Birch Boy born and died 21 March 1895. Son of George Washington Birch and Josephine Malmberg.