

William Orval Despain

1850-1950 Lehi Centennial Biography

William Orval Despain was born February 9, 1911 in Pleasant Grove, Utah, a son of Orson Livingston Despain and Melissa Jane Adams. The family moved to Garland, Utah in 1913, where Orval attended school. He was baptized a member of the Church June 16, 1919 in the Logan Temple. In the fall of the same year the family moved to American Fork, where Orval finished his education in the schools there.

July 9, 1933, he married Emma Southwick of Lehi and has made his house here ever since then. On December 14, 1933, they were sealed in the Salt Lake Temple and the following two years did considerable endowment work for the dead.

Orval was ordained a seventy in the Church, October 25, 1935, He was superintendent of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association in the Lehi First Ward from August 1936 to May 1938. He also served as assistant superintendent of the same organization. At present he is superintendent of the First Ward Sunday School being appointed in this position in August 1948. He is also supervisor of the Priest Quorum in the ward. He served as a Stake Missionary for 18 months in Lehi Stake.

His wife Emma has been active in Church work, as a Bee Hive leader, in the ward and the Stake, also in Primary work. She is at present secretary of the Lehi Stake Primary.

They have six children: Anthony S., Ann, Raiman, Michael S. who died in infancy, William Glen and Stephen Kay.