

### Growing up in Lehi by William A. (Bill) Brown

I was born in May of 1959 in the old Lehi Hospital on State Street and 200 East. Dr. Boyd Larson delivered me. Turns out Dr. Larson was a distant cousin of mine, which I found out when I got older. My parents, Jim and JoAnn Brown were from the area, with my Dad being from Lehi and Mom being from American Fork. I was the youngest of 3 children, including my brother Karry (1952 - 1991), and my sister Susan (1955 - ).

My only other visit to the Lehi Hospital was when I had my tonsils out when I was about 4 or 5. I'm told there was an elevator in the building that was powered by water pressure. I also remember the stairs leading up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Edith Strasburg was a nurse there, and I remember she had a contagious laugh....her laugh was sort of hidden...kind of subtle, and that's why I thought she was funny. Plus she used to say, "Oh my hell" a lot!

My paternal grandparents, James and Ethel Brown lived up the street from our home on 760 North, 793 East...next to the old Lehi 4<sup>th</sup> Ward church, which was built in 1912. My maternal grandparents, Alex and Inez Karren lived in American Fork, and managed an apartment building on Main Street located next to the old Coral Theater, which is now the Towne Cinemas. So I spent my childhood visiting American Fork a lot. My relatives there never let me forget that Lehi was "Swamp Town" and we would lose to the Mighty Cavemen in every sport!

I was raised in the old Lehi 4<sup>th</sup> Ward area, which was basically the entire northeast part of Lehi. Our ward encompassed all of the area northeast of I-15, and went up and included the "bench" area, which included Ben's Creek, Carter's Creek, and the Lehi Airport. At one time, if you were on 1200 East in Lehi, you could throw a rock and hit a Peck, Russon, or a Roberts.....maybe a Bateman. These were all prominent members of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward. The earliest Bishop of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward that I can remember was Thomas Woffinden. It seemed that my early social life revolved around my family of course, but there were the church activities, which included social events like the Gold and Green Ball, Road Shows, Scout Banquets, Ward Banquets, Talent Shows, etc. At the ward talent show, Ray Worthen and I sang "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" when we were about 5 years old. We had matching shirts on, and were accompanied by my sister Susan.

I was always proud to be from Lehi. I still am. When people ask me where I'm from, I always say, "I was born and raised in Lehi, but now I live in Holladay." Moving out of Lehi happens sometimes when you marry an out-of-town girl. But Lehi will always be my hometown! My roots go back to the founding of Lehi, especially on my Mother's side, but on my Father's side as well. My Great-Great-Great Grandfather was Thomas Karren, who joined the LDS Church on the Isle of Man near Scotland. He and his family immigrated to Nauvoo to be with the saints, and in turn immigrated to Utah. He was a member of the Mormon Battalion, which was a group of 500 men that Brigham Young sent to fight in the war against Mexico. Brigham Young sent my grandfather along with David Evans to settle Lehi. Thomas was in the first bishopric in Lehi, and eventually left to serve a mission from 1852-1855 in the Sandwich Islands, which is now Hawaii. Some parts of his missionary journals are available online.

<http://thomaskarren.blogspot.com/>

Recently, the city of Lehi moved a log cabin down to the center part of town to be near the Hutchings Museum. That log cabin belonged to my Great Grandfather, Parley Austin. Parley was my Grandmother Brown's father. She was born in that log cabin. So my roots run way back in the history of Lehi.

Some of my most vivid memories include the following:

**The State Bank of Lehi.** My folks banked there, and I loved going in there if for no other reason than I used to love to stare at the "David Evans" mural on the wall. It hypnotized me! The mural depicted the history of Lehi. Little did I know that my first job out of college would have me working in that very bank, only by then it was Deseret Bank of Lehi. And once again, there was that mural hypnotizing me.

**Julian's Drug Store.** Julian's was located directly across the street from State Bank of Lehi. It was operated by Paul Julian who along with his then wife Bev, were friends of my parents. If I remember right, they had a counter-type of soda fountain, which was an iconic piece of Americana. Mom would take me in there for ice cream following a visit to the Dentist. Kent Davis opened up his first little clinic just down the street east about 4 or 5 doors. Doc Davis would give out a little gift card for a free ice cream, so I loved going down to Julian's to redeem it.

**Price Brothers Market.** Mom did all of our family grocery shopping at Price's. Every Wednesday, the delivery truck would pull up to Price's in the alley behind the store, and they had a roller-type of plank that went from the truck into the backroom of the store. Boxes of product would go down that roller plank, and at times, Mom would take me down there and Rex Price would put me on top of a box of canned goods and let me ride down the plank into the store. Even well into my adulthood, every time Rex would see me, he'd say, "Hey Billy, you coming down Wednesday to ride the plank? The truck'll be here!" I loved Prices...especially going to that west aisle to check out the cereal to see what toys were located in a box and then beg my Mom to buy it. But I loved the meat counter. Fresh meat to order. You just don't see that much anymore. Snider Brothers in Salt Lake reminds me a bit of Price's.

**Powers Clothing Store.** We always shopped for clothing at Powers....clothing and shoes. Even at a young age, I thought it was embarrassing that my Dad would actually BARTER with Tom Powers over the price of Levis. "Tom, you're killing me with these prices." Then they'd settle on a price. For the longest time I thought that was the way you're supposed to go shopping. The merchant lists a price on the goods, then you barter with them that the price couldn't actually be the listed price. But I loved Powers....and thought Tom was a nice ol' Lehi guy.

**Tuff's Barber Shop.** Lehi had about 3 or 4 barbers in town when I was kid. Rolly Goodwin and LaMar Driggs were up on State Street....George Zimmerman and Tuff Allred were downtown. When I was young in the 60's I'd go to Tuff's. I'd go in and get a haircut while Dad went on errands someplace. I'd say, "Hi Tuff, I'd like a Bata." The "Bata" as it was called was a type of haircut. Tuff was always friendly....he always acted as though you were making his day when you came in for a haircut. Okay, true confession. When I got in my teens I used to go to Driggs' for a haircut because Driggs had a

Playboy calendar on the wall of the barber shop. I'd sit and stare at it while getting my haircut. WOO WOO! I also remember going to Garry Sampson when he had a barber shop on Main Street as well.

**Restaurants.** My favorite place to eat when I was a small boy was a place called "Pee Wee's Garden of Eat'n." It was located where Haws Floral is now. They had the BEST meat pies there, along with Burgers and Fries, etc. Dan's Drive In was built and I think that's what lead Pee Wee's to their demise. Dan's was across the street to the west of Wing Mortuary. Dan's had good burgers, but I loved their "Pancho Fries." They were basically fried flour tortillas. Another fast food place that was open for a few years in the 60's and early 70's was J&R's Drive In up on State Street next to Vern's Service Station. J&R's wasn't too far from our house, so Ray Worthen and I would walk over the overpass and go down there for a burger. They had excellent fish sandwiches. And then there was Ralph's Café, operated by Ralph and Rose Hoover on west State Street. Ralph served great diner food, and had those ridged French fries. He eventually turned it into La Casa Supper Club, and I spent a lot of time there playing in my band for people. Ralph and Rose were dear friends of mine, and I'm sorry they're no longer with us. The Broadcaster restaurant was on Main Street and owned by Larry Baum. They had good food as well. I also loved and still love going to Porter's Place, which opened in about 1971 by Dennis Huggard. I mean where else in town can you get an Ironport and Snelgrove's Ice Cream? Porter's has become a Lehi institution, and I'm glad it's still running after 40 years, albeit with different owners. Last but not least was the Lehi Café, which my Dad called the 20<sup>th</sup> Ward, or if they created a new ward in town, then the Lehi Café became the 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and so on. All the coffee guys hung out there, and I spent a lot of time there with my Dad and brother. But as usual, I liked their food. Their breakfast was to die for, and their chicken on a bun is unmatched....with an order of fries, it was great. Of course, Lehi's restaurants are much more fast food places now, with even a McDonalds in town! I never thought I'd see that!

**The Royal Theater.** Almost every Friday night, my Dad would give me 50 cents to go to the movies at the Royal Theater on State Street. This is going to date me, but it costs 35 cents to get in to see the movie, which left me 15 cents to spend. At the time I could buy 3 candy bars with 15 cents! But my love of the movies was galvanized at the Royal. Cliff Miller operated it, and because the kids and teens were a bit unruly during the film, he would parade up and down the aisles to insure that we were behaving ourselves. There were a couple of occasions when the film was stopped in the middle of it because everyone was being too noisy. I remember Carol Gray (Allred) worked at the concession stand. I loved the cartoon before each movie, and all of the previews too. Our challenge as boys was to see if we could get a girl to sit by us during a film, and better yet, see if we could make out with them. You'd send a friend over who'd typically say, "Hey, do you want to come over and sit by Billy?" It was fun. Once Ray Worthen and I went to the film, and someone snuck a football into the theater. During the movie, one kid got on one side and one on the other and here comes a football going back and forth across the screen. It was hilarious. I don't think there was any malice in our mischief. For the most part we sat and watched the film. Once I sat by a girl through the entire movie of "Ben Hur" which was almost 4 hours! Wahoo! Anyway, I was there the very last night of the theater in 1971 when they showed "Swiss Family Robinson." I ride by that vacant building now, and I miss the Royal. It's hard not to think of it each time. I've even had dreams where it was open again.

**Holidays/Celebrations.** The holidays in Lehi were always a great time, especially at Christmas time. There was always the Santa Claus parade, and we always parked around Price's market to watch it. I was such a believer in the Jolly Ol' Elf....still am! I think he rode on the back of the fire engine and tossed out candy. And then there was the Gift O'Rama, which was usually in the parking lot between the bank and the post office. Local merchants would give you so many tickets for it when you purchased goods and services from them....and then they would put them in a big box and draw out winning tickets for prizes. I always expected our family to win something, but I don't remember that we did. But the Gift O'Rama was an occasion that really brought the town together. The Lehi Lions Club used to do a calendar every year, with everyone's birthday listed on it....the only condition was that you had to buy one of their calendars. I loved those calendars!

The Lehi Roundup was one of the highlights of the summer, which featured the world renowned rodeo, and the "miniature" parade, where every ward in town furnished a float. I was elected to pull one of the 4<sup>th</sup> ward floats when I was about 13, and I thought I was hot stuff for being in the parade! I'm not sure how Lehi does the parade now, or how they decide which wards will furnish floats....there's just too many wards and stakes now! When I was a kid, there were about 8 or 9 wards, and 1 stake. Anyway, the rodeo....was or is there a better hamburger than you can get at the Lehi Roundup? Hardly! And there was really nothing special about them, but for some reason they were just the best! I also played trumpet in the marching bands of both the Jr. High and High School. Truly one of the best times I had in school. Dick Devey and Scott Dorton were our directors in both schools. Marching in the 24<sup>th</sup> of July parade in Salt Lake was always a grueling challenge, but we always had fun, especially with going to Lagoon afterwards.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, they always shot fireworks from Vets Park. We'd go down there and lie on our backs on the grass and watch them, or we'd go over to Gary and Bonnie Cooper's house and watch them. Mom and Dad were good friends of the Coopers, and their daughter Desiree is one of my oldest friends. With the fireworks, we always kept track of the "duds." And they were LOUD.

**Recreation.** During the summer, there used to be a time when kids could show up at the Jr. High, and there was a bus that would take them out to Saratoga to swim. I can't remember how much it cost, but I think if you brought \$1.50 that was plenty. It cost a quarter to rent a locker, and everyone would just meet up at the Jr. High with their towels and swimsuits. I did that a lot growing up.

There was also the summer baseball league. We would play down at the Jr. High, the Lions Club Park, and the Vets Ball Park. Rick Worthen was my first coach in both Little League and Pony League. When I was in Pony League, we won the State Tournament. Howard Cooper, John Welch, Jesse Davis, Ray Worthen, Victor College, Ryan Davis, the Harr Brothers John and Keith, all were on that team. I didn't play much. But I had fun.

We also had the Bantam Basketball program, which was played at the Armory. I was on the Bucks, and Arnie Cardon was my coach for 3 years. I learned a lot about basketball from Arnie. He was stern, and very serious, but was a good coach. I remember disappointing him one game because I couldn't play. I had gone ice skating down on Utah Lake and twisted my ankle, and haven't been ice skating since.

I played Little League Football on the Lehi Packers, which represented the eastern part of Lehi, or all of the guys that lived east of Center Street. Our coaches for 2 years were Jay College, Barry Peterson, Johnny Barnes, and Kim Cooper. As I look back on it, Jay was a bit rough on us kids, and I personally think he regrets how he used to talk to us. Once the cheerleaders came over to give us a big cake following our last game, and he told them to get the hell out of there! I felt so bad for those girls, because they were my friends and they put a lot of time and effort into it. But it was an unconditional thing for me. I would play football no matter what. I remember Kim Cooper would give me a ride home occasionally, and he had this 1955 Chevy, which I loved. He had the big dice hanging from the rear view mirror. To me, the Coopers were Lehi Football royalty. When I was young, Mike Cooper and Bill Fowler were the stars of Lehi Football. Kim continued in his brother's legacy. And their little brother Howard is one of my dear friends. Johnny Barnes and Barry Peterson both graduated with my brother Karry, and I looked up to them both. Barry was an outstanding football player in his day, and he took it all very seriously, and I admired him for it, and wanted to gain as much as I could under his coaching.

I took the Hunter's Safety Course from Dean College in the basement of the Memorial Building. Dean had gone to high school with my Dad, and his sons were Vic and Kevin, who were both good friends of mine, and sad to say are no longer with us. I learned a lot from Dean, but now I don't hunt at all. I don't even own a gun. But if you want to hunt, knock yourself out! My son-in-law Zack is an avid hunter, and he enjoys it. Good for him. Anyway, Dad and I used to pheasant hunt around Lehi up on the bench and towards Utah Lake. We raised Brittany Spaniel dogs for a while, and they were a thing of beauty to watch snuff out a pheasant. I enjoyed watching those dogs more than shooting the gun! Now all of the land we hunted on is homes or sub-divisions.

**Local Businesses.** I've already mentioned a few of the restaurants, and others, but there were also a few merchants that come to mind. Penny's was a store that was there for years. My mother liked going in there for cute little gifts. Once I stole a candy bar from them, and Mom caught me with it, and made me return it with an apology. Big lesson learned there. Occasionally we shopped at Broadbents. Once in a while I'd buy clothing from Broadbents. I also like walking through their store because it seemed to have everything in a tiny space. Furniture, groceries, clothing....it was all there. Lehi Drug or Rexall's was the local drug store, with Abe Ekins behind the counter. I liked buying penny candy from them, and I liked looking at their record albums there. I was with my friend Gary Kopinsky when he bought the Beatles' "Let it Be" album from Rexalls. And then there was the Lehi Bakery, operated by Arden Tuckett, which is now operated by his son Brent. Is there a better place to buy doughnuts, rolls, and meat pies? Meat pies, you say? YES! The Lehi Bakery has outstanding meat pies, which they still sell. And their apple fritters are the best ever. Best bakery EVER. In the 70's the Lehi Bakery made an excellent pizza too! Jerry and Annette Harris also had the "Purple Pig Pizza Palace" up on State Street, which for the longest time had the best pizza too! But you know who had my favorite pizza around? The Purple Turtle in Pleasant Grove! I've not tasted one to beat it....but they shut down the pizza part of their business years ago....unfortunate! Sometimes I would stop at Drigg's Beer Joint on State Street, because although they were a bar, they had a concession window outside for kids. I'd roll up on my bike and buy sports cards from them. Maybe a piece of bubble gum. They also served snow cones if I remember right.

In high school, I used to buy all of my jeans at the Pacesetter, which was owned by Bruce Peck, and was just east of Penny's across the street to the west of the State Bank of Lehi. I bought many a bell-bottom there!

Service Stations....there were Bill Powell and Glen Wanlass. Both the nicest guys who were competitors, but it was really about sixes as to who you'd buy gas from. They both gave full service, in that they would come out and check your oil and clean off your windshield. I eventually became Glen's neighbor. Just the nicest people....he and Bill Powell. There was also Dwight Bates' and Grant's....Grant's is now the Maverick out on 5<sup>th</sup> west down from the rodeo grounds. I also spent a lot of time at Vern's on State Street. Vern Rowley lived down the street from us at one time on 700 east. I used to go to Vern's to buy a Fanta Grape Soda, which was 15 cents with a returnable bottle.

And does it get more iconic than the Lehi Roller Mills? What a great business and Lehi icon.

**Miss Lehi Pageant.** The Miss Lehi Pageant was a big deal when I was growing up. For the longest time, Bob Welti would come down and MC the event. Now Bob Welti was a celebrity! He was the weatherman on channel 4, and then switched to channel 5 with Dick Norse and Paul James. But I thought our town was special because Bob Welti came to town!

**The LDS Church.** I've mentioned this before, but the church had a profound influence on my life growing up in Lehi. A lot of our social calendars were built around what was happening at the "ward" house, with a lot of social events that don't seem to be as prevalent as they used to be. I attended church in the old 4<sup>th</sup> ward building, which was quite scary at night, but had a beautiful stain glass window in the front of it, which has been preserved in the new chapel in its place. The 4<sup>th</sup> ward had these amazing pine trees, and we used to climb the inside of them. They also had about a 4 inch ledge around the building, and we would climb up there and try to walk along the ledge without falling off. The chapel had these huge hanging lights that were just beautiful and a picture of the Savior behind the choir seats. In the Bishop's office was this giant black and white photo of George Albert Smith that was probably installed when President Smith was the prophet, and just wasn't taken down when David O. McKay became the prophet in 1952. I remember when Herman Goates was the Stake President in Lehi. If I remember right, he kind of whistled when he talked....when he pronounced his s's. After President Goates came Dean Worlton. He was a nice man who lived by Wines Park and he LOOKED like a Stake President. A funny story about him....in 1973, my Dad was involved in an accident at Geneva Steel, and his leg caught on fire. He had to be hospitalized for a time, including at Christmas, which was very difficult on our family. As fate would have it, Dad ended up sharing a hospital room with President Worlton. Dean had broken his leg. Well, Dad had all of these co-workers come in from Geneva to visit him, and Dad would make sure right from the start that he introduced President Worlton, because likely some of these guys would come in and say, "Oh my hell, Jimmy! What the hell did you do?" So Dad was trying to stop them from using bad language. He ended up apologizing to President Worlton, but Dean just laughed it off. Anyway, Dad baptized me in the font at the Lehi Stake Center in June of 1967. Apparently, the old Lehi Tabernacle was torn down prior to the Stake Center in the early 60's. A lot of the townspeople were not happy about that. But I'm too young to remember the Tabernacle. I'm just glad American Fork's is still standing. My mother was born in the house kitty corner of the AF

Tabernacle. That house is still there, but has been remodeled several times. Of course, Scouting was a huge part of my youth. I went on many campouts and attended a lot of Court of Honors....some of which were held at Wines Park in the summer. I never attained my Eagle Scout, which is something I regret, but I did receive my Life Badge. Jerry Erickson was my Scoutmaster during those years, and I learned a lot from him. My Dad was the Cubmaster when I was younger, and Dad didn't really enjoy it because he didn't like getting up in front of people. Dad didn't like speaking in church, or giving prayers either. Aside from all of this, one of the things I enjoyed was the annual Road Shows. It was always a contest to see which ward was going to win the prize of the best Road Show. In the late 60's, my Mom was in charge of the Road Show in our ward. She wrote a show based on the hit movie, "The Planet of the Apes," only Mom called it "The Planet of the Shapes." I loved it! Anyway, the church grew along with the population in Lehi. By the time I graduated in 1977, we had 2 stakes. And when I returned from serving a mission in Oregon in 1980, there were 3 stakes. Now, I don't have a clue. All I know is that a couple of years ago, I came down from Salt Lake to the miniature parade, and they had a flatbed truck with all the Stake Presidents on it from Lehi. There were at least 20 guys on that truck! WOW!

**Politics.** I don't like to talk about politics for the most part. But I'm very proud that my mother JoAnn took it upon herself to want to serve our community. She was the first woman to be elected to the city council, and she served 3 terms from 1968 – 1980. She then ran for Mayor of Lehi but lost. Mom came in 2<sup>nd</sup>. That year they had an "open" election, and there were about 6 candidates on the ballot for Mayor. Bud Ellison won the election, but ended up resigning 6 months later. Garry Sampson was appointed Mayor due to Ellison's resigning. I remember attending local caucus meetings with my folks, who were staunch Democrats. I think most of their friends were Republicans, but they never talked politics much with their friends, and it was never a determining factor of who they socialized with. Mom liked to joke with her Republican friends by saying "I'll kiss your elephant if you kiss my ass!" But Lehi had some good people in office when I was growing up. Mayors Morris Clark, Evan College, George Tripp, and Garry Sampson just to name a few. Council members like Kent Davis, J.B. Cooper, John Haws, and Arnold Pope....all good men. I need to say that my Dad was happy when Mom left office. He would say, "Oh good....no more phone calls!" When Mom was over the parks and the cemetery, people would call and complain about the lack of maintenance being done.....or when she was over the police, the same type of phone calls would come. But the worst time was when Mom was over the Dog Catcher, and people would call and complain that the neighbor's dog defecated on their lawn! It was ridiculous! A couple of times, men would call Mom and tell her she wasn't fit to be in office as a woman. Like it was a man's job. "You should be home baking bread." It was sexist by all accounts. But I'm proud of my Mom's experience for Lehi City.

**School.** I grew up attending school at the Segó Lily Elementary. I had many good teachers. Afton Burgess was my kindergarten teacher, and she's still living in her 90's. Lou Sorenson was my 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher, who is also still living. About a year ago, I went into the Olive Garden in American Fork, and there was Lou sitting at a table with her family, and she said, "Hello, little Billy Brown!" I gave her a big hug. I just loved all of my teachers. Kay Stone was my 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher. What a great guy and teacher he was! The Segó Lily had the best school hot lunch too!

I made the big jump to the Jr. High School in downtown Lehi. This was obviously the school where my Dad attended high school, and coincidentally, a couple of his teachers were still at the school when I attended. J. Ferrin Gurney for example, who was our principal. I never got into trouble much in school; however one day I was sitting in Owen Porter's Utah History class when Mrs. Lewis, the school secretary, asked Mr. Porter over the intercom if he would send me down to the office. So I go down there, and Mr. Gurney had me come into his office. It was snowing hard behind him outside through his window, and he said, "I want you to leave this school right now and do not return until you've received a proper haircut." I was worried because my parents both worked. Susan was in high school at the time, and Karry lived in Southern California, so I had to walk home in the snow storm, which wasn't very fun. I think I caught a cold too. This was in the days of hair and grooming standards. Apparently having my hair over my ears and on my collar wasn't acceptable. Jr. High had its good moments though. I enjoyed learning the trumpet from Dick Devey, and I enjoyed gym class from Dale Perry. Lyle "Charles" Peterson was a shrewd teacher, but I respected him and learned a lot from him in shop class. And Victor Ashby was the best math teacher I ever had! And Frances Comer, although large, loud, and intimidating, was an excellent U.S. History teacher. I made sure I never crossed paths with her! I always thought if I did she'd beat the hell out of me! But she was a good teacher, who I learned the preamble from, and much about our nation's history. Jim Gray became the principal after J. Ferrin Gurney, and Jim was in my ward, and an excellent, kind man. Loved him! I remember Lee Squire gave us a 10 minute lecture on the use of the word "damn" because he said it once to us in anger.

Now High School....this was possibly the best time of my young life. I don't say this egotistically, but I was the epitome of involved in high school. I did all 3 major sports...football, basketball, and baseball, played trumpet in the jazz, pep, and marching bands, did several school plays, and served 2 years in Student Government. I literally couldn't get enough of high school. I loved it. During my sophomore year, I took early-morning Seminary, and then played ball after school, so I was at the school from about 7am to sometimes 7pm or longer, especially if we were at a ball practice, game, play, or rehearsing. School was my life, and hanging with friends was so important. I tried to like everyone, and we all had fun. Some of the kids I was indifferent to, but in hindsight, I could have been nicer and not try so hard to be in the popular crowd, but I wasn't mean to those kids....just indifferent. I could have said hello more to them. Other than that, no regrets, although I went steady for the most part of my high school experience, which I also regret because I should have gone out with many of the girls and not just one. Oh well, hindsight's 20/20, right?

I will say that the highlight of my high school experience was being part of the 1976 State Championship Basketball Team. I've never seen the town of Lehi come so alive! We had the support of not only the Studentbody, but the entire town. We had pep rallies in the gym that involved the whole town! We ended up beating the Morgan High Trojans 74-50 in the Special Events Center (now Huntsman) at the U Campus. It was one of the most memorable nights of my life. On the team we had Howard Cooper, John Welch, the Harr Brothers Keith and John, Evaristo Soares, Todd Nelson, Ray Worthen, Dennis Carlton, Brent Dorton, Robert Gray, Bart Manning, and me. We were coached by Scott Iverson and Cloyd Atwood. We had major battles that year with American Fork. They ended up winning the 3A Championship, and we won the 2A. Lehi had not won a State Championship since 1909!

In marching band, we played the local parades, but we also went to Pocatello and Nampa, Idaho for parades. Had a lot of fun. My good friend Scott Dorton was our music director and teacher. He was a mentor to me in many ways, and I'm proud to call him my friend and bandmate now for much of my life. Scott and I have played in the band "Good Question" since 1989. Much of my music life has involved him, Rickey Carter, Doug Carbine, Kevin Draper, and Gary Kopinsky, who I'm sad to say is no longer with us. Gary was my dear friend since kindergarten, and we were together much of my life. I spoke at his funeral in 1990, and it was a difficult speech to make. I also was honored to play in the Lehi Silver Band one summer following my graduation from high school. We rode in the 24<sup>th</sup> of July parade in Salt Lake.

As I mentioned, I was in a lot of plays in high school. My close friends and I all were involved, and much of the reason we were was our instructor, Glen "G" Smith. Along with Scott Dorton, "G" was our favorite teacher. We loved giving him a bad time, but only out of love. He always made learning fun. Once in class he even let us watch "A Night at the Opera" starring the Marx Brothers. But the G. Smith story that still hangs with me as far as being funny, was when we put on Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" my junior year. Our classmate and local artist Allan Olsen had drawn this huge forest scene on the backdrop of the stage, and in one of the tops of the trees, he drew a little chipmunk. Well, as kids will be kids, someone (and I'm not mentioning who) climbed up there via the ladder and drew some anatomical alternations to the chipmunk. "G" was furious! For some reason, he thought I was the culprit. I told him again and again that I wasn't, even though I knew who did it. But I wasn't a snitch. So fast forward to the weekend I'm home from my mission. As I'm entering the 4<sup>th</sup> ward chapel, G. Smith is exiting the chapel because he was in the other ward that shared the building with us. He sees me for the first time since returning from Oregon, and he starts shaking his head. I said, "G...what's the matter?" He said, "I can't believe what you did to that chipmunk!" It was 4 years and a mission later, and he STILL thought I was the culprit! I took him aside and said, "G....I have no reason to lie to you....it's a while ago now.....I DIDN'T ALTER THAT CHIPMUNK'S ANATOMY!" "Well, then who did?" I said, "It just doesn't matter. its years ago now!" I still didn't snitch! G. Smith is a teacher I'll never forget.

The school dances were loads of fun too. The Twerp Twirl, Sophomore Slide, Jr. Prom, Sr. Hop, Pep Club Formal, Homecoming....all good. They were from 8:30 until 11 in the girl's gym. I always tried to be on the committees of these dances too, because it meant that I could get out of class to go decorate. I don't think I've seen as much crape paper since!

Dale Price was an outstanding principal, and a good friend of my folks....so I felt that I could talk to Dale about anything, and he gave me a good piece of advice many times. On one occasion during my senior year, I didn't make the basketball team. I was bitter and broken hearted. I had played every year of school. A couple of guys were left on the team that hadn't played any of the years prior, and I knew that I could beat them in a one on one game. Kurt Saville, the new band teacher told me, "Since you're not going to be on the team, then come and play trumpet in the pep band." I told him no. I just didn't want to be involved because I didn't want to support the team. Sure, a couple of my friends were still on the team, but I didn't care. I wasn't going to play trumpet to "pep" them on. So Mr. Saville asked me to go see Mr. Price if I didn't want to comply with his request....so I did. I told Dale how I was feeling, and explained to him how bitter and angry I was regarding my being cut from the team. He looked at me and told me, "You know, Bill....you're a kid that most students here look up to....and not just because

you're tall. You're in leadership on the Student Council. People are going to watch how you react to this situation. They're going to see if it makes or breaks you. What would you think is the best thing you could do? Do you think that being an example, and letting the Studentbody here see that you're not broken, and that you can still support the school with your talent....that that would be the best thing to do?" He was right...and I went back to Mr. Saville and apologized. I had a great time playing in the band with my band friends, and Mr. Saville was an excellent teacher.

I loved my schoolmates and friends. Many of which I'm still in touch with, and thanks to Facebook, even more. I admired and respected many of my teachers and coaches. You'll always find me "ready and steady boosting for Lehi High."

In conclusion, I can't emphasize enough of how much I love Lehi. Unfortunately, I don't make it down there much only to visit the cemetery. I'm baffled by its growth however. When I was in high school, we had 130 kids in our graduating class, and Lehi had about 5,000 people. Now there's at least 50,000 people there....and I understand they'll be building a new high school up on the bench near Micron in the next couple of years. It's amazing! But Lehi had room to grow. Unfortunately, the farming aspect of it has left us. Seems like that land is all developed now. I'm sure the growth of the community has become one of its biggest challenges. But Lehi is a town we can all be proud to hail from. What a tremendous and proud heritage we have, and we should all be "PIONEERS" at heart!