

Eliza Ellen Matilda Hartley Anderson
1884 - 1966



Eliza Ellen Matilda Hartley was the daughter of Farwell Harrison Hartley and Carline (Caroline) Carlson. She was born 2 January 1884 in Oak City, Millard, Utah. She was blessed and given her name by Fredric R. Lyman. She was the third child in a family of six children, four girls and two boys, a half-sister Cecelia, Charles Henry, Lillie Josephine, Fred Walter, and Zella Irene.

On 3 August 1893, she was baptized by Fredric R. Lyman in the creek above town, and confirmed by George Finlinson.

At the age of nine years she had Typhoid fever and this caused her to lose all her hair. It took a long time for it to grow back.

She attended school first in an old log house then in the first schoolhouse built in Oak City. She attended through the eighth grade. In school she enjoyed gathering around the big stove to sing with the rest of the group until one day one girl stopped and said Eliza couldn't carry a tune in a bucket.

Eliza had a very happy childhood. They had many good times playing softball, with a yarn ball, and jacks and rook cards. She was taught to pray as a child and was always prayerful throughout her life.

She and five other girls formed a club. The other girls were Millie Lyman, Lydia Lyman, Nettie Broadhead, Mamie Lovell, and Ellie Anderson. Eliza was the vice president and they held meetings and had many good times together. The young ladies, as well as married ladies, would hold Rag Bees, where they would sew rags for making rugs, and held Quilting Bees and had fun while they worked.

At their home they had some fruit trees close to the fence so some branches hung over into the neighbor's yard but their mother told her to never pick any of the fruit from the branches which hung over past the fence as they belonged to the neighbors.

Eliza helped care for her father's sheep and enjoyed playing with and watching the lambs. One day when she came from school for her noon meal she heard the dog barking out in the pasture so she went to see why, and there was a coyote chasing the sheep so she grabbed a big stick and went in with the dog and chased it until she got close enough to hit it. She stunned it and just to make sure it didn't get away, she tied it up. Later when she came home from school her uncle told her when he arrived it was up chewing on the rope trying to get away.

Eliza had known Franklin all her life but when he would go by her place and stop to talk to her she would sit on the grass and cover her bare feet with her skirt as she only had shoes to wear to church. After six months courtship, Eliza and Jense Franklin Anderson were married in the Salt Lake Temple, 3 April 1902, by John R. Winder. They lived out at Fool Creek Flat for the first six months of marriage, then started to build their home, a room at a time, in Oak City; starting with the southwest room then the northwest room then a big living room, a front porch and back porch. The basement and two east rooms were added just before Marlow was born. This marriage was blessed with twelve children; Loy, Lawrence, LeRoy, Osmer, Norvel Reuben, Carl, Alice, Ada and Eda (twins), Elva, Ann, and Marlow. All but Marlow was delivered by a midwife. Eliza would have several children on her lap and some on the arms of the old rocking chair, as she would tell stories to them. She was very talented in telling stories and teaching children.



Eliza worked in the Primary for at least twenty years as a teacher and a counselor to Caddie Anderson. While a counselor she would have to take a class about every time. Franklin was good to help her and usually had supper ready when she and the children returned from Primary. She was a teacher in Sunday School under

eight different superintendence's. One superintendent hurt her by asking her to resign. She was also the Theology teacher as well as a Visiting Teacher in Relief Society for many years. In her reclining years, many that she had taught when they were children would tell her how they used to enjoy her lessons and stories, and some could even remember the stories she had told.

Indians would come to their house but never caused any trouble because Eliza always fed them. One time while an Indian was there he was watching her and he said, "Good Squaw!" and Franklin answered him and said, "Yes, Good Squaw!"

They used to have lots of parties where they would pop corn or have candy pulls. They would go to the molasses mills in town and get fresh molasses for their candy and other uses.

She enjoyed taking the children for buggy rides or walk to the fields or hills or to go camping in the canyon for three or four weeks each summer. While camping, many times she would take along her quilting frames etc., and do a quilt or two, or take her machine and do some family sewing.

The only time she was out of Utah was once when her sister Lillie, who lived in Salt Lake City, invited her to go with her to see their half-sister Cecelia who lived in California. This trip she enjoyed very much but she never wished to make such a trip again as she like being home. While in California, she saw the Golden Gate Bridge and went across the bay in a tugboat.

She was very grief stricken when her only daughter, Alice, after five sons, died of Bronchial Pneumonia at the age of six months. She never washed a part of a window, where the baby had made a hand print, for a long time after the baby's death.

At one time she had a dream that she had a growth in her neck. Soon after the dream she noticed a pimple on her neck and tried to squeeze it but could not get rid of it. The pimple turned into a lump, which in time turned black. The townspeople gave her up as dying, but she dreamed, or was inspired, to use egg and salt on it as a poultice and a voice told her "all would be well". The pain was terrific at times, until she couldn't lie down. When Carl was a baby, the "thing" peeled off and it looked like a big black spider with long legs sticking out on all sides. It left a big scar on the side of her neck. It had been on her neck for fourteen years.

Another dream she had was when her son Lawrence was fourteen years old and held an office in the Boy Scout troop. She dreamed the scouts were out swimming in the Sinks, and Lawrence drowned. Soon after this, Lawrence took sick, probably Rheumatic Fever, and died. Although very grief stricken, she was always thankful he died this way, and at home instead of drowning in the Sinks.

Another great heartbreak was when Franklin died in a hospital in Salt Lake City, 22 November 1932. After his death she helped the boys with the farm work leaving the girls to do the housework. Loy got a job on the railroad, to help support the family, then later Carl joined a C C Camp and sent his checks home to help the family. Loy was still working on the railroad and Eliza took a job in 1942, cooking for the men at Jericho, where Loy was stationed. This lasted around three months. Then Carl and Loy were both called into the Service.

After all the children were married except Loy and Marlow, she started a store about 1946 in the garage that had been built by Grandfather Joseph S. Anderson's house. The adjoining house Loy purchased and fixed into three apartments where many young couples started their married life. It was called the "Honeymoon House". The store was a frame construction and after a heavy snowstorm had caused a short in the wiring, it caught fire and burned. Many wanted her to rebuild, so she borrowed money and built a cinderblock two-room store. She enjoyed the store and it had been a dream of many years. In the store she had some chairs so people could sit down and rest or visit and many did this. She always enjoyed their visits.

Eliza always enjoyed trips to the temple and fixed many sheets of names to have work done at the temple etc.. She was unable to go very much after she got her store though.

When Eliza was seventy years old, a growth came in her stomach. It grew and grew until it was so big she could hardly walk while the rest of her body was getting thinner. She was operated on in an Ogden hospital where they removed a fifty-pound water tumor. She recovered quickly and was soon back at her store and teaching in Sunday School. A few years later she suffered a stroke and she was hardly able to move for three weeks. The doctor said she would never walk again but with her determination and perseverance she did but her left leg was partly paralyzed so it was hard for her to get around. She tried to keep on teaching Sunday School but finally had to give it up. One time she fell on the back steps and cut her arm quite badly. Another time she fell in her kitchen and cut her head on the oven door. She lost a lot of blood and was hospitalized for two days.

The doctor said for her to have someone help her when she walked but she was determined to be independent. She had three more strokes and though they were less severe, each one left her in a little more serious condition. She finally had to give up the store, which she disliked doing very much but it was too much for her. She bought a wheel chair and could be moved around very easily. She enjoyed it very much when anyone would take her for a walk in her wheel chair.

It was a great shock for her one morning in January 1965, when Loy didn't get up as he usually did to fix up the fires and start breakfast. He was always a big help to her. She called to him but no answer came. She got up and to his bed and could tell something was wrong. It was slick outside so she wondered how she could get help but started to get ready to go out, when Molly came to the door. Loy was given a blessing by Bishop Lyman Finlinson and taken to the Delta hospital where he died the next morning. He had suffered a cerebral hemorrhage.

Eliza and Loy had been living in the apartment house since the previous October, when she had sold her home to Marlow. After Loy died, Marlow and Molly let her have the two west rooms as an apartment where she lived the remaining year and eight months of her life. She was bedfast for one week, of which, three days she was in a coma. She died 20 October 1966.

She had always been an honest and faithful person and enjoyed her family and friends.

Verses often repeated off by heart up until just a week or so before she died.

I will not lie
I'll tell you why
It's wicked so to do.
I will not steal
Because I feel
That that is wicked too.
I will not fight
It is not right
As children should agree.
And in my youth
I'll love the truth
Then happy I shall be.

A home is a world for father
A paradise for mother
Where we fight the most
And are treated the best.



Ada, Eda, and Elva



Carl



Loy



Marlow



Loy and Lawrence



Osmer and Marlow