

Gudrun Hallsdottir

Gudrun Hallsdottir was born on 8 August 1794 at Olafsvellir, Iceland. She married Jon Oddsson on 28 July 1822 and eventually gave birth to 12 children, only two of which lived to adulthood.

She became a widow at the age of 40 years when Jon drowned while fishing. A young man, Loftur Jonsson, was hired to manage Gudrun's estate and finances. She later proposed to him with an offer of half of her estate. Although Gudrun was twenty years older than him, Loftur agreed.

They were married on 27 October, 1836. Loftur was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on 3 June 1853 and later served as president of the branch of the Church in Vestmannaeyjar.

Gudrun was baptized into the church on 21 July 1854. In 1857, Loftur and Gudrun and her two children left Iceland for Utah. They landed in New York and then lived in St. Louis for two years, preparing themselves for the long trek west.

They arrived in Salt Lake City in 1859 and settled in Spanish Fork, Utah. The first ten years were a continual struggle with climatic conditions and crop failures. After only ten years in their new home.

Gudrun died on 16 October 1869 at the age of 75 years.