

## HULDA DESERET ALLRED NIELSON

Hulda Deseret Allred had five older brothers and sisters that were from her father's first marriage, his first wife having died near Winter Quarters soon after they started the trek across the plains to Utah. His parents and other family members crossed with him and helped him with the children. He had witnessed and suffered the persecution in Nauvoo, the loss of his wife, the hardships of crossing the plains and starting a new life in Utah. Her father Wiley Payne Allred married her mother, Johanna Olson, in Salt Lake and moved to the settlement of Glenwood where Hulda was born on March 10, 1866. This small town or community named Glenwood was located in Sevier County, Utah. She had one more sister from another marriage. Her father became a polygamist.

The year before she was born, there was trouble with the Black Hawk Indians. A band of Indians took ninety head of stock from nearby Salina, killing two settlers that were working in the canyon. A stone fort was constructed in Glenwood in April of 1866, the following month after her birth. Other attacks followed and three more settlers were killed between Glenwood and Richfield on March 21, 1867. This became the deciding factor in the evacuation of the settlement. For safety, about forty families from Glenwood moved to Richfield.

In 1871, many of the former settlers returned to Glenwood including Hulda's family and took up their old homesteads. By July of 1872, there were about one-hundred and fifty families living in the area. Glenwood has always remained a small community. As of the 2000 Census, the town only had a total population of 437 people, 140 households, and 120 families residing in the town. It is located ten miles east of Richfield on U-119. It was established in 1863 and named for an early pioneer, Robert Wilson Glenn. They first named the place Glencoe or Glen Cove, but it was changed in 1864 when Orson Hyde visited the settlement and recommended Glenwood.

Hulda's family moved again to Fountain Green in Sanpete County before she was two. Fountain Green was another small community of mostly farmers and sheep herders. Hulda was raised in a farming environment in a large family, her family being members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Church. They were strong in the faith and very active in the community. Her father held the office of a Seventy.

Her family moved to Spring City in Sanpete County between 1875 and 1879 where her grandparents lived. Her grandfather James Allred was a founder of the city and he was the priesthood leader over the saints there. There were many Allred families living there, all related.

This is where Hulda first attended what would be considered a Mormon school. It was a one room log cabin and taught by a Miss Allred, a cousin. Hulda was between eight and nine years of age. The teacher only had one test book and it was passed around for the children to read from. They wrote on slates. There was a Bible in her home that she used to practice her reading.

They used homemade candles for light and chopped wood for fuel. Their clothing was more plain, but durable, usually only having one dress at a time. Since shoes were expensive, the children ran barefoot in the warm weather. The family had sheep from which they carded the wool and knitted into stockings, gloves, and warm clothing. A lot of the wool could be picked from the bushes where the sheep had passed by.

She grew up, a strong young lady from the many chores and the farm work she did. She learned to make soap, bread, knit, and many other skills of the pioneers. She knew the Indians, sometimes friendly and sometimes not. The settlers had to be cautious concerning them.

Hulda's father was the doctor for the communities they lived in. She loved to tag along as he made the rounds. She became a nurse and able to assist him. She supported herself by working for other families receiving

board and room. There was one lady with a large family that she would walk to town to help when the family notified her that a seizure was coming on. Hulda cooked, cleaned, did the chores and took care of the children. She did this for many years when this would happen.

Being a small community, you knew just about everyone. She became acquainted with Joseph O. Nielson, a son of an emigrant, and began to court him. His parents came from Sweden; they crossed the ocean on the ship "Monarch of the Sea." They boarded a railroad train headed towards Ohio to join a wagon train to come out west. The train was near Bronx, New York when Joseph was born June 21, 1861 on the train.

Joseph went to her father Wiley Allred to ask for her hand in marriage. Since they were both more or less champion checker players, her father said, "Only if you can beat me a game of checkers." Joseph won and arrangements were made to travel to Salt Lake City. There were two other young couples, Eliza Munson and Tom Chester along with Margaret Munson and Hans Nielsen that made the trip with them to get married. The girls were cousins, all related to James Allred's family. Joseph had to sell one of his two teams of oxen to afford this event. It was a very cold ride and lots of snow. The journey took three days. The young men took turns driving while the others were in the covered wagon trying to keep warm.

They received their temple ordinances and were married the same day on February 14, 1884 in the Endowment House on Temple Square as the Salt Lake Temple had not been completed. As they traveled home, they reached the point of the mountain on the south end of the Salt Lake Valley and experienced a terrible blizzard; it was hard to keep the wagon on the road. Going through Salt Creek Canyon at Nephi, the road was impassable so they road upon the railroad tracks. When a train came puffing down the track, the girls jumped off the wagon while the men rode the wagon down into a gulch. There was so much snow it nearly covered the wagon. It took nearly a day to dig it out. It was a bitter cold day, but they made it back to Spring City safely. Hulda and Joseph received quilts and household items as gifts to begin their life together. Their first child, Bettie Johannah was born on December 2, 1884 in Spring City, Sanpete, Utah. Then they moved.

Hulda's husband Joseph, along with others involved in farming and livestock would go from Sanpete County with their cattle and sheep to Emery County to graze the sheep. The Denver and Rio Grande Railroad running through the county was completed in 1883, making it easy to transport livestock and produce to market.

They built their home near the river in a location called Muddy Creek in Emery County and started farming and grazing sheep. Their family increased, Helena Deseret was born on December 15, 1887 and Joseph Wiley on December 20, 1889.

Later they moved into the town of Emery where Elva was born August 23, 1895, and Ruben Floyd on November 28, 1897 also in the town of Emery. Each time, Joseph would have to make the trip of ten miles to fetch the closest midwife.

The work was hard, herding pigs, cows and sheep. She and her children bound the sheaves of wheat by hand. Then take sacks to the wheat field after the harvest and glean the heads of grain that were left.

On the 1900 Census for Emery County, Utah, Hulda's husband was listed as a farmer. He was 37 years old being born in June of 1862. Hulda his wife was 34, born in March of 1866. They had been married for 16 years and had 5 children, all living, Hannah 15, born December 1884; Helena 12, born December 1887; Joseph 10, born December 1889; Elva 4, born August 1895; and Floyd 2, born November 1897. None of the children had attended school. "No School" was written by each school age child for the entire area they lived in. They were renting the place they lived in.

The Census was taken the 28th of June. Sometime later in the 1900's or perhaps early spring of 1901, Hulda and her family, along with five other families, headed for Debeck, Colorado to homestead land that was just opened up. They packed up the wagon and made the trip in two weeks just to find that there was no land available. They lived in tents. It was hard for Mormons to find anyone who would hire them. Their thoughts of farming failed. They made their way back to Emery in December of 1901.

They remained in Emery until spring of 1914 when they heard there was land in San Juan County where settlers could homestead. They made the trip with one other family and several wagons loaded with household and farm equipment. They found land just for the homestead fees in Lockerby. They first worked hard to clear the farm land and plant before building a home. Hulda found work as a midwife and doctor again.

The 1920 Census for Lockerby Precinct in San Juan County, Utah taken February 9th, gave much information: Joseph Nielson, now 58 years of age, he owned his farm in the Lockerby Precinct and his occupation is that of a farmer. His wife Hulda D. is 52; she was a nurse in general practice. Hulda and her husband Joseph had a house full at this time. Listed as part of their household was their son Floyd, he was 22, working as a farm hand. Their daughter Lena (Helena) 32, and her husband Samuel Blackham 33, was a farm hand, and their three children Dallen A. 5, Creal W. 3 and Waye [Dick] N. 6 months of age were living in their home. Their daughter Elva [Nielson] Christiansen 24 had divorced her husband Wilford Dorian Christiansen; she was living in their home with her son Dorian W. 3 years old. That was a house full, but she loved to have her family around her. Their son, Joseph W. Nielson owned the farm next door where he and his family lived.

Later Hulda and her husband moved to Moab keeping their place in Lockerby. Her husband passed away on April 26, 1929 in Moab. He was buried there in the Grand Valley Cemetery on April 28th.

The 1930 Census for Lockerby, San Juan, Utah, was taken on April 9th. Hulda was 66 and listed as head of the household and a widow. She was back at the ranch. Her daughter Lena had divorced her husband. She and her children were renting a house nearby. There were two dwellings between Hulda and Lena and one was that of their Hulda's son Joseph. Her daughter Elva had married John Codner in 1922 and they had two sons Jack and Ross Codner. When Elva's husband John died in December of 1927, Elva moved back into the ranch with her three boys, Jack 5, Ross 4 and Dorian from her first marriage, now 13. Perhaps Elva maintained the place while Hulda resided in Moab. The farm was still being farmed. Her son Joseph is still living next door with his large family.

Hulda's daughter Lena married Claude Dalton in 1934, a man who had five children. They continued to live in Lockerby. Lena's youngest son Waye, who went through life known as Dick, was then fourteen or fifteen years of age had a difficult time adjusting to this new situation and what he considered a mean stepfather. He ran away from his home in Lockerby to live with Hulda, his grandmother in Moab. Hulda was living in a small house just off the main road, across the street from Arche's Café. He had spent most of his life living with her or living right by her. He dearly loved her. Hulda took him in.

Hulda enjoyed having Dick in her home for several years until he married Donna May Shumway, in 1941, a girl that was born and raised in Moab. They had a son named Gordon in 1942. Then Dick moved his little family back to Lockerby. He went to work in the mines coming back to Moab about 1945. He and Donna had their second son Gary born in 1946 in Moab. Dick became a truck driver for Moab Transportation.

One day Dick's wife Donna ran away with two-year old Gary, leaving six year old Gordon with Dick. Hulda again took Dick and his son into her home to live with her. She could give her great grandson Gordon, called Punk, all the care and attention he needed while Dick worked. She had a big influence on Punk as far as religion and how to conduct himself. He was always faithful to the church and a fine upstanding person. He talked fondly of her.

Hulda would go across the street to Arch's Café and she became very friendly with a waitress named Carrol May who was from Salt Lake City. The café was owned by Carrol's uncle. Hulda's grandson Dick would go there in the mornings for a cup of coffee and visit with this same waitress. Carrol was a single mother with three sons: Ted, Stan and Phil. Dick's son Punk and Carrol's youngest son Phil became very good friends.

There was a lot of work on Hulda's ranch. Dick had spent a lot of time in the sheep camps and herding sheep and would go to Lockerby to help when it was time to cut the hay; Hulda usually went with. One time Dick took Carrol's second son Stan with him to help. Dick would also take Carrol's boys on some of his trips in the truck. When this relationship developed into thoughts of marriage and moving to Salt Lake City, Hulda became very concerned, she was very attached to Punk. Dick finally consented to let Punk stay with her to finish the school year and he gave her permission to have him baptized in May when he turned eight years old. Dick and Carrol went to Salt Lake City and were married February 6, 1950. It was hard for Hulda to give Punk up. Hulda had loved having him, but when school was out he went to Salt Lake to live with his father.

On March 10, 1958, it was her ninety-second birthday. There was a big party given in her honor. All of her five children were there and many of her posterity. An account was given at this time: her posterity numbered: 5 children, 25 grandchildren, 72 great-grandchildren and 22 great-great grandchildren. It was a glorious event for her.

She passed away on the morning of May 23, 1958 in Moab. She was buried in the Grand Valley Cemetery in Moab. Dick and Carrol their family attended her funeral. Carrol stated that it was said at her funeral that she had delivered over a thousand babies. Carrol also stated that, "She was a great lady."