

Sterling Richard Harris: this noble man born at the turn of the last century on Pioneer Day, July 24, 1899 in Colonia Juarez Mexico, the youngest of nine children born to Dennison Emer Harris and Eunice Stewart Harris. He moved with his family to Cardston Alberta Canada at the age of 5 years. At the time of his fathers death he was 13 years old and his mother moved the family to Provo, Utah, where they remained for five years before moving on to Logan, Utah.

His adult life has taken many turns. He served in the Army in 1919. He served a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Northern States mission, being released in 1921. He returned to Logan Utah, where he attended Utah State University, graduating in 1924. He played a very active part in athletics.

He married Viola Green, Sept 1st 1923 in Lethbridge Canada. To this union was born two sons, Richard Green Harris, and John Sterling Harris. He has ten grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren. Viola became an invalid in 1930, she was given loving care by her family until her death in 1951.

In October 1953 he married Neva Saville and they have continued to reside in Tooele. In his life time he has traveled every where that he has wanted to go, but loves most, being at home in Tooele with his dear wife and companion.

As a son of an educator he too made his mark in that profession. Upon graduation at Utah State, he became the freshman coach for that school, basketball, swimming and football teams. In 1925 and 1926, he was coach at North Cache, Richmond, Utah. In the fall of 1926 he moved his family to Tooele where he became Head Coach and a greatly loved teacher.

He was so successful that his team took the state championship in football in 1929, 1930 and 1933 all because he cared enough to unit a once divided "Old town and newTown", a town overcome with race prejudice was turned around single-handed.

After coaching eleven years, he left in 1937 and went to work at the International Smelter as director of Personnel. He remained in that position for three years, at which time he was offered the position of Superintendent of Tooele County Schools.

He remained in this position until 1965 when he retired. During this time the school population went from 1900 to over 6,000 students.

2.

Larger in life than life size, he is truly a "man to match the mountains" where he rode his horse. After his retirement, he would ride six days a week in the Tooele Canyons, enjoying the beauty of Gods creations.

He was blessed with a strong handsome body, a keen mind and impressive bearing. He has a delightful sense of humor, is a keen observer of human and animal nature and above all he loves people.

He called everyone in town by their name. He personally cared about each of them and what was happening to their lives, as well as each of their family members.

Behind his rugged strength and manliness is a tender sensitive soul. He has borne his share of troubles, comforted the fatherless and cheered the sick, lonely and downhearted.

He has served in his church, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, as a Bishop, High Councilman, MIA Pres and High Priest Group Leader.

His best teaching was done by example, in the classroom, on the athletic field, the boardroom or wherever he was. Unnumbered young lives were influenced for good and their desire to be like "Coach" shaped their destiny.

The Sterling Harris Elementary school is a fitting physical monument to this great man.

He can rightfully paraphrase Paul saying, " I have fought a good fight, have (not yet) finished my course; I have kept the Faith"