

SHORT HISTORY OF JULIAN AND VENIS SHAW POWELL

by Venis Shaw Powell

Julian Morris Powell was born 20, Jan. 1911 in Ogden, Weber County, Utah to Thomas Ezra and Catherine Morris Powell, the youngest of ten children (six boys and four girls). The family lived in Marriott, Weber County, Utah. They owned and farmed eight acres of land just north of 12th St where the IRS building is today. Julian attended grade school in Marriott, Jr. High in Wilson Lane (now West Haven City) and graduated from Weber High School.

As a very young boy, Julian worked on his family farm helping with irrigation, cutting hay as well as many other chores. Also, he helped his Uncle and brothers work their land and was paid one dollar a day for milking cows and other farm work. He always worked very hard while living with his mother because they had a mortgage to pay so he had to help her make payments every month.

He loved to play sports and especially basketball. He played for the Marriott LDS ward and was able to play in eight consecutive church finals in Salt Lake City. He also coached and played several years winning many games.

When he was about 20 years old, he walked into Woolworths department store in Ogden and told the girl behind the counter that he had a date with her that evening. She told him that she was busy that night, but agreed to a date another time. Her name was Venis Shaw.

I, Venis, was one of ten children, seven sisters and two brothers. I was born 31, Dec. 1911, to John Riley and Josephine Cottam Shaw in a white adobe house located in the vicinity of Rose's Lane in Pleasant View, Weber County, Utah.

I attended schools in Pleasant View, North Ogden, and Weber High School. I also took some courses from Weber State College. My parents moved to Promontory, Box Elder County, Utah, when I was very young. We lived on a ranch that Grandpa Edwin Riley and Sarah Jane Ward Shaw owned. Dad grew alot of alfalfa and seed grain. I went to school there for about one and one half years. I can remember alot of sage brush, and seeing and hearing coyotes. Other vivid memories are those of Dad killing a rabid coyote very close to our home, and seeing a bobcat sitting on a ~~poft~~ near our place.

My sister, Erma, and I used to play with polywogs in a resevoir that Dad built west of our home. Phyllis was too scared to do this (just joking). She was just too little. She is always reminding me that she is four years younger than me.

Our neighbors didn't live very close to us, but we enjoyed all of the people that lived around us. Mother was the ward organist and Dad led the singing at church. We lived there about six or seven years, then Dad sold the farm for \$100,000 and we returned to Pleasant View. We then bought Grandpa and Grandma's beautiful home.

I was in the second grade and my teacher was Miss Poulter, from Willard, Utah. My cousin, Leona Ellis, daughter of Alma and Mabel Cottam Ellis, my mother's only living sister, made me feel so welcome and we went throughout grade school and High school together. A special dear cousin and friend.

Julian and I dated on and off for some time, and were married 6, Jan. 1934. We lived in Ogden, Utah for one year and then moved to Marriott, Weber County, Utah, and lived there for 16 years. During this time, we had four daughters and one son.

Lorna (Mrs. Chad N. Widdison) born 6, Feb. 1932
Joan (Mrs. Talmage W. Skeen) born 25, Aug. 1934
Sharon (Mrs. Archie E. Skeen) born 19, April 1936
Kay (Mrs. Virgil C. Howe) born 23, Feb. 1948
Thomas Merrill Powell, born 28, Nov. 1954

We have a total of 37 in our immediate family. All are so special and we love them and are grateful for them being so thoughtful and kind to us and each other.

When the Government bought our place in 1941, we bought and moved into Julian's Grandfather Powell's home on west 12th St. We lived there for about seven years. We then moved to Slaterville and bought our farm and home when Kay was about one and one half years old.

Julian served his church while living in Marriott as a counselor in the MIA, and Ward Clerk for four years. He was one of the seven Presidency of the Stake Seventies. He also served as Second Counselor to Bishop Harold O. Slater, and First Counselor to Bishop Ronald R. Smout, Secretary of the High Priest group, and between the Marriott and Slaterville wards, has served as a Home Teacher for about 65 years. He was Secretary of South Slaterville Irrigation Co. for twenty years and a director forty-five years and still serves in that capacity.

In 1935, Juke contracted and put in 130,000 tons of piled Sugar Beets by hand with beet forks for the Amalgamated Sugar Co.

I, Venis, taught Sunday School in Marriott and also taught mutual for five years and received a five year Gold Metal Pin. After moving to Slaterville, I served in the Primary Organization for about ten years as a teacher, secretary, and President for two years. I was secretary of the Relief Society for two years, Ward Librarian three years, and visiting teacher about forty years. I worked in the Ogden Temple Office for a year.

We are very thankful for our heritage, our lovely family and relatives, our friends, and our membership in the Church. All have been very important parts of our lives together.