

Chronological Personal Record of Ida-Rose Langford

20 Feb 1921

I was born in Birch Creek, near Ogden, Weber, Utah. We were then living in a three room small house at the back of the lot where my father was building a new brick home for the family. Dr. Edward I. Rich as the attending physician. The birth took place at our home.

I was the fourth daughter, fourth child, of Ernest Fountain Langford and Zina Charlotte Chlarson. The family had lived formerly in Hurley, New Mexico, where my father had worked in the coppermines. My older sisters were born in Hurley: Irma, 22 July 1915, Iona and Iola, twins, 27 Mar 1917.

19 Mar 1921

I was blessed by Clarence Morris, Bishop of the 14th Ward, Weber stake.

1921

During this year my father moved the family into the basement of the new home while he did the finishing work on the upstairs of the home. The small home became the chicken coop.

1924

The family moved to 3249 Jefferson Avenue. My father had traded his finished home in the 14th ward for a farm which turned out not to have enough irrigation water. He purchased a home at 3249 Orchard which he remodeled. The home was located within the confines of the 9th Ward, Mount Ogden Stake.

1925, Spring

Moved to the yellow brick and stucco home at 3249 Orchard. *bottom top lungaloe*

21 July 1925

My brother, Ernest Fountain Jr. was born into our family. Dr. Edward I. Rich, attending. *He was named for his father Ernest Fountain Langford*

11 Mar 1927

My brother, James Harvey Langford, was born. Same doctor as Ernie. He was named for his paternal grandfather.

3 Sep 1928

My brother, Heber Otto Langford was born. He was named for his maternal grandfather. Dr. Edward I. Rich attending. He completes the family. Four girls and three boys.

Sep 1927

I started the first grade at Washington Elementary School which was located at 33rd and Washington Avenue, Ogden, Utah. I attended this school through the sixth grade and then attended the Jr. high school which was in the South wing of the same school. I attended there through the 10th grade. Activities: Chorus, Drama, Debate. I was also on the staff of the "Pilot" which was the school paper. My favorite teacher was Mrs. Nielson, who was my English teacher for three years.

31 Mar 1929

Baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints by Colin M. Edward, priest, at the Weber College swimming pool, which was located at Jefferson and

Mem still working on this want to do

fore Rose Garber

- 25th Street, Ogden, Utah. I was confirmed a member of the church the same day by my father.
- June 1933 Graduated from primary at the 9th ward, Mt. Ogden Stake, Weber County, Utah.
- Summer, 1936 The family, with the exception of the three oldest girls, went to Yellowstone National Park. Heber almost drowned on this trip. He stepped into a deep hole on the Yellowstone River. A man on a nearby hill heard him yell and ran and pulled him out just in time.
- 20 Feb 1939 My mother and June Compton's mother, held a surprise birthday party for June Compton and me on the occasion of my ~~17~~¹⁶th birthday and June's ~~16~~¹⁵th birthday. They held it at the ward and invited all our friends. The girls wore formals. Boys best suits. Everyone had to wait while June and I dressed in new formals our mothers had made for us. The party was a complete surprise.
- June, 1939 Graduated from Ogden High School, Ogden, Weber, Utah. Our class was the first class to graduate after spending both the Jr. and Sr. year at the new and beautiful Ogden High School which had been built under the auspices of the W.P.A.
- Sep, 1939 Entered Weber College located on Jefferson and 25th Street in Ogden as a Freshman.
- 29 Dec 1939 Had first date with future husband, Howard Tracy Hall. Occasion: All-Stake New Year's dance at the White City Ballroom located between Washington and Jefferson, on 25th Street in Ogden. At that time Weber was a two year Jr. College. Prior to this all three of my older sisters had graduated from Weber College.
- 1939 Was called to be Sunday School teacher for the 6 yr. olds. My first church job.
- September, 1940 Instead of going back to school, I accepted a job to train as a manager of a Woolworth Cafeteria. I had been working part time during 1939 while going to school and during the summer. My manager: Sarah Michaels. A very stern but kind lady.
- 18 July 1941 Became engaged to marry Howard Tracy Hall. The place: a beautiful summer evening at Lester Park near Weber College about 10 p.m. after we had spent his last dime to go to a movie.
- 24 Sep 1941 Married to Howard Tracy Hall in the Salt Lake Temple. ~~Mother~~ ^{mother} Mot didn't go with me. Rudean Allred took us to Salt Lake in his automobile. Florence Hall, Tracy's Mother was with us. The Bishop told Mother he would give her a temple recommend so she could go with us. She said she would wait for Dad Langford

to get ready to go back to the temple. He made it for my brother Jim's mg. and was active thereafter.

Tracy's parents: His mother: Florence Almina Tracy, b. Nov 7, 1886 in Ogden, Utah. His father: Howard Hall, b. June 22. 1887 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. His father was a convert to the church.

- 27 Sept 1941 Our wedding reception at Ogden LDS 9th Ward, corner Porter and 31st Street, Ogden, Utah. Time: 8:30 p.m. My maid of honor: June Compton. Bridesmaids: Barbara Bailey, and Joyce Hansen. Best man: Tracy's brother, Eugene Hall. Before too long Joyce married Tracy's brother, Eugene. *mother made my dress, my sister Lake made my veil*
- Sept 24, 25, 26 Spent these three days on our honeymoon in S.L. City. We stayed at the Mission Motor Lodge, 855 North 2nd West, Cottage #73. We spent some time at the Utah State Fair, and go there often in the fall in remembrance of the occasion. Tracy soon started his senior year at the U of U. He was the only married student in the Chemistry department. This Motel is no longer there. It was torn down. (1994 note.)
- 9 Sept 1941 Tracy and I moved into our first home on 440 University Ave. SL City. Owner: Miss Lucy VanCott, who had once been Dean of Women at the U of U. The furnished apartment consisted of a small sitting room and a sleeping porch. The porch was screened. Very cold in the winter. Kitchen and Bath shared with other students. I spent the next week looking for a job. At end of week went to work at drug store near our home. Within a month transferred to Woolworths in downtown Salt Lake City. I was a change girl. I rushed around taking change to the various counters as they needed it.
- 7 Dec 1941 Pearl Harbor Day. The U.S. declared war on Japan. We realized this was going to make a big difference in our lives. We were sitting in the community kitchen at Lucy's when one of the other roomers came running into the kitchen with the news. We could hardly believe it. Before the war was over Tracy, his brothers Eugene, Wendell, and Donald and my brothers Ernie and Jim would all be in the service.
- Early winter, *spring?* 42 Tracy was offered a full time job at Sperry Mills in Ogden, Utah. He had been working there Saturdays for a year or so. After consulting with Dr. Bonner, who was Chairman of the Chem. Dept., he turned this job down so he could complete his Bachelor's Degree. Wise decision!
- February, 1942 I had a miscarriage. I hadn't even realized I was pregnant, but Miss Van Cott recognized the symptoms and recommended we see our Ogden family Dr., Edward I. Rich, Jr. He performed a d & c in his office.
- 9 June 1942 Tracy graduated from the University of Utah with Honors, receiving the Bachelor's Degree in Physical Chemistry. Graduation exercises were held Tues., 9 June, 10:30 A.M.

- June 1942 Tracy accepted a position as Chemist, Jr. Grade, at the U.S. Bureau of Mines, which was located just East of the University. His boss was Graham Marks, a very nice man who was head of the Spectrograph Lab. Only trouble, he smoked a pipe constantly in the small room which contained the spectrograph equipment. A bonus to the job--the lab encouraged Tracy to work on his Master's degree in Chemistry. Tracy could take off time during the day to take his classes, and make up the time after hours.
- July 1942 I quit my job and became a housewife and we moved a block west to 309 South 13th East St. The apartment had a kitchen, bath and living, but the bed folded down from a closet in the wall. There were two apartments in the small house. It was owned by a Mr. Saunders, who lived next door. (our landlord)
- Early Spring 42 Tracy had his tonsils removed at a Dr. Smith's office in S.L. City. Tracy was a very miserable man for several days. He continued working on his Master's part time.
- 9 May 1943 *Child #1, a daughter, whom we named Sherlene*
Our first child, Sherlene, was born. At 12 noon, Sunday, Mother's day. Place: LDS Hospital, Salt Lake City, Utah. Attending Physician: Demovre R. Skidmore. (now (2003) deceased)
- 1 August 1943 Sherlene was blessed by her Father at the Ogden 18th Ward, Mt. Ogden Stake, Ogden, Utah.
- 8 June 1943 Tracy received his Master of Science Degree in Chemistry from the University of Utah.
- April 1944 We moved into an apartment located in the West side of Tracy's parent's home at 526 27th Street, Ogden, Weber, Utah. Tracy had volunteered for service in the Navy in the face of the impending draft.
- 21 Apr 1944 Tracy was inducted into the U.S. Navy as a Seaman 1st Class, and left for boot camp at the U.S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois. He was assigned to Co. 928, Batn. 42.
- 1 June 1944. Tracy was recommended for a direct commission in the U.S. Navy.
- 23 June 1944 I received my Patriarchal Blessing under the hands of Patriarch William Z. Terry, then Patriarch of the Mt. Ogden Stake in Ogden.
- 16 July to 3 Aug 1944 I spent three weeks with Tracy at Great Lakes. We had a room at Mrs. Ernest Booth's, 805 No. Lewis, Waukegan, Ill. My Mother took care of Sherlene. I worked during the day at Woolworth's while I was there. Trained workers were hard to come by so they were willing to hire me for such a short period.

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- Early Spring 42 Tracy had his tonsils removed at a Dr. Smith's office in S.L. City. Tracy was a very miserable man for several days. He continued working on his Master's part time. *(His health improved after this)*
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- 5 Sept 1944 Tracy received a commission as an Ensign in the U.S. Navy and was assigned to elementary training in gunnery until Sept 16, when he was to leave for Plattsburg, New York officer's indoctrination. < This was the equivalent of boot camp for officers. It was cold at Plattsburg. Sept 5 is also my Father's birthday.
- 16 Sept 1944 Tracy spent a few days leave with Sherlene and me in Ogden before leaving for Plattsburg, N.Y.
- 20 Oct 1944 *which I didn't have.* I was operated on for a suspected ovarian cyst and ~~appendicitis~~ at Dee Hospital, Ogden, Weber, Utah. I ran into a knife-happy doctor. The hospital soon after that put special restraints on this doctor. I was anxious to get it over so I could join Tracy.
- 22 Nov 1944 Tracy completed his indoctrination training and came home for a brief leave before ~~for~~ reporting for advanced training in Hollywood, Fla. He was to receive ~~the~~ training to be a landing craft commander in the Pacific. Rumors were that an invasion of Japan was imminent and that the Navy was going to need a lot of PT boat commanders.
- 1 Dec 1944 Tracy, Sherlene and I arrived in Hollywood, Fla. Tracy took his training at the Hollywood Beach Hotel, which had been converted from a resort hotel to a naval training center. Sherlene had fun going into the secret training classes with the young officers at the hotel. Towards the end of the ~~two~~ month training period, a notice appeared on a bulletin board stating that there were three openings < for the electronics and radar training class at Bowdoin College in Maine. Of all interviewed, 20 were selected to take the test and of these one Chemist (Tracy), and two Chem Engineers were top contenders and chosen to fill the vacancies. It meant that there would be nine months of radar schooling before Tracy was assigned to a ship. We were jubilant.
- 6 Feb 1945 We arrived from Sunny Hollywood Beach, Florida, to deep snow and cold at Brunswick Maine, where Tracy commenced his training at Bowdoin College. We were there until ~~June~~ *then went to Boston.*
- June, 1945 when we arrived in Boston, Tracy studied Radar and electronics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University. We shared a Harvard Professor's home at 37 Trowbridge St. in Cambridge, Mass, just around the square from Harvard, University, with Jack and Dorothy Widick and their baby son, Charles, who was a little younger than Sherlene.
- 2 May 1945 V.E. Day. The surrender of Germany to the Allies.
- 20 Aug 1945. Sherlene and I left Cambridge by train to return to Ogden, Utah, to await the birth of our second child because Tracy's graduation from radar school and subsequent assignment to a

- ship would too closely coincide with the scheduled arrival of Jr. II.
- 2 Sept 1945 V-J Day. The Japanese surrendered to the allies after the bombing of Hiroshima with an atomic bomb. End of War.
- 16 Oct 1945 Tracy graduated from Radar School at M.I.T. Although we were relieved that the war was over, Tracy was somewhat disappointed that he wouldn't get to practice what he had trained for during the last nine months.
- Sept 1945 I moved into my father's apartment on 2404 Madison Ave., Ogden, Apt. 4. There was a little boy just Sherlene's age living there. At this apt. I had my first experience upholstering a couch. I had never been able to learn to use a thimble. I had to learn to use a thimble on that couch!
- 19 Oct 1945 Our first son and second child, Howard Tracy Hall, Jr. was born at Hillfield Station Hospital, Hillfield, Davis Co., Utah. Time: 4:15 a.m. Weight: 6 lbs, 11 oz. Length 20 inches. Attending physician: Dr. G.D. Oldham. The cost: About \$25. For our food.
- 19 Oct 1945: Tracy arrived in Ogden at 7:30 a.m., three hours and fifteen minutes after Tracy Jr. was born. He had a brief leave enroute to San Francisco to board a ship for Hawaii, where he was to be assigned to a ship.
- 9 Nov 1945 Tracy sailed aboard the USS Saratoga from San Francisco to Pearl Harbor.
- 14 Nov 1945 Tracy arrived in Hawaii.
- 13 Dec 1945 Tracy received assignment to USS Teton, AGC #14, a battleship.
- 16 Dec 1945 Tracy sailed from Pearl Harbor aboard the USS Colorado, to return to San Francisco to pick up his ship. The USS Teton was to be on a nine month's duty in the Orient.
- 22 Dec 1945 Howard Tracy Hall, Jr. was given a name and a blessing by his uncle, Eugene M. Hall, at the Ogden 18th Ward, Mt. Ogden Stake, Ogden, Weber Co., Utah.
- 15 Feb 1946 Tracy was detached from ship and reassigned to Oakland Naval Base to await discharge from the service. Hooray! No nine months in the Orient.
- 1 Mar 1946 Sherlene, ~~and~~ Tracy Jr, and I arrived at Alameda, CA, from Ogden, Utah to join Tracy. We lived in navy housing. Our Address: #121-D Brush Street, Woodstock Housing Project, Alameda, CA. Here we had our first experience with fleas. The fleas loved me but left Tracy entirely alone.

fellowship and we also received funds from the G.I. Bill of Rights. Many of World War II veterans were able to get college educations because of this bill. In my opinion this was the smartest thing our government ever did because those veterans graduated, got good paying jobs and more than paid back the cost of the G.I. Bill in taxes.

Oct, 1946, *Oct,* We were one of the first families to move into the U's married student housing project, "Stadium Village". Our address: 1556 E. Delta. Our immediate neighbors: (our unit was on the south end of the building). The McCombers were next door to the north, then the Claytons. I don't remember the names of the people in the last unit on the north. There were four units in one long building. We had a small kitchen, a bath with only a shower and a toilet, a long living room-dining room, and two bedrooms. Lane and June Compton lived behind us to the East in a two story unit. Tracy's brother, Eugene, and his wife also lived in the Village. We attended the University Ward. Lynn Bennion was the S.S. teacher. We made many life-long friends while
in the Village.

15 Feb 1947 Our second son and third child, David Richard, was born at the LDS hospital, S.L. City, Utah at 5:45 p.m. . Wt: 6 lbs, 11 and 1/2 ozs. Length: 20 inches. Attending physician: Demoivre Skidmore.

1947 Soon after David's birth a student branch was organized . We met in in the University Ward at a different time from the regular ward members. Reed Burnett became Branch President. George Hill, Jr. S.S. Superintendant, and I was asked to be the Jr. S.S. Supervisor.

4 May 1947 David Richard Hall was blessed by his father, Howard Tracy Hall, at the University Ward, Emigration Stake, S.L.C., S.L., Utah. Since I was in the Jr. S.S., David became his Father's baby.

28 Aug 1948 Tracy received his PhD in Physical Chemistry from the U. of U. Proud day for us and for his parents.

Sept 1948
1948, *Sept* September Tracy made a tour of some of the leading industrial laboratories in

- 19 Apr 1946 Tracy received his honorable discharge from the navy. We all moved back to 2404 Madison Ave., Ogden. Tracy commuted between Ogden and Salt Lake City, where he was once more employed at the Bureau of mines.
- Sept, 1946 Tracy left Ogden to go to LaFayette, Indiana, to attend Purdue University to do graduate work towards his PhD. He had been promised housing for his family. He found that the housing was still in the blue-print stage. Disappointed, Tracy decided to return to the U of U. The department head at Purdue told him that if he left he would blackball him from getting into any university graduate program.
- Oct, 1946 Tracy returned to Utah and registered at the U of U. He did his grad work under Dr. Henry Eyring, world-reknowned physical chemist. Dr. Eyring had just transferred to the U from Princeton University. He and his wife Mildred were very kind to us, and we have felt their kindly influence throughout our life. The University gave Tracy a fellowship, and we also received funds from the G.I. Bill of Rights.
- double space* Many World War II veterans were able to get college educations because of this bill. In my opinion this was one of the smartest things our congress ever did, because those veterans graduated from college, got good paying jobs, and more than paid back, in taxes, the cost of the G.I. Bill.
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Tracy received his Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from the U. of U. A proud day for us and for his parents.

Sept, 1948

Tracy made a tour of several research laboratories that had invited him to visit their laboratories to see if they wanted to employ him. He had invitations from DuPont, (three different places), Union Carbide, in New York City, Eastman Kodak, and several other labs. G.E. consented to let him stop in Schenectady, but had not given him an invitation. After his return he received offers from every place he visited, but he delayed accepting an offer as he was hoping to hear from G.E. G.E. finally came through and it was the best offer, financially, he received.

8 Oct 1948

We arrived in Schenectady, New York, where Tracy had accepted a position as Research Associate with the G.E. Research Laboratory. We had driven across country in an old car which Tracy's brother, Eugene, had bought to recondition and sell. The upholstery inside was missing. The car had been in an accident, and if you looked at the car approaching you from the front, it leaned noticeably. But it ran, and it got us to Schenectady. We called the car "Old Betsy." We borrowed two hundred dollars from Dad Langford to get us there. G.E. had promised us housing, but on arrival in Schenectady, we found that the lab had not even made temporary arrangements for us. We stayed the first night at the hotel (motels were nonexistent.) Housing was extremely tight all over the U.S. and especially so in Schenectady. The Sterling Bartons (Stadium Village alumnae) took us in until we could find lodging. We stayed with those gentle and generous people for six weeks until we finally moved to 409 Bedford Rd, Schenectady. The Bartons had a small, two-bedroom house and three children. We had three children. It was very crowded, but Helen and Stirling never complained.

Oct, 1948

(and such

The LDS Branch in Schenectady was hard up for help. Before I had even gone to church the branch president called and asked me to be R.S. president. I declined, as I did not drive a car (a call frightened me). I settled instead for homemaking leader. Tracy was soon made the S.S. superintendent.

7 June 1949

Our 2nd daughter and fourth child, Elizabeth Hall, was born at Ellis Hospital, Schenectady, New York. Wt: 8 lbs 8 1/2 oz., Length: 20 inches. Attending physician: Dr. William Mallia. Elizabeth was born with partially clubbed feet. The first time I saw her, she had casts to the knees on both her little legs. She had to wear casts for a couple of months, but the correction was one hundred percent.

(she's one of our beauty queens)

3 July 1949

Elizabeth was blessed by her father, Howard Tracy Hall, at the YMCA, the Schenectady Branch, Albany-Hudson N.Y. District.

- 1949 My church activities this year: 2nd counselor, Relief Society. The R.S. president was Shirley Christensen, and the 1st counselor was Elaine Maddock. Secretary: Eleanor Christensen. The branch was rapidly growing as newly graduated LDS electrical engineers joined G.E.
- 1949 The branch decided to build a chapel. At that time the church let the members work out their building-fund donations in labor. Much bonding occurred among those men while they were building that chapel. The chapel was located at Lexington and Grand Blvd. The membership consisted of twenty-seven families. Almost all young families. Our branch president was Jack Hopper, and although he and his wife, Olga, were only about ten years our senior, they were truly "mother" and "father" to all the branch members.
- May, 1950 We purchased our first new car-- a two-door Ford, blue-white sedan, 1950 model. At this time, William Heffernan, a convert in the branch, was building us a home on Vly Road in Colonie, Albany, Niskayuna, New York. It was located almost in the geographic center of the three cities of Albany, Schenectady and Troy. Our rented home on Bedford Road had been sold, and so we moved temporarily to the Marion Ave. Housing Project in Schenectady. *until the home could be finished.*
- 20 June 1950 We made a trip to Utah in our new car to visit our parents in Ogden, Utah. On our way home while traveling near Atlantic, Iowa, we turned our car over into a fifteen foot deep, muddy, culvert. No one was hurt, but we were all badly shaken. The car was repaired enough to get us home to Schenectady. Several months later our insurance paid for replacement of the car, and Tracy traveled to Detroit to pick the car up. *(Describe this car)*
- August, 1950 Our R.S. president, Shirley Christensen, contracted polio and when she was over the critical stage, she was moved via train back to her parents' home in Salt Lake City. She made almost a complete recovery, but her husband, Hal, was transferred to S.L. and they never returned to Schenectady. Elaine Maddock was made R.S. president with myself as first counselor and Helen Barton as 2nd counselor. Eleanor Christensen remained *as* secretary. *Eleanor*
- 23 Dec 1950 Christmas present. We moved into our completed home on Vly Rd. Our mailing address was Box 117, Niskayuna, N.Y. We picked up our mail at the corner Post Office on Troy Rd.
- Mar 12 1950 President George Q. Morris, then president of the Eastern States Mission, turned the first shovel of dirt at our new chapel site.
- 30 May 1951 Thirty ~~new~~ male members dug the trenches for the footings and foundations of the chapel. These few men not only raised the

money for the building, but also furnished all the labor, including the brick-laying, to build the chapel. The women in the branch were all chapel widows during the next year or so. I would pack two lunches for Tracy, one for him to eat at noon at the lab, and one for his supper at the chapel site.

- 15 July 1951 Sherlene Hall was baptized in the Susquehanna River near Harmony, Pennsylvania. Many members of the branch traveled to Harmony on this warm Sunday afternoon. We picked out a site that we thought might be near where Joseph Smith was baptized. Sherlene, Richard Hopper, and Samuel Bergraff were baptized by their fathers; and Jean Wood was baptized by her husband. Afterwards we spread tablecloths and blankets on the ground and had a picnic.
- Sept, 1951 Tracy and Sherlene and I made a trip to see the Book of Mormon Pageant at Palmyra, N.Y. *Branch members took care of the other children*
- 24 Sept 1952 To celebrate our 11th wedding anniversary, Tracy and I made a trip to Montreal, Canada. *our first glimpse at a highly catholic society. We were surprised to say Good Hoppers allowed on their cathedral grounds.*
- 23 Jan 1952 Virginia Hall, our third daughter and fifth child, was born at Ellis Hospital, Schenectady, Schenectady Co., New York, at 10:14 a.m. Wt: 7 lbs 14 oz. Length 20 inches. Attending physician: Dr. Byrne Mayer, our family doctor while we were in New York.
- 2 Mar 1952 Virginia was blessed by her father, H. Tracy Hall, at the Schenectady Y.M.C.A.
- 1952 ~~1952~~ I became R.S. President this year. My first counselor: Helen Barton. 2nd counselor: Jean Wood. Secretary-Treasurer: June Tracy Gayek. (Tracy's cousin.)
- 1952 Council, → Tracy became a member of the Albany-Hudson District with special assignment to the Sunday School.
- 5 April 1953 We held our first meetings (S.S. and sacrament meeting) in the new Chapel. The R.S. officers had acted as a committee to plan and direct the interior decorations. We had also held dinners, bazaars, etc. to raise money for furnishings and dishes for the kitchen. Tracy spent about 2,000 hours time helping to build this chapel.
- Summer, 1953 The ACS meeting was to be held in California this year, so for our three-weeks vacation we took the children, by train, to visit their grandparents in Ogden, Utah. Tracy traveled on to California for the meeting.
- 20 Oct 1953 Charlotte Hall, our fourth daughter and 6th child, was born at Bellevue Maternity Hospital, Niskayuna, Niskayuna, N. Y. at

1:49 a.m. Weight: 7 lbs 5 ozs. Length: 19 inches. Attending physician; Byrne W. Mayer.

6 Dec 1953 Charlotte was blessed by her father, Elder H. Tracy Hall, at the new Schenectady Branch Chapel, Schenectady, Schenectady Co., Schenectady Branch, Albany-Hudson District, New York.

5 Dec 1953 Howard Tracy Hall, Jr., was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the baptismal font of the new Schenectady Branch Chapel, by his father, H. Tracy Hall, Sr.

Fall, 1954 I was set apart as president of the Albany-Hudson District Relief Society. My first counselor: Marjory Holman. Second counselor: Lucille Soule; secretary: June Gayek. *June was a cousin of Tracy's*

16 Dec 1955 Probably the most important day in Tracy's career as a scientist. This day he made the historic run in his high-pressure apparatus called "The Belt," which produced the first "man-made diamonds," the successful culmination of about three years of research at the General Electric Research Laboratory located at the Knolls, in Niskayuna, New York, near Schenectady. Other scientists connected with the high-pressure group at the research laboratory were: Dr. Francis Bundy, Dr. Herb Strong, and Dr. Robert Wentorf. Anthony J. Nerad was Tracy's boss and head of the "Mechanical Investigations" department. *His boss, Dr. Nerad* Abraham Marshall was head of "Chemistry" division and Dr. Chauncey G. Suits was "Vice President in charge of the research." Lab assistants to Strong and Bundy were James E. Cheney and Harold P. Bovenkerk.

15 Feb 1955 General Electric's Research Laboratory, named "The Knolls," held the biggest press release in the history of the company to announce their "Man-made Diamonds" It made front page news on almost every paper in the country. G.E.'s stock rose abruptly. One account said that the total increase of G.E. stock was worth more than the value of the DeBeers company. (DeBeers is the company which controls the world's supply of natural diamonds.) The lab received letters from diamond cutters in Holland and Belgium wanting to know if they *are were* "out of business." Tracy is unsatisfied with the treatment he received during the time he made diamonds and *the subsequent* *raise* which he received *subsequent* to the discovery. He is seriously looking for another position. *for*

*added
note.
an added "bonus" to
give a certain number
of G.E. stock to any
local G.E. baby born
on the anniversary
date*

2 Apr 1955 Our son David Richard Hall was baptised in the Schenectady Branch baptismal font by Priest Edwin Lawrence Caulford. The Branch President wanted Edwin to have the experience of baptising someone. *David has never quite forgiven Tracy for that -*

24 Apr 1955 David was confirmed a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints by his father, Elder H. Tracy Hall, Sr. at

the Schenectady Branch Chapel, corner of Lexington and Grand Blvd., Schenectady, Schenectady Co., New York.

- 23 Mar 1955 Dr. Phillip Ableson of the Geophysical Lab. of the Carnegie Institute visited our home. He wants Tracy to join their lab in Washington D.C. Tracy told him that he had been contacted by the Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, and that he was considering taking a position there. Dr. Harvey Fletcher had told him he could have his choice of Dean of Science and Engineering or Director of Research. Fletcher was holding down both posts at the time.
- 31 Mar 1955 Tracy flew to Utah to visit the BYU. It was a beautiful, clear spring day.
- 25 Apr 1955 Tracy officially accepted the position of Director of Research at BYU after talking with the Y's President, Dr. Ernest Wilkinsen on the telephone. The recommendation from Dr. Fletcher had been buried under paper on Pres. Wilkinson's desk for several weeks.
- 19 June 1955 Sherlene graduated from Primary.
- 11 July 1955 We sold our home on Vly Rd. in Colonie, Albany Co., New York to Angus Lighthall and Ruth Waltermeyer of Schenectady for \$10,000.
- 1955, July We took the older children to Washington D.C. and New York City for a last look at the East before moving to Provo. Manita Fowler kept Charlotte and Virginia for me.
- 1955, July We bought a new 1955 green Ford stationwagon to make our westward trip more comfortable.
- 18 Aug 1955 We held the closing on our house at the Schenectady Trust Co., in Schenectady, New York. Fortunately, these buyers had cash and so we were able to close before leaving New York.
- 19 Aug 1955 We drove out of our back drive on Vly Rd in Colonie, Albany, New York, leaving behind many dear friends and neighbors. We were pulling a trailer loaded with household goods which we later found weighed over 3,000 lb. In Painsville, Ohio, our trailer hitch broke at night and we had a near accident. We had it fixed next day (Sunday) and were on our way again.
- 26 Aug 1955 We arrived at 3292 Orchard Ave., Ogden, Utah, the home of grandparents Langford. We stayed with them while we looked for a house to buy in Provo.
- 1955, October We rented a small, block house on 460 N, 1200 West, Orem, Utah, rented from Mr. Max Brady. The next few months, I spent designing a home for us to build on a lot we had bought about a mile north of the BYU science building in the Beesley