

Chronological Personal Record of Ida-Rose Langford

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20 Feb 1921 I was born in Birch Creek, near Ogden, Weber, Utah. We were then living in a small, three room 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 copper mines. 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 that 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.

21 July 1925 My brother, Ernest Fountain Jr. was born into our family, Dr. Edward I. Rich, attending. Named for his father. First son.

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 located at 33rd and Washington Avenue, Ogden, Utah. I attended this school through the sixth grade and then attended the Jr. high school, 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", the school paper. My favorite teacher was Mrs. Nielson, my English teacher for three years.

31 Mar 1929 Baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints by Colin M. Edward, priest, at the Weber College swimming pool, which was located at Jefferson and

1921 to
Feb 1928

25th Street, Ogden, Utah. I was confirmed a member of the Church the same day by my father.

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- 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 17th birthday and June's 16th 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.
- 1939 This year my father and mother bought ten acres at the end of Orchard Avenue and began a new home. When the basement was finished, the family moved into it. Address: 1992 Orchard Ave. I lived in this house until I was married .
- June, 1939 Graduated from Ogden High School, Ogden, Weber, Utah. Our class was the first class to graduate after spending both the Junior and Senior year at the new and beautiful Ogden High School which had been built under the auspices of the W.P.A.
- Sep, 1939 Entered as a freshman at Weber College located at Jefferson and 25th Street in Ogden.
- 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 Junior 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 six year olds, My first church job.
- Sep, 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 was Sarah Michaels, 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. 3
- 1940-41 During these years and probably due to the caustic soaps in the dishwashing water at Woolworths, I developed severe eczema on my hands and arms. I had to transfer out of the cafeteria to the floor of the store. I have had to fight this allergy ever since. I became accustomed to wearing rubber gloves whenever I worked in soap and water until dishwashing machines came to my rescue.
- 24 Sep 1941 Married to Howard Tracy Hall in the Salt Lake Temple. Mother 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 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 marriage 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. Tracy was the oldest of five boys in the family. Brothers: Eugene, Donald, Wendell, and Delbert.
- 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 Hansen married Tracy's brother, Eugene.
- 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. S.L. 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 drugstore 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, 4
- his brothers Eugene, Wendell, and Donald and my brothers Ernie and Jim would all be in the service. My sister Iola's husband, Thomas Spencer, and my sister Irma's husband, Irving Wilcox, were also in the service.
- Spring, 1941 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 Doctor Bonner, who was Chairman of the Chem. Dept., Tracy turned this job down so he could complete his Bachelor's Degree. Wise decision!
- Feb 1942 I had a miscarriage. I hadn't even realized I was pregnant, but Miss Van Cott recognized the symptoms and recommended we consult our family doctor in Ogden. I was only about six weeks pregnant.
- 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; 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.
- 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 Our first child, Sherlene, was born. At 12 noon, Sunday, Mother's day. Place: LDS Hospital, Salt Lake City, Utah. Attending physician: Demoivre R. Skidmore. Tracy brought me a dozen red roses. My first mother's day present.
- 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 parents' 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. Problem: His blood pressure was a little high. He kept taking the test, but it stayed the same. The Chief Medical officer finally scratched the real pressure and put in an acceptable one.
- 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 Woolworths while I was there. Trained workers were hard to come by, so they were willing to hire me for such a short period.
- 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 for officers' indoctrination--was the equivalent of boot camp for officers. It was cold at Plattsburg. 16 September 1944, Tracy spent a few days leave with Sherlene and me in Ogden before leaving for Plattsburg, N.Y.
- 20 Oct 1944 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.
- 22 Nov 1944 Tracy completed his indoctrination training and came home for a brief leave before reporting for advanced training in Hollywood, Fla. He was to be trained 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, Florida. Tracy took his training at the Hollywood Beach Hotel, which had been converted from a resort hotel to a naval training center. Sherlene (about 18 months of age) had fun going into the secret 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 chemical engineers were top contenders and were chosen to fill the vacancies. It meant 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.
- 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. a.m. Weight: 6 lbs, 11 oz. Length 20 inches. Attending physician: Dr. G. D. Oldham. The cost: About \$25. The hospital was a military hospital so they only charged for the food served to us during our five day stay. He was our bargain baby.
- Time: 4:15
- 19 Oct 1945 Tracy arrived in Ogden at 7:30 a.m., three hours and fifteen minutes after Tracy Jr. was born. He was on a brief leave

enroute to San Francisco, where he would board a ship for Hawaii to receive his assignment.

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- 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 Because Tracy was so close to having enough time to be discharged from the service, he was detached from ship at San Francisco, and reassigned to Oakland Naval Base to await his discharge. Hooray! No nine months in the Orient.
- 1 Mar 1946 Sherlene and Tracy Jr. and I arrived at Alameda, California, 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.
- 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 Ph.D. 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 graduate 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.

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, had good paying jobs, and more than paid back, in taxes, the cost of the G.I. Bill. 8

Oct, 1946

We were one of the first families to move into the U's married student housing project, "Stadium Village." Our address: 1556 E. Delta. We were in one of the single story units. Each unit had four apartments. Our immediate neighbors (our apartment was on the south end of the building): the McCombers, were next door to the north, then the Emmett Claytons. I don't remember the names of the people in the last unit. Each apartment contained a small bath, a long living room-dining room, a small alcove kitchen, 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 formed many life-long friends in the two years we were in the Village. The housing we were in had housed Japanese US citizens, who were interned because of their Japanese heritage. A black mark for our nation.

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: Demolive Skidmore. Grandmother Langford came down to help.

1947

Soon after David's birth a student Branch was organized. We met in the University Ward at a different time from the regular ward members. Reed Burnett became branch president, George R. Hill, Jr., S.S. superintendent, and I was called 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., Utah. Since I was in the Jr. sunday school every Sunday, David became his father's baby.

28 Aug 1948

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.

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Oct, 1948

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 I became 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 lb., 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.

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. 10
- 20 June 1950 We made a trip to Utah in our new car to visit our parents in Ogden, Utah. On our way back to Schenectady, 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. Several months later our insurance paid for replacement of the car, and Tracy traveled to Detroit to take delivery and drive it home.
- 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 over the next year. Her husband, Hal, was transferred to S.L., and they never returned to Schenectady. Elaine Maddock was made R.S. President with me as first counselor and Helen Barton as 2nd counselor. Eleanor Christensen remained secretary.
- 23 Dec 1950 Christmas present. We moved into our completed home on Vly Road. 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.
- Thirty 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.	11
24 Sept 1952	To celebrate our 11th wedding anniversary, Tracy and I made a trip to Montreal, Canada.	
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	I became R.S. president this year. My first counselor: Helen Barton., second counselor: Jean Wood. Secretary-Treasurer: June Tracy Gayek, Tracy's cousin.	
1952	Tracy became a member of the Albany-Hudson District Council, 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 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 baptised 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.	

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 *diamond project* Marshall was head of the "Chemistry" division and Dr. Chauncey G. Suits was "Vice President in charge of research." Lab assistants to Strong and Bundy were James E. Cheney and Harold P. Bovenkerk.

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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 were "out of business." Tracy was dissatisfied with the treatment he received during the time he made diamonds and the raise he received subsequently. He started to seriously looking for another position.

2 Apr 1955

Our son David Richard Hall was baptized in the Schenectady Branch baptisimal font by Priest Edwin Lawrence Caulford. The branch president wanted Edwin to have the experience of baptizing someone.

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 wanted Tracy to join the lab in Washington, D.C. Tracy told him that he had been contacted by ~~the~~ 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 positions at the time.

31 Mar 1955

Tracy flew to Utah to visit the BYU. It was a beautiful, clear spring day. He was impressed by the beauty of the valley.

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.

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- 19 June 1955 Sherlene graduated from Primary in Schenectady.
- 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, our 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. We had been in Schenectady for seven years.
- 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 North, 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 Subdivision. While we were in Orem, I taught a sunday school class and Tracy was on the S.S. stake board.
- 1955, October Worried that a secrecy order the Commerce Dept. of the US Government had placed on GE's diamond patents meant that he could no longer work in the field of high pressure (which is what GE had assured him was the case), Tracy made a trip to Washington D.C. to get a clarification of the situation. Result: He could *not* work in the equipment he had invented at GE (the Belt). The Commerce Dept assured him that if he could devise new designs, he could publish freely. They also assured him they would not put another secrecy order on any subsequent inventions he might perfect. He also saw the National Science Foundation people in D.C. They instructed him to submit a proposal for funds to proceed with his research. While there, he picked up a rickettsial disease, from which he suffered during the next six weeks or so. Our

new family doctor, Dr. Scott Wallace, finally brought the disease under control.

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- 1956, March The Carnegie Institute in D.C. (through the influence of Dr. Phillip Ableson of the same lab) offered Tracy a grant of \$10,000, so he could start design work immediately. This was outside regular policy, which is to spend their funds only on institute-sponsored projects. We think the National Science Foundation was afraid of G.E. Bless Dr. Ableson. The grant meant that Tracy would have the financial means to try to invent a new press.
- 1956, June Tracy was invited to give a talk at the Berkeley Conference on High Pressure in California. This talk attracted nation-wide interest, even appearing in many non technical publications of national distribution. From this talk he gained a reputation as a good speaker and an authority on high-pressure. Invitations to speak on high pressure flooded in.
- 1 July 1956 We moved into our completed home at 1711 N Lambert Lane, Provo, Utah. We did all our own painting and wood finishing. The place was pretty empty. The only furniture we had to put in our new home was what we brought from Schenectady, namely, a table and chairs and our beds. The home was built for us by contractors LaDell Peterson and Ted Clegg. They built us a good home. It was finished in six months. Our new ward was the Pleasant View 1 Ward and our Bishop was Harold Colvin. Big plus. A large, established ward meant that a member only needed to hold down one church calling.
- July, 1956 Tracy's grant for \$25,000. from the National Science Foundation came through. This grant was for the purpose of covering expenses, etc., incurred in the attempt to develop new high-pressure, high-temperature apparatus. He also received a grant from the army. From then on Tracy had no problem getting research money for his high-pressure work.
- August, 1956 Tracy finished putting in a sprinkling system and a new lawn on our property. We took time off from our labors to take the Eugene Hall cousins, Randy and Alan, and our own children to visit Timpanogos Cave. Charlotte, our youngest at the time, would have walked at least some of the way, but she was afraid of the machines (which she called "put-puts") being used to black top the trails to the cave. So we had to carry her all the way to and from the cave. Fortunately she was our "light weight."
- October, 1956 I registered for a landscaping class from Dr. Reimchisell. I also signed up for an adolescent psychology class from Charles Taylor, who lived in our ward. He covered himself by explaining that the competition for A's was very fierce in the class, and if a student was used to getting A's, to plan to be

satisfied with a B or a C. (I got an A.) With teenagers on the horizon, I thought I might need some ammunition.

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- 29 Nov 1956 Sherlene Hall given a patriarchal blessing by Patriarch Charles S. Clark.
- 20 October 1957 Howard Tracy Hall, Jr. graduated from primary at the Pleasant View Ward, East Sharon Stake.
- 20 Oct 1957 Howard Tracy Hall, Jr. ordained a deacon at the Pleasant View Ward Chapel, East Sharon Stake, Provo, Utah County, Utah, by his father, Elder H. Tracy Hall, Sr.
- 23 June 1957 Elizabeth Hall was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints in the baptismal font at the East Sharon Stake Center, Provo, Utah, by her father, Elder H. Tracy Hall, Sr.
- Sep, 1958 I accepted a primary calling as Blazer Teacher. I had 14 boys in my first class, including David. Tracy, about the same time, became stake Jr. M-Men leader. He had been holding this job in the ward, also. He was a home teacher, and I was a R.S. visiting teacher.
- 1958, January Tracy was elected to the Timpanogos Club which meets at the Hotel Utah, in S.L.C., every third Thursday in the month. This club is made up of civic, university, and businessmen. Dr. Ernest Wilkinson nominated him. He has been a member ever since.
- 9 Feb 1958 Patriarch Charles S. Clark, PV1 Ward member and patriarch of Sharon East Stake, gave Howard Tracy Hall Jr., a patriarchal blessing.
- Note: Because of the many professional activities that Tracy had in his many years at the BYU, we decided that these activities should appear in a separate chronological professional history for him.