

Wendell H. Hall was born April 10, 1923 in Ogden, Utah to Howard and Florence Tracy Hall, deeply beloved parents to whom he owes so much. As a young boy he lived in Marriott, Utah, where he enjoyed fishing and swimming in the creek bordering their farm, never losing thereafter his love of the great outdoors.

After moving to Ogden at age 10, he continued his education with unforgettable teachers at Lewis Elementary/Jr. High, Ogden High School and Weber College (later, Weber State University). His studies were interrupted by World War II and combat in France, Germany, Austria, and a forward thrust into Italy through the Brenner Pass as the war ended. While in basic training in Texas, he was appointed L.D.S. group leader of the 103rd Infantry Division and conducted services there and twice in France and Austria. Protestant chaplains were always extremely cordial and helpful in arranging meeting times and places for him. No services in Germany. No lulls in the battles there.

Shortly after his return home, he served as an L.D.S. missionary in Argentina and was the district leader in each area where he was assigned. An extension of six months was given him so he could return home with his brother Donald, who was serving in the same mission. Home again, the two of them served as regional missionaries—both of them in the Weber-Davis County area, Wendell also in Salt Lake City.

He continued his education at Weber College, the Univ. of Utah, the Univ. of Vienna (on a Fulbright Scholarship), La Universidad Interamericana and the Univ. of Michigan. His doctoral dissertation, reflecting his great love for Latin America and its people, was *La situación social del indio ecuatoriano según las novelas de Jorge Icaza*.

He was chairman of the foreign language departments at Northland College, Ashland, WI and Weber College. Then the U.S. Information Agency called him to go to Chile during the depth of the Cold War to help combat Communist propaganda threatening to make this country so dear to his heart a second Cuba. In appreciation of his achievements, the Valparaíso library of the Instituto Chileno-Norteamericano de Cultura de Valparaíso y Viña del Mar was given the name Biblioteca Wendell H. Hall.

On returning home after four years in Chile he became a professor of Spanish at Brigham Young University, retiring in 1986. Though he taught courses in Linguistics, Literature, Culture and Pedagogy, his major interest was the adaptation of modern media for foreign language learning (guaranteed to capture and retain students' interest) including radio & TV programs and motion pictures for Spanish, German, French, Italian, Portuguese and Latin in the form of microcomputer programs, books, laser disks, internet programs and CDs. Selections from these, together with additional items are still available on the world-wide web.

He was a mission president in Argentina 1981-84. A highlight was the donating of blood by himself and missionaries for Argentine soldiers fighting in the Falkland Islands War. A general authority expressed that without this humane gesture the church could have said goodbye to any further missionary activity there. Later Wendell was called to preside over the MTC in Santiago, Chile 1989-90. Most of his success in this and all of his endeavors he attributes to his able, loving wife and the support of their beloved children, whether on the scene or from afar.

He married Merrill Evelyn Watkins on August 25, 1950 in the Logan L.D.S. Temple. They are the parents of six children: John W. Hall (Sarah), Fargo, ND, Marjean Brooks (Richard), Provo, UT, Wendy Petersen (Sandy), Rockwall, TX, Anna Ashcroft (Marvin), Clovis, CA, Teresa Larsen (Joe), Provo, UT, Carolyn Marriott (Jim), Tacoma, WA. They have 36 darling

grandchildren and 18 adorable great-grandchildren.