

WARREN LONGHURST**HISTORY OF WARREN LONGHURST**

Warren the 10th and youngest child of William Henry and Ann Preston Longhurst was born 2 March 1868 in Bountiful, Davis Co., Utah. When he was only 5 years 9 months and 9 days old his mother passed away on the 11th December 1873 in Woodruff, Rich Co., Utah. They had moved there when he was about 3 years old. His two older sisters were married, so he and his seven brothers, along with their father were cared for by his older sister, Mercy Marintha, who was only 15 years old. He was baptized when he was 8 years old on 14 April 1876.

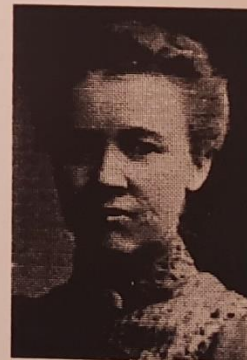


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Marintha married George A. Whittington, a Texas cowboy, on 12 Jan. 1876 and he continued living with them. They stayed in Woodruff until 1880 when they moved to Garden City, Rich Co., Utah. territory. He was only 12 years old at this time but he and his brothers and brother-in-law had a small farm (a partnership). They raised a lot of hogs and his job was to take care of them. He was often called the "Pig Feeder", a name he really didn't appreciate too much. Eventually their partnership was dissolved. However, he and his brother-in-law agreed to stay together. Their share was 12 acres, a lot, one old mare and colt, and a few trinkets. This proved too small to make a living.

Warren heard about Star Valley, where he went and got a place and started a house. He had been keeping company with a Miss Allred during the last 5 years. They were engaged on the 15th April 1888. He and Myra Irene were married 2 Oct 1889 in the Logan Temple by Elder M. W. Merrill.

Myra's parents accompanied them. They returned to Garden City and on the 4th Oct., had a party (reception) where they received many gifts from friends and relatives. Among them was a nice cupboard, flour bin, and clothes cupboard all built by his father, who was 73 years old at the time and very feeble. This caused them to appreciate them even more. At the party he and Myra played the organ and accordion. Some of the tunes were Peek-a-Boo and Little Maude. There was also dancing, singing and reciting which made for an enjoyable evening.



Myra Allred

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They left for Star Valley on 7 Oct. and arrived there on the 11th. However they decided to return to Garden City for the winter as their home was not finished. They lived with Marantha and George in one room. In the spring, May 23, 1890, they returned to Star Valley where they learned of the death of his father on 17th May. His father had been living with his brother in Idaho. While they were finishing their home they lived in a tent.

They planted crops and a garden. In the fall they harvested 92 bushels of wheat and some potatoes, which he sold. Myra told him when he left with the produce to try to get four or five dollars for spending money if he could. It was from this produce that they bought their winter supplies. To his delight, after buying the supplies he had \$100 in cash money. They felt that God had greatly blessed them, and acknowledged his hand in it.

Myra's father was called to go to Mexico as were many others, on account of the principle that they were (living) in (Polygamy)? This was in the fall of 1890. Her mother decided to stay with them until spring. However, there was a chance for a school teacher in Mexico so Mr. Allred sent for her. She wanted Warren and Myra to go too, but they were content where they were, and told her that they would leave it in the hands of the Lord. They were very close, but they bid her good bye on 15 Dec 1890. By this time her brothers had left the valley thus leaving them without any relatives around.

When they had returned to Star Valley earlier they learned that another party, Charles Cazier, was trying to claim part of their land. Then in June 1891, Warren found out the Mr. Cazier was on his way to Evanston, Wyoming to file on the land that was in dispute between them. Warren had tried repeatedly to settle their differences, but Mr. Cazier would not listen. Warren went to the Bishop and asked what he should do. He was told to saddle his horse and get to the courthouse in Evanston before Mr. Cazier. This he was able to do by riding two nights. He took his Bishop, J. C. Dewey and Harvey Allred as witnesses. In Evanston he hired a lawyer, but a half hour before the trial was to begin there was a knock on the door, and Cazier wanted to talk with Bishop Dewey. After a minute Warren was called out and was asked how much he would give him to settle the suit. Warren said that a vengeful feeling came over him for an instant, but he remembered that their wives at home were fasting and praying for a satisfactory conclusion to the matter. Also, Warren had prayed while in Evanston that they might complete the matter while there, in a "manner that was fair to both parties." Warren offered to give \$25.00 in cattle, which was readily accepted.

In the fall of 1890 he was put in as choir leader. He was also called to be a deacon, which he refused---said he didn't know why unless it was to act smart. But later he regretted it and made up his mind to accept if he were asked again

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and be glad. Later he was made a Priest and ward teacher, then assistant superintendent of Sunday School. Myra was secretary of Primary and also a Sunday School Teacher.

That winter, 1890-91, was harsh and many were afflicted with diseases of every kind, but they both escaped them. However, Myra was afflicted very badly with rheumatism and had been for some time. But not withstanding all this, they were very happy in their humble little home. To quote him, "It seemed lovelier than a palace, when filled with the music that was brought forth from the organ for my special benefit."

When Star Valley Stake was organized on 15 Aug 1892, he was called to be a High Counselor and Myra was also called to positions. His father had given him a father's blessing earlier in which he was promised, among other things, "if faithfully you live you will go forth and proclaim the Gospel in many nations." This was literally fulfilled when they were called on Nov 1898 to serve a mission in Samoa. At this time they had a 11 year old son whom they had adopted. He stayed with Marantha while they were on their mission. (There is nothing more mentioned about him -- no name or further whereabouts.)

While they were in Samoa they taught school as well as proselyting. Warren formed a band with the school children and took them by boat to different islands for concerts. War was also going on while they were there.

At one time an English Man of War stopped at Samoa and asked Warren and Myra to leave, but Warren said he wouldn't leave the children. The Captain told him he wouldn't give two bits for his life. Shells were fired over the school, back into the woods. The mission home was destroyed and rebuilt. They celebrated the 13th anniversary of the Samoan Mission on 18 June 1901.

They returned from Samoa in Aug 1901. In a poem written, probably by Myra, their trip home was described--at least the last part where they were in dense fog and how glad they were to finally got through the Golden Gates and be safe.

They moved to Mexico in July 1903. He married Helen Margaret (Nelly) Clark 13 July 1903, but they never lived together and were granted a temple divorce by Joseph F. Smith in 1905. He and Myra had no children. On Nov. 18, 1909, he married Eva Allred, a half sister to Myra, in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City.

Soon they moved to Colonia Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico where he taught horticulture at the Academy. At this time they lived in the home of Anton R. Ivins. On July 28, 1903 they with a few others (Family) took a trip to view the

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wonders of the Sierra Madre Mountains. After climbing them they thought they should be named 'Rocky Mountains'. They went through Cave Valley and visited some of the noted caves, where there was evidence that they had been inhabited by an ancient race. The walls were covered with ancient characters and hieroglyphics. There was also evidence that the people had struggled for a livelihood.

On Jan 22 1911 William Preston was born and Myra Myrl was born 20 June 1912. It was about 1912 that trouble broke out in Mexico (Pancho Villa). So the family decided to move to Blackfoot, Idaho. Myra passed away in El Paso, Texas 9 Sept 1912, probably on the way to Idaho. While they were in Idaho, Harvey Ashton was born, 7 May 1914. When things settled down they moved back to Mexico and settled in Dublan.

One day while he was plowing, with a team of horses, his son Wm. Preston was running along behind, which was something children often did. He had a small hole in the toe of his shoe and a copperhead bit him on his toe and of course he cried. Warren hooked the team up to a vehicle and ran them to a little town south of Dublan called Nuevo Casa Grandes, to the Dr. who told him to put Preston in a mud puddle. Of course he continued to cry. Then Warren remembered a book that had belonged to his mother Ann or sister Marantha. It said to put chopped onion on the bite. In five minutes it turned black and Preston quit crying.

Whether this had an impact on it or not is hard to say, but Warren raised a lot of onions, tomatoes, potatoes, watermelons, which he sold to people in town.

Things were still unsettled because of Pancho Villa and four days after Brandon was born (26 Jan 1917) Eva and several other woman and small children went to El Paso, Texas on the train with General Pershing, who had been trying to capture Pancho Villa. The men and larger children went overland. It was after returning to Dublin and during the flu epidemic of 1918 that Eva died.

On April 15, 1919 he married Mary Lovina Moffat Clark. Woodrow was born 19 Feb 1920. Soon she got sick and moved back with her parents. Her mother was a nurse. Warren and she never lived together after that. Woodrow was raised by his mother and grandparents, who moved to Arizona in May or June of 1924. Lovina died April 30, 1931 of a stroke in Mesa, Arizona.

Several years passed, then on Jan 23, 1933, Warren married Mable Ruby Farnsworth Jarvis Taylor, who had a child by each of her previous marriages. This marriage soon ended in divorce. On May 1, 1948 he went to Farmington, New Mexico to Brandon's wedding to Betty Jean Napier. She did not have a

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corsage so he went across the street and picked some apple blossoms and made one for her.

From there he went to Pocatello, Idaho, to Woodrow and Rachael's home, where he apparently stayed until the spring of 1949 when he went back to Colonia Dublan and lived in a room of Brandon and Betty Jean's home until they moved.

While he was at Woodrow's home he was sealed to his parents and Eva in the Idaho Falls Temple. In 1970 Woodrow had his mother, Lovina sealed to his father Warren.

In the early 1920's he started a nursery to produce fruit trees, specifically peach and apple. The process was quite complicated and it took about 2 years time to get to the point where they were ready for market. He and his sons did a lot of grafting and came up with new varieties. One of these was developed from the Rome Beauty apple. It would bloom later than the others. He called it Flor De Mayo- (Flower of May). In the 1930--1940's they would sell 100,000 to 150,000 trees each year.

He also loved roses very much but said the heat in Mexico was very detrimental for their propagation. In 1950 he built a large chicken coop and was taking care of several hundred laying hens. It seemed that he had to have something to do.

At the time he was living in Brandon's home he said that if he decided to finish his days there, meaning that locality, that he would build a suitable home and furnish it with modern furniture and live a respectable life either alone or with some good L.D.S. lady who had the same need. Apparently he didn't like to be alone.

Whether he built a home or not is unsure, but he did not marry again, because in the fall of 1950, his daughter Myra Myrl went to Dublan to live with him. Only months later -- 13 May 1951 -- he told Myra that he wasn't feeling good so she went and told Ashton who told her that he would be all right. So she went to bed and when she awoke she found he had died in his sleep, 14 May 1951, at he age of 83 years 2 months and 13 days. He is buried in Dublan, Mexico.

To sum this up, it is evident that he truly loved his wife Myra, as is indicated by the poetry they wrote to each other. They were both gifted in writing it, although it appears that Myra wrote more than he did. In fact that is the way that they communicated with everyone. He may have gotten that ability from his father, William Henry, because he too, communicated with poetry. They

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were both musically talented as well, as is indicated by the church callings they had and other things as well. She on the organ and he on the accordion, which he always loved to play. "Listen to the Mocking Bird" was one of his favorites. Music in voice and instruments are a talent that seems to be prominent in the Longhurst family.

He apparently didn't like being alone as evidenced by his several marriages, and I am sure he loved all of his wives. It also appears that he raised his family alone for several years. They meant a lot to him and he taught them to work as he did.

He loved the Gospel as is evident by his service as a missionary as well as the many positions he held in the church.

This history was compiled in 1994 by Genevieve B. Smith from information in his Journal and information submitted by his son Brandon.