

James L. Painter

1930 ~ 2016



James Lamont Painter, age 86, our loving father, grandfather, great-grandfather and uncle passed away peacefully on October 6, 2016 in St. George, Utah.

Dad was born August 26, 1930 in Ephraim, Utah to Fred Lamont Painter and Sena Ila Rosquist. He married his high school sweetheart, Zoma Deane Warner, on Valentine's Day, February 14, 1948 in Nephi, Utah. They were sealed to each other and their ten children in the Manti Utah Temple on October 23, 1971.

He was preceded in death by his loving mother, Ila Rosquist on Feb 12, 1966. On that painfully sad Saturday our Dad gathered all 9 of us kids in the living room to give us the heart breaking news. That's right. Nine of us at age 35. (Melanie was born two years later to make it an even 10) Who does that anymore? Our dad hit the ground running at 18 and never looked back. His grandfather, Charles Alfred Brooks Painter came to America with his single mother at age two. Dad's father, Fred L. Painter, had to leave school in the eighth grade to work and help Grandpa Charles feed the family. In 1945, our grandfather Fred and his brother Reese started Painter Motor Company in Nephi at the end of WWII. Dad's tutelage began at age 14 sanding cars in the body shop. He was a gifted technician and could fix anything mechanical. He succeeded brilliantly in sales and service and purchased the business in 1968. In 1984 Dad established Painter's Sun Country Chrysler in St. George, UT. Our Dad and Grandpa lived the American Dream. Who would ever have

thought that the son and grandson of a poor immigrant toddler from England could start with nothing and thrive in this great country of ours? Most importantly, Mom and Dad always gave back. Whether it was welding the backstops at the first Little League Baseball Park, or saving and preserving the antique water wheel from the Old Mill on Salt Creek for the new park on Main Street they always enjoyed contributing to their beloved Nephi. Dad loved serving in the Bishopric and High Council and went knocking door to door one cold winter to raise money for a poor family in the community that needed money to pay for a funeral and burial for a child that died of pneumonia. Dad had the foresight and vision to raise funds from the business community to capitalize Nephi Enterprises, the entity that brought the first sewing machine factory to Nephi and helped fund the startups of a new Dental Clinic, Harmon Tire and Nebo Heights Subdivision. He demonstrated his love for his pioneer ancestors by contributing to the Ephraim City Pioneer Cemetery Project.

Every kid should be so lucky to have parents like our Mom and Dad. Every community should be so lucky to have leaders like him.

Dad, our heart breaks to see you go, but we cannot imagine the joy you are having seeing your dear mother, Grandma Ila after 50 long years and Grandpa Fred after 21. We hope your Grandma Rosquist is spoiling you right now like she did when you were a little kid and used to stay in Ephraim with them for the summer months.

Dad is survived by his wife Zoma, and their children Randy (Tonya) of Nephi; Rodney (Debbie) of Nephi; Marjorie Painter of St. George; Bill (Julie) of South Jordan; Patrick (Tonya) of Nephi; Kelly (MaryAdele) of Gilbert, Arizona; Thomas (LaDawn) of Orem; Phillip (Jill) of Las Vegas; Molly (Perry) Davis of Nephi, Melanie (Curtis) Stephenson of St. George, daughter-in-law, Barbara Painter of Nephi, 37 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, and his sister, Ranee (Cary) Peterson of Nephi.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. in the LDS 4th/5th Ward Building at 345 East 500 North, Nephi, Utah. A viewing will be held October 11, 2016 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Anderson Funeral Home at 94 West 300 North, Nephi, Utah and at the church one hour prior to the service. Interment will be in the Nephi Vine Bluff Cemetery.