

The Strasburgs were a hard-working, farming family who lived in Highland, Utah. We grew and sold corn (sold as a baker's dozen), wheat, oats, peas, tomatoes, peaches, pears, apples, apricots, cherries, plums, raspberries, currants, gooseberries, and watermelons. Each of these great big seeded watermelons was wonderful and cost 10 cents. People traveled for miles to buy our watermelons.

Our family had the right priorities: Faith in God, having enough food to eat, keeping warm, helping others, and working together as a team. We believed in being self-sufficient, and as a farming family, we were successful with this aspiration.

Louis Henry Strasburg (who changed his name from Ludwig Sturzburg), born Jan 23, 1860, was not too tall, had a stocky build, sandy hair, and a light complexion. He walked with a slight limp. He was a very honest man and he was fair in all his dealings with his fellow men. Louis was generous in his measurements of things he had for sale. He was a friend to everyone and had a pleasing personality. Over 40 years after his death, people still remembered him fondly and spoke of his honesty and integrity. Louis was careful in his work and did a thorough job. The cow corral and fences he built by hand stood for over 40 years.

He married Fredricka Armstrong, born Aug 26, 1869, when she was 18 years old on December 14, 1887 in Kamas, UT. They lived in Kamas for a few years, then moved to Rush Valley, then to Highland in 1899. Fredricka always hated the name her father insisted on giving her, so to everyone including Louis, she was known as Mary. Mary was an expert quilter and was well-known for making beautiful quilts with the tiniest of stitches.

When the Highland Branch was organized in 1909, Louis Strasburg wanted to donate some land for the purpose of building a chapel on it. The church insisted on giving him \$250 for the land. The land was deeded to the Third Ward in American Fork. Eventually, it was deeded to the Highland Corporation who currently maintains the land (Strasburg Park).

When the Highland Ward was organized in 1915 Fredericka became Relief Society President, a position she held for about 6 years. She cared for the sick and was midwife to many, spending long hours, sometimes weeks, away from home in caring for others.

Their sons, Evar, Henry and David made their homes in Highland as did their daughter, Otes (Day). Louis died in 1919 and Fredericka in 1941.

David Strasburg, born Mar 22, 1908, married Melba Rogers, born May 19, 1913, on June 30, 1933 in the Salt Lake Temple. Just like Mary, Melba was well-known for making beautiful quilts. David Strasburg was a great deal like his father. The legacy of honesty and integrity was passed from Louis to David and from David to his children as well. They had three sons and eight daughters. David worked two jobs to make ends meet. Because money was tight, David had to use his ingenuity to give his children what they wanted. For example, his children wanted a swing. There was no money for a rope. After the farm chores were done, they all worked together to build a rope. The two oldest brothers climbed up the tree and tied the rope and the youngest sister got to try out the swing first.

David and Melba worked very hard. They both held many church callings over the years and served faithfully. At one point, they each had seven simultaneous church callings. Both David and Melba helped their neighbors whenever they were needed. They taught their children through example.

In 1965, David Strasburg gave 70 feet of land to the Highland Ward to enlarge the ball park. He knew how much his kids loved to play baseball, so it was an easy decision to donate the land for the ball park.

Strasburg Park used to be a bean patch. Instead of signing up for welfare, people came and planted beans and took care of the bean patch. Eventually, they harvested the beans, snapped the beans, and took them to the cannery where they were canned. In this way, the Highland Ward did not have to pay any welfare money.

We are unsure of why the chapel is called the Strasburg chapel, but David Strasburg was a first counselor in the bishopric (with LeGrand Adamson as bishop). Glen Strasburg was a bishop as well. Many Strasburgs attended that ward as well, so maybe it was meant as an honor to our family.

For more information about the Strasburg family, please read the book entitled, "Highland History" by Ruby Buhler.