

Autobiography of Barnard H. Seegmiller

I was born in St. George, Utah August 29, 1915. I was the second son of Hela and Mary Ann Platt Seegmiller. I received my education in the St. George Elementary and High School. I attended two years at Dixie College. In December of 1938 I was called to serve in the Central States Mission of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. I entered the mission home on December 8th. I then traveled by train to the mission headquarters in Independence, Missouri. The mission president at that time was Elias S. Woodruff. I was assigned to serve in the Independence District of the Central States Mission. I served here nearly a year.

In November of 1939 I received word that my father had been injured in a serious accident. I returned home at that time and arrived a short time before my father's death. I remained home for two or three weeks. I returned to the mission field shortly before Christmas. I was appointed to serve as mission secretary and remained there the balance of my mission. October 16, 1940 I was in Little Rock, Arkansas on a tour of the mission with President John F. Bowman. That day all young men were required to register for the (military) draft. I registered at the Arkansas State Capitol Building. Fortunately I drew order number six, so as soon as I returned home from my mission in April, 1941 I was immediately called before the draft board.

I was scheduled for induction. Shortly after that I had an accident with a bronco and was disabled. I received a six-month deferment. During that period my brother, Don, was called into the service, but he was rejected for health reasons. Attention was again turned to me, and I was inducted in Salt Lake City in May, 1942. I was assigned to the Army Air Force. I received my basic training in Sheppard Field, Texas. From there I was sent to armament school in Lowrey Field in Denver, Colorado. I was then sent to join a squadron of light bombardment airplanes in Charleston, South Carolina. We trained there for several months. In January of 1943 we set sail for Elizabeth, New Jersey, then to North Africa. I served in the 321st Bombardment group in North Africa, Italy, and Europe until July, 1945. At this time I returned to the United States. I received my discharge from the army in September, 1945 and returned home.

In March, 1946 I married Deloris Sullivan in the St. George temple. We made our home in St. George and I operated the family farm and ranch and later bought my brother's interest and the family home. We are still living in that house.

Deloris and I are the parents of six children: Mary Ann Seegmiller Knoke Batt was born February 20, 1947. Donalyn Seegmiller Sessions was born July 14, 1948. Scott Jason Seegmiller was born February 8, 1955. Kaye Seegmiller was born February 24, 1958. Corri Dee Seegmiller was born January 19, 1964. Scott is the only boy.

During our early married life I was involved in just about every auxiliary in the church and held positions in all of them at varying times. I served two years as stake mission president during the early fifties. In 1955 I accepted an appointment to the Office of County Assessor. I occupied this position for ten years, resigning in 1965, Since then I have operated the farm and ranch. I have been involved in many civic clubs, including twelve years on the St. George City Council. This time was served in two non-consecutive terms. I am presently a teacher of the Adult Sunday School class in my ward.