

Larry Charles Higgins, Ph.D.

A third generation Mormon Larry was born on October 21, 1936 in St. George, Utah to Erastus Snow Higgins and Grace May Rindlisbacher. His grandfather Silas Gardner Higgins

was the first medical doctor to Utah's Dixie Cotton Mission in 1861. His grandmother was

Nancy Louisa Clark Higgins, born in Nauvoo, Illinois.

Larry attended school in St. George and graduated from Dixie High School. He attended

Dixie Jr. College and called on a mission to East Central States November 1957 until 1959.

He served mainly in West Virginia and Tennessee. Upon returning home he completed his

National Guard and served 6 months at Ft. Ord, California. The National Guard held their summer camp at Puerto Rico for two weeks. Larry and Emma Lou adopted their first son, named Robyn in 1962 in St. George, Utah.

In 1960 Larry continued his education at Dixie Jr. College and was married December 17, 1960 to Emma Lou Bagley in the Manti Temple.

He graduated from Dixie in June of 1962 with a biological associate degree, with his mentor Being Dr. Andrew Barnum.

He was accepted at Utah State University and graduated in biological composite in December, 1963.

Taught biology in Vernal, Utah in the Uintah High School for eighteen months. While living in Vernal they were able to adopt another son, a Ute Indian, named Bruce in 1964, age three.

Larry was accepted in graduate school in the botany department of Brigham Young University under his mentor Dr. Stanley Welsh. He received his master's degree in 1967 and his doctorate in 1969 in botany.

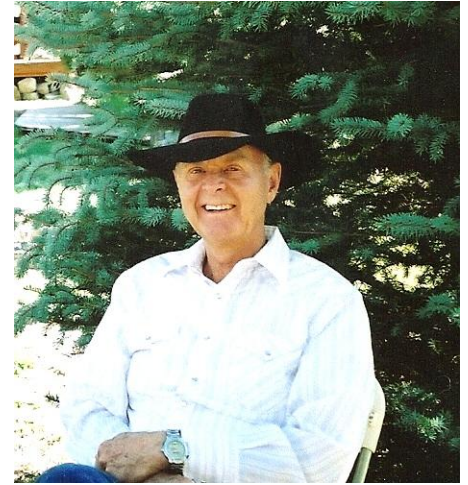
While at B. Y. U. he taught for four years while at graduate school. While in Provo they adopted a daughter Cheryl born Feb. 10, 1968. .

In the fall of 1969 he accepted a teaching position at West Texas State University in Canyon, TX and taught mostly botany. (Plant taxonomy)

Larry taught twenty-one years in Texas. They were blessed with a biological son, named Eric on Jan. 14, 1971 in Canyon, Texas. Their family helped build up the little branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. They held many positions as the little branch grew and later he became the Branch President of seventy members. The branch increased to 300 members and became the Canyon Ward, in the Amarillo, Texas Stake.

During the years he has worked in botany he has published 5 books and 30 scientific papers on plant taxonomy, including a Utah Flora.

Some of his activities and hobbies included handball, archery, hunting and running. His favorite activity is plant collecting. He supplies pressed plants yearly to the B.YU and Dixie State College.



In 1989 his wife Emma Lou died of cancer in Canyon, Texas. He came back to St. George, Utah and married a widow Camellia Carter Sullivan, that he had dated at Woodward Jr. High.

Since 1990 he has worked as an adjunct professor at Dixie College teaching and as supervisor over the grounds at the St. George Temple.

He started building a cabin up to Pine Valley, Utah on Carter Circle in 1990. He has also put in several flower gardens and a vegetable garden. He is experimenting with different types of trees at that elevation.

He is willing to give lectures or field trips on any of the aspects of plants or gardening. Larry is the proud grand father of twelve grandchildren and thirteen step-grandchildren.