

## **Chapter VIII**

### **Twins From Different Mothers**

January 1, 1955 – July 9, 1955

1955 arrived with the fan fair due any new year. Sheffield wanted to know how the last fifteen years had passed so quickly. It seemed that the years were beginning to fly by. New Years Day 1940 seemed like it was only a few years ago. That was a good day. He was then the commander of the Enterprise Air Group and that day he met Geannie, Sandy, and Austin at the Matson Lines dock at Honolulu Harbor when they came to join him in Paradise.

It was kind of ironic, because at the time, the war seemed to go on forever. Time had slowed down even more while he worked through his grief and his wounded heart healed. That seemed to take forever. Then he discovered that he could love again and time began moving forward once more.

Now, seemingly all of a sudden, it was fifteen years later. He and Ramona would be celebrating their eleventh anniversary in just three weeks. They had a been blessed with a family and now they were practically raised. He was a grandfather and had two more grandchildren on the way.

He remembered something that his father had once said. At the time he said it, Sheffield didn't appreciate either the humor or the truth in his words. Now Sheffield understood what he meant when his father said, "Life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer that you get to the end, the faster it goes."

New Year's Day was on Saturday, and on Sunday, the whole family attended church together. School didn't start until Wednesday, so that gave Sheffield Monday and Tuesday to get the girls back to Rexburg. Sunday after church, Beverly and Olivia brought their bags and spent the night. It was a regular girls night slumber party, complete with taking over Ramona's bathhouse before settling down for the night.

Early Monday morning, Sheffield called up the stairs to wake them up. They stirred for a moment and got busy getting ready. This time, they didn't want to go without fixing their hair or putting on their make up. One by one they came downstairs with their suitcases and set them by the door.

Ramona had a hearty breakfast ready for Sheffield and the four girls. While the sun was beginning to come up, they each carried their bags out to the plane, which Sheffield had pulled out of the hangar with the tractor while they were getting ready. Just as the sun began peaking over the horizon, they were already in the air heading west. Sheffield followed the typical flight path and they landed in Rexburg late in the afternoon. It was cold but there was no new accumulation of snow so the runway was clear and dry.

The old Chrysler was right where they had left it. While Sheffield was securing the plane, Janet went to pull the car up close so they could transfer their luggage from the plane. When they got back to their apartment, Bessy Ricks, Beverly's grandmother had big batch of homemade chicken noodle soup and some homemade bread ready for them. The gracious host that she was, she offered to put Sheffield up for the night rather than him having to stay at the Idamont Hotel. He accepted her hospitality and stayed the night.

The next morning, it was only ten degrees. Sheffield was concerned that at a higher altitude, he might encounter a problem of icing on the wings and consequently delayed his departure until noon when it had warmed up a little. By leaving that late, he wouldn't make it home before dark, which meant that he would have to land at the airport in Roanoke rather than at the ranch.

All the way home he pushed the Staggerwing for all it could give. Bessy was kind enough to pack a lunch for him so he wouldn't have to take the time to eat on one of his fuel stops. The sun was already getting low in the west when he took off from Springfield, Illinois after stopping for fuel. It disappeared behind him over Indiana and was soon completely dark except a three quarter moon to guide him. Stretched out below him were the lights of cities and towns, the lights of the vehicles on the roads connecting them.

After all of those years of pioneering night flying and sending men out missions in the darkness, Sheffield knew that he had to trust his instruments. The darkness amplified the fact that he was all alone, with no one to keep him company. His radio kept him in touch with the ground along the way and he knew exactly where he was at all times.

Flying over the Appalachian Mountains was trickiest part with very few little towns lit up to give him a landmark. When he came within range of Woodrum Field, he radioed his approach and asked them to call Craig to come and pick him up. While still over the mountains, the lights of the Roanoke Valley came into view. Before long he was descending with the runway in plain sight. Moments later he was on the ground, about three hours later than he hoped to be. Craig met him at the airport and took him home.

Since the Staggerwing was at the airport, Craig talked Sheffield into leaving it there for a while so he could go through it thoroughly and make sure everything was in proper working order and to make any necessary repairs. Sheffield agreed since he wouldn't be needing it again for a while. Craig's goal was to have it finished by the end of the month when he needed it to get to Norfolk for his reserve drill.

Both Sheffield and Ramona returned to their classrooms on Wednesday. At the end of the week, the Magicians had their first match of the new year. Although as a team they came up short of a win, all of the boys who had come to the extra holiday practices won their individual matches. There was a core of about five juniors who had really been putting in the effort and it was paying off. The rest seemed almost indifferent and others had already given up on the season.

Sheffield and Coach Warfman were frustrated by the attitude and didn't know what else to do but to work them even harder and try to inspire them to give everything they had. Then Sheffield had an idea. At the beginning of the school year, there had been a number of eager candidates who didn't make the team. Sheffield and Coach Warfman took a second look at them and called them back and spent a week putting them and the existing team through another tryout process. In the end, most of the veteran seniors were dropped from the team and were replaced by juniors who were eager get a chance. In the end, they were

two short of a full roster, so two members of the junior varsity team were drafted.

Taking on inexperienced team members half way through the season was a gamble. Many questioned his sanity in such a move. The five who had demonstrated willingness and hard work became the team leadership. The extended week night practice sessions were continued as were Saturday morning practices. The new team didn't win their first two matches, but the effort was definitely there. They had a bye the last week of January, which gave them two weeks to get into shape.

Janet wasn't there for her nineteenth birthday, but that didn't mean that it went unnoticed. Ramona sent her a little package of things in the mail along with a birthday card with a ten dollar bill in it.

Two days later, Sheffield and Ramona celebrated their eleventh wedding anniversary on Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> by taking the family, except for Janet, out to dinner. The occasion warranted something nicer than The Pizza Joint so they went to an upscale restaurant downtown. Sheffield used the setting to express his appreciation to Ramona for rescuing him and accredited her for saving his life in more ways than one. In return Ramona expressed that even though they had only been married for eleven years, she had been in love with for a good twenty five years and never thought that she would be able to have him. She felt so blessed to have him and their children, which she also thought that she would never have.

Craig and Norma, speaking on behalf of themselves and Janet, expressed their love and thanked them for taking them in as their own and for all that they had done for them since then. As far as they were concerned, they were their parents in every sense of the word.

During January, the cows all calved. Wade saw to it that they were in good health and for the first time on the Two Star Ranch, the calves were vaccinated. And the end in the first week of February, Roxy delivered her foal, a very handsome colt at that. As it turned out, he had two white stars on his forehead, the only marks on his reddish brown coat. Sheffield decided to name him Admiral. Like the calves, Wade gave Admiral his vaccinations as well.

Besides teaching her health classes two days a week, Ramona had bought and sold some more parcels of land. She pretty much focused on land now and only occasionally dealt with houses. Fortunately for Ray, she wasn't his only source for work, because she didn't need him much except for repairs now and then on her rentals.

When the revamped Magicians had their next meet, their performance had greatly improved, although it wasn't enough for a win. The fact that they had improved was encouragement enough for Sheffield and he made sure that they knew that he was pleased with their progress. A winning season was out of reach, but the idea that he planted in their minds and hearts was that they could still be in the district championship at the end of the month and have a good shot at the state title two weeks after that.

Thus motivated, the team did in fact win their last two matches of the regular season, the last one

against the Armstrong Wildcats in Richmond. They always had been a tough team to beat and it gave the team the confidence they needed going into the tournaments. Sheffield took some heat for the losing season with only four wins. But he ignored the criticism. He had fought and won a war so he knew that it wasn't over until it was over. A war can still be won even after losing in battle.

Going into the district tournament, the Magicians had been written off by everyone, except those whose opinions really mattered, the coaches and the team members. Sheffield liked going into it as the underdog, no one would be suspecting what he knew that his young and inexperienced team could deliver. Before the match, he gave them the kind of pep talk that he gave his men when going into battle. Before leaving the locker room, one of the boys offered a prayer that strengthened their courage and their faith in themselves, knowing that win or lose, they could and would give their all.

Over the two day tournament, they stunned their opponents and amazed their detractors by winning the district title hands down. But still, their record said that they didn't have a chance at state and the critics were still skeptical. They said that their performance at the district tournament was a fluke and they didn't stand a chance against the big schools that they would face in Richmond. Some even called for Coach Brason to be replaced after the season was over.

The last weekend in March was the the Two Star Roundup. Roger and Wade came to help and Craig was there too. With Janet and Takara gone and both Norma and Edith six months pregnant, they were short handed on hands to work the gates and help wherever needed, Sheffield enlisted the help of some of his wrestlers. None of them had ever been around livestock before, but they rose to the challenge, just like they had just done during the season. When the work was done, Sheffield challenged the boys to try their hand at wrestling a steer to the ground. It might not have been the smartest thing to do, but they sure had fun and fortunately, no one got hurt.

Around the end of March, Sheffield and Ramona got another letter from Janet. Her big news was that her therapist in Idaho Falls had told her that she only needed to come once a month until she was finished with the semester and then she wouldn't need any more therapy. She also said that when Ricks let out for a four day weekend for the conference break, she was going home with Jerry for the weekend. She didn't say a whole lot about how their relationship was going, but from the amount of time she seemed to be spending with him, something had to be growing and developing.

There was also a letter from Takara with some really good news. She had been invited to attend the new Church College of Hawaii that was opening up in the fall in Laie. It had been announced by President McKay the previous July and in February, ground was broken for the first building. The school was being created to serve Latter-day Saint students from the nations of the Greater Pacific Basin, which included Japan. The offer said that all of her present scholarships and grants would be transferable. Takara said that

she had been selected because she was presently enrolled in and attending a Church school. She hadn't sent in her acceptance letter yet but was strongly considering it. Her only hold back was leaving Janet and her friends.

Ramona wrote right back telling her that it was great opportunity and that she should accept it. She told her how beautiful Laie was and that eventually she and her friends would go their separate ways anyway and that she should do what was best for her.

Little Geannie's second birthday was celebrated on Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup>. It was a lot more fun than her first birthday had been. She had long since learned to walk and was talking in three or four word sentences. She thoroughly enjoyed the attention that she was getting.

The following Saturday, Edith brought her over and they colored easter eggs. Ramona hid them all over in the yard and then enjoyed watching as she went looking for them. She took her by one hand and had an easter basket in the other. Little Geannie was excited with each egg she found and held it up to show everyone before proudly placing it in the basket.

Ramona later said, "I missed out on these kinds of things and now I get to experience them through my grandchildren."

Both Norma and Edith were about seven months pregnant by then and all seemed to go well. There was a lot of speculation as to which one would deliver first and whether they were girls or boys or one of each. There had also been a lot of discussion as to the names that they were considering, but neither had settled on one yet.

Ramona's suggestion was to keep the names in mind but not to settle on one yet and wait and see what they looked like. She said, "You don't want to settle on a name that doesn't fit the child." For example, if Norma's baby was a boy, they were considering naming him after his father. Ramona said, "But what if he doesn't look like a Wade?"

During April, Ramona planted her garden with the help of Norma and Edith, despite the fact that they were pregnant. Craig and Edith's yard wasn't big enough for a very big garden and Wade hadn't gotten around to clearing a garden spot for Norma yet. So Ramona's garden would have to serve them all.

During the second weekend in April, the Magicians unleashed their magic at the state tournament and decimated their opponents at every hand. No one saw it coming, except for the Admiral and his team. They swept the tournament not only winning the overall first place trophy, but every boy on the team came away a state champion in his weight class.

It was pretty hard to replace someone who was named coach of the year. Not only had they won big, but they had set the stage for an incredible team for the next year as every single member would be returning to pick up where they left off.

With the wrestling season over, Sheffield could breathe a sigh of relief. They had done that which was impossible. For the rest of the school year, wrestling practice became a PE class in which to keep the team in shape.

By the end of April, the end of the school year was looming into view. Takara wrote back to say that she had accepted the offer to transfer to the Church College of Hawaii. She would come home with Janet for the summer before leaving for Hawaii in the fall. Ramona was beginning to have visions of taking her over to get her settled. Anything for a reason to go back to the Islands.

During the last two full weeks of the semester, Ramona again taught her sex education segment. This time, Norma was one of the women in the class that was experienced and was eight months pregnant to show for it. Ramona had already taught the girls what they needed to know. Their education began the first time they watched the bull breeding the cows. She didn't stop there. On several occasions while the three of them were sitting around in the bathhouse she would talk to them about it and answer their questions. She believed in being open about such matters and remove the curiosity because after all, "curiosity killed the cat." She didn't want them to be tempted to go find out for themselves. More recently she had also included Takara in her tutoring. Ramona was surprised at how many of the young women in her classes hadn't been taught such things by their mothers.

Sheffield began making plans to bring Janet and Takara home for the summer since they would be getting out of school on 20<sup>th</sup> of May. Since he intended on leaving on Thursday, he asked Ramona to substitute his class on Thursday and Friday. She already knew the material so she consented.

Craig had completely overhauled the Staggerwing and updated the avionics with the latest equipment. He had also replaced all of the wiring and control cables. The most obvious change was a new paint job that replaced the World War 2 camouflage and markings with a beautiful metallic royal blue.

Sheffield took off from home a little later than usual on Thursday morning, made a fuel stop in Springfield, and went on as far as Council Bluffs, Iowa where he landed at the municipal airport around noon. As prearranged, Dan Kirk met him at the airport and took him home.

They hadn't seen each other since they both retired from the navy two years earlier but had stayed in touch. Dan had mentioned that they'd love to have him stop over in his next trip across the country, so Sheffield decided to take a little extra time.

When they got to their home, Daphne greeted him with a hug and some lemonade. Their three children, Spencer, Carmen, and Vanessa had grown since they left Arlington and moved back to Iowa. The oldest was now eight and the baby was two. Dan had opened his own accounting firm and had been quite successful at it. They spent the afternoon visiting and talking about the time that they had served together.

Dan and Daphne asked how the Moncurs were, as they hadn't remained in contact, other than through the exchange of Christmas cards. Sheffield assured them that they were doing well. Sheffield was glad to see that the Kirks had remained strong in the Church. They were members of the Council Bluffs Branch where he, like Sheffield, he served as the first counselor in the branch Presidency.

After spending the night, Dan dropped Sheffield off at the airport on the way to his office. Sheffield continued on his way, stopping in Casper, Wyoming to refuel and arrived in Rexburg around noon where Janet and Takara met him. Sheffield treated them to lunch before taking them back to their apartment.

The girls had packed everything they wanted to bring home with them, leaving the rest there for when they returned in the fall. Except for Takara, she wouldn't be returning and was bringing everything she had with her. She was sad to be leaving Ricks but was very excited about the going to Church College of Hawaii in the fall. At least she would have the summer with her friends and the Brasons were kind enough to let her live with them since she had no other home to go to.

While they were at their apartment, Jerry Gover stopped by to say goodbye to Janet before he left to go home. Sheffield got a chance to visit with him for a moment. He could tell that the two of them had really become quite fond of each other. Jerry would also be returning in the fall and they promised to stay in touch during the summer. Sheffield saw for himself just how fond they were of each other as they held each other in a long embrace and she wasn't shy about kissing him in front of her dad.

On Saturday morning they loaded up the car and drove to the airport. Beverly's aunt and uncle followed them and once their things were all on the plane, Rocky took the car back to his place to park it over the summer so it would be there when Janet returned in the fall. Once airborne, Sheffield followed the his usual flight plan with stops in McCook and Springfield. By late afternoon, they were back home in Roanoke. Soon after arriving, Beverly and Olivia's parents came and picked them up.

The next ten days was going to be a busy time with a lot going on. For starters, on Tuesday Ramona took Janet to see Dr. Mendon for her one year check up. Actually it had been more than a year, but with her away at school this was the soonest that she could see him. He put her through a series of tests and took some x-rays of her heart. When he was finished, he was somewhat amazed that her heart had healed completely with no lasting damage. He accredited it to her youth, Janet believed that it was the blessing that her dad had given her. He removed all of the limitations that he had placed on her. Unfortunately, after missing two track seasons, it was unlikely that she would compete again. But that didn't mean she couldn't try.

Thursday was Norma's big day. It was her twenty second birthday and to top it off, she also graduated from Hollins. Even the loose fitting graduation robe couldn't hide the fact that she was very, very pregnant as she walked across the stage to receive her bachelor's degree. That evening a combination

birthday and graduation party was held in her honor.

Now that she was home, Janet went into the BookEnd and asked for her job back. They were waiting for her and hoped that she would want to work for the summer. Takara also contacted the orchard where she had worked the year before and was also rehired for the summer.

The annual Brason Memorial Day picnic was on Monday and included the ritual of gathering fresh flowers and blossoms from the yard and taking them to the cemetery. By mid morning, the entire Brason clan came together, with very few absentees. Ruth Ann had completely fallen off the face of the earth. It used to be that now and then she was spotted in a movie as an extra. It had been ages since anyone had even seen that much of her. Everyone thought it was interesting that both Edith and Norma were due at virtually the same time.

Craig had been in Norfolk for his weekend reserve duty and returned home Sunday evening and got to spend Memorial Day. The very next day, however, he had to return in order to report for duty for his summer drill on the first. Since he was going to be gone all month, he drove rather than borrow the Staggerwing. Upon reporting for duty, he reported to the squadron commander and requested a forty eight hour pass on or around the twenty first so he could make a quick trip home when his wife had her baby. The Lieutenant was gracious enough to grant the request, telling him to just let the chief know.

Now that school was out and they had the time, Ramona wanted to go see Harvey as it had been a while since she had been to see him. She made a telephone call and an invitation was extended. On Friday, which was Ramona's fifty second birthday, Sheffield and Ramona left Janet and Takara to fend for themselves and flew down to Denison. Ramona's relationship with Harvey was very dear to her as he was her only relative, compared to Sheffield's large family. Besides, he and Sheffield were good friends with a long history. Even though she was only six when she moved away from the Red River Valley, going back tied her to her roots and reminded her of her heritage.

While they were away, Janet and Takara took over the house and that night had Beverly and Olivia over for one of their girls' nights, which included a sleepover and a meeting of the sisterhood in Ramona's bathhouse. After a good soaking they put on their pajamas and parked themselves on the floor in front of television with all sorts of snack food. That night the late night TV movie was "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer", a 1947 comedy starring Cary Grant, Myrna Loy, and Shirley Temple about a teenage girl's crush on an older man.

On Sunday, Ramona did something she had never done before, at least that she could remember. She went over to the reservation and attended a Choctaw pow-wow in Durant. She had seen a poster advertising it when they went into Denison the day before. The afternoon featured the retelling of stories and legends of their ancestors, and lots of traditional dancing and costumes. When Sheffield and Ramona



returned on the Monday, they brought Anna and Paul back with them to spend the summer with their Grandma and Grandpa Austin.

The next couple of weeks were fairly uneventful as the magic of June babbled along in the brook of life. All of the attention was focused on the Norma and Edith, wondering when their babies would be born. Dr. Mendon was confident that they were both on track for delivering their babies on the 21<sup>st</sup>, give or take a week. So the week before excitement ran high.

On Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup>, which was Father's day, the family got together for cake and ice cream in the afternoon before going to Sacramento meeting. Edith wondered if she might be getting close, but reasoned that she was still a day or two away. Norma was feeling quite uncomfortable, but being inexperienced, she wasn't sure what she was feeling.

Ramona suggested that maybe they go home and take it easy rather than going to Sacramento Meeting. But they both insisted on going because Janet was speaking. Sheffield had asked her and Takara, Beverly, and Olivia to be the speakers that day to tell some of the experiences they had at Ricks College and how they had grown from them.

All went well during the first part of the meeting and Janet was in the middle of explaining how she had gone to her boy friend's home in Utah during the conference break and for the first time got to watch general conference on television. She told of how she felt about being able to see and hear President McKay. She was describing how the Spirit had testified to her that he was truly a prophet when out in the congregation there was quite a stir that disrupted the meeting and caused her to lose her train of thought.

Edith was sitting with the Austins when all of a sudden, her water broke. With nowhere for it to go, it puddled on the wooden pew right under her. With the back of her dress soaked, she had no choice but get up and leave. Mary Ann got up to follow her with Little Geannie in her arms. Ramona who was sitting two rows behind her saw what happened and got up to follow, leaving Norma and Wade by themselves.

As they exited the chapel into the foyer, Janet tried to pick up where she had left off. All through the meeting, Norma was wishing that she had taken Ramona's advice to stay home and rest. She didn't realize that the intermittent cramps she was having were actually contractions. Just as Janet had found her place and was explaining how she felt, Norma grabbed the back of the pew in front of her and let out a rather loud moan. When it subsided she got up to leave with Wade right behind her. Chantelle saw them leave and got up to follow.

Janet stopped again right in mid sentence and watched as her sister exited the chapel. She turned around to look at her dad who was seated behind her on the stand, who by the way was conducting the meeting. He got up and was about to leave the stand. Janet said, "I think I'm about to be an aunt." and promptly left the podium and followed Sheffield off the stand, down the aisle and out into the foyer.

There, both expectant mothers and their husbands and parents were in a bit of a dither. Ramona was clearly in charge. She talked to both Edith and Norma to determine what it was they were feeling and decided that they were definitely in labor and recommended that they get to the hospital. Janet took Little Geannie and Sheffield and Mary Ann helped Edith out to the car and Wade and Ramona helped Norma to theirs with Chantelle right behind them.

Sheffield and Janet were about to follow but Ramona stopped them. "No use in the two of you coming just yet." She said. "They've got a while yet, besides there is nothing that you can do. Why don't you go back in and finish."

Obediently, they returned to the chapel, which was a buzz with conversation. President Brown was about to resume the meeting when Both Sheffield and Janet returned to the stand after only a couple of minutes. Sheffield took his seat with Little Geannie on his lap, and Janet returned to the podium.

"I am going to be an aunt." she announced. "Now where was I?" She went onto bear her testimony and sat down next to her dad.

Takara got up to speak. "Does this mean I get to be an aunt, too?" She said to introduce her talk.

Neither Sheffield or Janet got much out of the rest of the meeting. When church was over, Sheffield, brought Ellen, Janet, Takara and Little Geannie home and found something to eat.

No sooner had they walked through the telephone rang. Thinking maybe it was Ramona calling from the hospital, Sheffield answered, "Hello."

"Happy Father's Day. I thought you'd be getting home from church about now."

"Thank you Craig. I thought you were your mother calling from the hospital."

"The hospital. Why, whats going on?" Craig asked frantically.

"Both Edith and Norma are in labor. They had to leave during church."

Craig was heard to say, "Hey Chief, my wife is in labor."

Another voice was heard to say, "Well then, get the hell out of here Brason."

"Dad, I have forty eight hours, I'll be there as fast as I can. If you talk to Mom, tell her to tell Edith that I'm on my way." He hung up without even saying goodbye.

After hanging up the telephone, Sheffield grabbed a bite to eat and left the girls to tend Little Geannie while he went to the hospital to see what was going on.

At the hospital, he was directed to the maternity ward, where he found Wade in the waiting area. He really didn't know what was going either. He was tense and nervous since this was his first time to go through the experience of waiting. Sheffield remembered so well the wait when both Sandy and Austin were born. In fact it was Ramona who sat with him while waiting for Austin to be born. He was gone when Charles Emmett was born and missed not only his birth, but his entire life.

Before long, Ramona came out to give them an update. Both Norma and Edith were in the same room and were in the mid stages of labor. She assured them that they were doing fine and expected something to happen in the next few hours or so. Sheffield told her to tell Edith that Craig was on his way. After talking to Ramona, there was nothing more for him to do so he went back home, but Wade stayed.

When he got home, Sheffield, Ellen, Janet, Takara, and Little Geannie finished off the cake and ice cream and watched Ed Sullivan's Toast of the Town on television. The program that evening was an hour long tribute to the Broadway play, Mister Rogers and the soon to be released motion picture. The guests included Henry Fonda, James Cagney and Jack Lemmon, the cast from the movie version. Also appearing were John Forsythe and David Wayne from the "Mr. Roberts" Broadway cast. A film clip from the movie was shown and scenes from both were reenacted live on stage. Before long, Janet put Little Geannie to bed and Ellen went to bed as well. Not long after that both Janet and Takara went upstairs while Sheffield watched the ten o'clock news while waiting for Ramona to call with news from the hospital.

He fell asleep in his chair only to be jarred awake by the ringing of the telephone. Expecting it to be Ramona with some news, he jumped up to answer it. "Hello." he said with anticipation.

"Happy Fathers Day, Grandpa." Ramona said. "Edith just had her baby about fifteen or twenty minutes ago at eleven oh seven and everything is just fine."

"That's great news. So don't keep me waiting. Was it a boy or a girl?"

"You've got fine looking grandson here, Babe. He was seven pounds one ounce and eighteen and a quarter inches long and has a thick head of hair. He looks a lot like Craig."

"Did Craig make it there in time?"

"Yes, just barely. He said that he made the five hour trip in under four and half hours."

"Good, I'm glad that he made it. So, I have a grandson." Sheffield beamed. By that time, Ellen and Janet were at his side listening in to pick up what they could. "Have they decided on a name for him?"

"Yes, as a matter of fact they have. They decided to go with Geoffrey Glen, spelled g , e, o, f, f, r, e, y."

"Geoffrey Glen Brason. That has a nice ring to it. So how's Norma doing?"

"She's still in labor but not too far off now. I suspect she'll deliver in another half an hour or so. I'd better get back to her. I'll call you when I have more news. Bye."

"Thanks, we'll be waiting. Bye."

Sheffield hung up the telephone and told Ellen, Janet, and Takara who had also come downstairs, everything that he knew. Too excited to sleep, they all sat around the kitchen table and talked while they waited for the telephone to ring in anticipation of more news.

That call came at twelve twenty. Again Sheffield answered it. "Hello." he said with the same

eagerness.

“Well, Norma had her baby at twelve oh two. Sorry, but she missed Father’s Day by two minutes. Its a little girl and everything is fine. Norma did a great job.”

“Thats great.” Sheffield said. “Give me the details.”

“She weighed six pounds fourteen ounces and was right at eighteen inches long. Its uncanny but she looks a lot like Geoffrey. If I didn’t know better Babe, I’d say they were twins.”

“Well I’ll be.” Sheffield mused. “Twins from different mothers. So have they decided on a name?”

“Yeah, how does Teresa June sound?”

“Teresa June Rowan. That has a nice ring to it too. When are you coming home?”

“Soon. There’s not much for us to do here now. The new mothers need to rest and they’ve got the babies in the nursery. Wade’s taking Chantelle home and I’ll drop Mary Ann on my way home. It’s been quite a night.”

“I’ll say it has. I can’t wait to see them.”

“I don’t see why you can’t come and take a peek tomorrow. I’ll be home in a few minutes and I can tell you all about it then.”

“Alright. We’ll see you soon.”

When he hung up the telephone, he told Ellen, Janet, and Takara everything that he had just been told. Now everyone was way too excited to go back to bed so they waited up for Ramona to come home.

About fifteen minutes later, Craig and Ramona came home and told them all about the evening and the new babies. They were both exhausted and wanted to go to bed. Craig decided to spend the night rather than go home at such a late hour. By then the excitement for everyone else also gave way to fatigue as well and they all went to bed.

Needless to say, the next morning, everyone slept in. Little Geannie was the first to stir. After getting a late start to the day, about mid morning, they all went to the hospital. Both Norma and Edith were in the same room and had the babies with them. Janet and Takara waited in the waiting room with Little Geannie while the rest got to go in.

It was amazing how the two little cousins looked so much a like. It was as if they were kindred spirits. Sheffield got to hold both of his new grandchildren for a few minutes each. That was all it took and he fell in love with both of them.

When he handed Geoffrey back to Edith, he said, “That a fine looking boy. You did a great job.”

“Thanks Uncle Sheffield. But Craig had something to do with it too.”

Then he got to hold Teresa. “She’s a beautiful as you are, Norma.” he said

After a while, he and his mother came out to watch Little Geannie and let Janet and Takara have

their turn.

Craig spent as much time at the hospital with his wife and new son as he could before he had to go back to Norfolk for the rest of the month late Tuesday afternoon.

After the normal amount of time in the hospital they both got to come home. Wisely, their mothers kept them home for a few more weeks before venturing out with them. But that didn't stop others from going to see them.

During that time, June faded like a dream and it was the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Jerry Gover had rode the train all the way across the country to spend a week with Janet. Since Ramona didn't think it was a good idea to put him upstairs with the girls in the only empty bedroom, so she put him on the couch.

That year, Sheffield's family opted out attending the Austin/Brason 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration at the cabin. Craig and Norma each had new babies and Janet had Jerry there. But Walt and Sarah did stop by and picked up Ellen to take her. Instead Sheffield's family had a simpler get together on their own. The babies, who were now two weeks old, ventured out long enough for their mother's to attend the family picnic.

While Jerry was there visiting Janet, Sheffield took the opportunity to talk to him about his plans and goals in life. He still planed to serve a mission after his second year at Ricks. He really liked Janet and hoped that she would still be available when he returned. Ramona asked Janet how she felt about him and she admitted that she really liked him to, although neither of them had ever uttered the word "love" to or in reference to one another.

During the week that he was there, Janet took him around to all of her favorite places and he attended church with the family on Sunday. He seemed fit right with the family. Of course, he was on his best behavior, but if he was anything like his father and older brother, that would only be natural. When his visit came to an end, he took the train back to Utah. Again the same emotional goodbye that Sheffield had witnessed in Rexburg played out as they saw him off at the train station.

Ramona nudged Sheffield and whispered, "You can't tell me that they're not falling in love."

\* \* \* \* \*

On July 2, 1954, President David O. McKay announced that the church would establish the Church College of Hawaii adjacent to the Laie Temple. Ground was broken on the first permanent building on February 12, 1955.

The Toast of the Town later became the Ed Sullivan Show. It aired on Sunday night on CBS at 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The episode that aired on June 19, 1955 was as described.

