

Our Family Links

The Groberg/Holbrook Family History Association Newsletter

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Mary Alice Cannon Lambert — A Woman of Faith and Resilience



Mary Alice Cannon Lambert

Mary Alice Cannon Lambert is Bonnie Groberg's Grandma's grandmother. Her fascinating story is a legacy in early church history. Mary Alice was the second child born to her parents, George Cannon and Anne Quayle. When she was around 11 yrs old, a visitor came to their home in Liverpool who would change their family's life forever. The visitor was actually their uncle, John Taylor, who had married Aunt Leonora (George's sister) in Canada. Parley P. Pratt

taught John and Leonora the gospel in Toronto. They joined the saints in Ohio. From Nauvoo, John was sent on a mission to England, taking with him a letter of introduction to his wife's family.

George and Anne felt John was a man of God as they listened to and accepted his message. They left England Sept of 1842 with 6 children. Anne's premonition that she would not survive the voyage became a reality when she was buried at sea with her unborn child. George's diary says, "they expected to bear privations or poverty, but we were tried in a more tender part, and were it not for our helpless children's sake I should like to repose under the peaceful blue waters with her who shared my every joy and sorrow." After 8 weeks at sea, they landed in New Orleans. Then, delays on the Mississippi made their arrival in Nauvoo 7 months after leaving England.

They were met by Aunt Leonora and church leaders including the Prophet Joseph Smith. Mary Alice had never seen the prophet but said, "I knew him from all the other men, and, child that I was (I was only fourteen), I knew that I saw a Prophet of God." The Cannon family was welcomed in Nauvoo at a tumultuous time. The following year after the martyrdom, George, a clever carpenter and joiner (cabinet maker) helped to make the coffins and death masks for Joseph and Hyrum.

Father George married a widow and after 6 month went to St Louis for work where he suffered a 'fit of apoplexy' (stroke) and died. Mary Alice's older brother, George Q., and sister, Ann, lived with Aunt Leonora and Uncle John Taylor where George Q. was learning the printer's trade. Though just 16 years old, Mary Alice married Charles Lambert, a recent convert and arrival from Yorkshire, who worked as a stone mason on the Nauvoo Temple. Together they raised Mary Alice's three youngest siblings as they began a family of their own.

Work on the temple continued amidst persecution. During the battle in Nauvoo, cannonballs fell around their house. In a letter Mary Alice wrote, "We had forty acres of land on the prairie and a city lot with a brick house with four rooms and a good well. We had to leave it all to a wicked and ruthless mob... We were driven across the river without receiving one cent for our property." True to his pledge, Charles returned to Nauvoo to help others to flee and was detained by the mob. Mary Alice walked the banks of the river all night in agony of suspense that the mob had fulfilled their threat of execution.

In Iowa along with other starving saints they experienced the miracle of the flock of quails, soaking rains, and the death of friends. The combination of unbroken oxen and the difficult passage at Soap Creek caused Mary Alice to fall in front of the wagon. Before the team could be stopped, two wheels of the 3,000 lb wagon passed over the small of her back. They took her up for dead, but with the blessing of the Lord, she was able to be about in a few days. After months in Winter Quarters, they were prevented from going west with the others because their team animals were killed by Indians. They lived in St Joseph, MO, until they could earn a new team and supplies. When crossing the river on ice from Ferry Point to Winter Quarters, their wagon broke through the ice and all their earthly belongings sank to the bottom. Sympathetic and resourceful saints helped them recover many of their supplies as well as the wagon from the icy water.

When they finally reached the Salt Lake Valley, her brother, George Q. Cannon, had already left for a mission to California and the Sandwich Islands. She was sad to have missed him but grateful for the adobe bricks and lot he left for them to begin building a home. Mary Alice and Charles raised a large family. She served 15 years as Relief Society secretary followed



Left to right: Bonnie Groberg's Great-grandmother (Mary Alice Lambert Woodbury), Grandmother (Annie Woodbury Jensen), and Father (Joseph E. Jensen).

by 22 years as its president. She and Charles were able to return to England on a mission. She was a missionary for the general board of the Relief Society, and served in the Salt Lake Temple into her old age, dying just before turning 92.

References: "Where the Cannon Family Came From" Marian Cannon Bennion. Rare Letter from Mary Alice Cannon Lambert, Nov 1848, from Cannon Family Historical Treasury. Article about Mary Alice from RS Magazine July 1962 quoting an article from YW's Journal Dec 1905. Sketch of the Life of Mary Alice Cannon Lambert prepared by son, George C. Lambert.

George, Bonnie & Heidi



George, Bonnie and Heidi

Big move to Riverton, UT, in the spring of 2019 after 30+ years in Idaho Falls. Our new home required lots of fixups and the yard is still a work in progress. We are learning to deal with hotter summers and UT traffic but are enjoying exploring the outdoors in our new location. We enjoy having college grandsons in Provo!

George retired from pediatric practice and is the project manager for maternal-newborn development in Indonesia and Zambia. Prior to Covid this involved the planning and execution of several teaching trips each year. George helped Dee acclimate back to life in the U.S., assisted with his medical needs, and moves from Julia's, to condo, to care center. Dee is now happy at Geoff and Jen's. Bonnie appreciates the proximity to her parents and being able to help them and siblings in the ongoing concerns with her brother, Chris, post-stroke. Heidi completed a year working at Deseret Industries and now is a part-time aide in a special needs classroom at S. Jordan Elementary.

Brenda & Peter Christofferson Family



The Christoffersons

The Christoffersons are in Idaho Falls and still live in George and Bonnie's old home. (We were thrilled when Carol and Dan Madsen moved into the neighborhood.) Peter spends long hours at the law firm, long hours in Rexburg (thanks to a church assignment at BYU), and still manages to have barely enough patience to coach kids' soccer teams. Brenda organizes, volunteers, cooks, cleans, and makes life possible for the family. Together we like to hike and ski and play sports in the backyard where Brenda is always the last to be picked for teams. Over the past several months, our family has been adjusting to having two sons leave home. Ben (21) is serving a mission in Campinas, Brazil. Jake (19) is serving a mission in Cambodia. At home, Mark (16) is a Junior whose social life wears us out. Scott (14) is a freshman who is relieved to be done with middle school. Jessie (11) is a 5th grade tween. Eric (8) is a 3rd grader with excess energy, and our baby, Lizzie (7) is a 2nd grader. All the kiddos play sports and leave their clothes out...except Lizzie, who usually folds her clothes and thinks sports are dumb.

Gretchen & Gene Hilton Family



The Hiltons

Gretchen and Gene Hilton live in Farmington, New Mexico, near the Four Corners. Gene is a general dentist and Gretchen is a full-time mother. The Hiltons enjoy gardening, hiking, biking, swimming, backpacking, and exploring the outdoors. Their oldest son, Allen, (19) is serving a mission in Brazil, Rio de Janeiro-North. Bryan (17) is a freshman at BYU studying physics and singing with Men's Chorus. Cannon

(16) is a high school junior who competes in triathlons, Darin (14) is a freshman who likes math and robotics, Ethan (13) enjoys playing the piano and soccer, Faith (11) loves gymnastics and has overcome challenges due to epilepsy. Gordon (9) likes to solve puzzles and repair things. Hope (6) loves to read. Ian (4) just started preschool, and Joy (2) is a very spirited toddler. We love our Groberg family and hope you will all come visit!

Laura & Aaron Williams Family



The Williams

Aaron and Laura and their 5 are located in Spokane, WA. Aaron is an orthodontist running a busy practice. His favorite moment is each evening when the girls race to hug him when he gets home. It's a mini stampede through the kitchen. Laura works for Aaron, does kids, chauffeur, cook, PTO, maid. Her favorite moment is when everyone is in bed, and she gets to read without a single interruption. Lillian (8th grade) loves everything from piano to soccer to homework, and if something is disorganized then she will fix that. Madelyn (6th grade) loves memorizing songs, making up dances, and making up her own harmony. Evelyn (5th grade) has red hair and reads anything she can get her hands on. Kristen (1st grade) loves playing and singing and not reading. Weston (Pre-K) has 5 moms and has no clue that he is not the actual center of the universe. It will be a rude awakening when he figures that out. Trixie is our 1-year-old Aussie doodle that helps keep the floor clean. She hangs out under Weston's chair during meals.

Andrew & Tanisha Groberg Family

On assignment with the United States Air Force, Andrew and Tanisha live in Okinawa, Japan with their five children. As a family, they love to spend free time exploring, hiking, and



The Grobergs

snorkeling around the island. Andrew is a practicing neonatologist at the base hospital servicing military members from all branches and busy with church duties as branch president. Tanisha manages the family, keeps busy with church responsibilities, and enjoys scuba diving with Andrew when there's free time. Tayvia (9) loves to play with her friends, all things Harry Potter, and gymnastics class (she is typically found upside down). Arietta (7) is an avid reader and writer (anything from short stories, letter, poems, or jokes) and loves playing with her siblings. Talmage (5) is a proud kindergartener who still loves Legos, helping with house projects, and his new ninja class. Linnea (3) loves to help Tanisha at home, play dolls, and do everything by herself. Larsen (2) enjoys his sibling's antics, climbing in dangerous places, and using new words and phrases each day.

Annie & Benjamin Otte Family



The Ottes

One year ago, Ben and Annie said goodbye to lush, beautiful Michigan and are trying to find beauty in hot, desert Texas! Ben graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School and has begun Ophthalmology Residency with the Air Force in San Antonio. Annie said goodbye to her soccer team, music students, endless friends, and community in Ann Arbor and is trying to establish those great things in Texas. Jack (10) has informed us that he is the fastest 5th grader at school, and the shortest... He loves all things sports, and thrives on competition, heaven help us. Tommy (9) catches every bug, lizard, snake, etc. and loves to give Jack a run for his money in races and sports. The boys are on the same soccer team this season and it's a highlight of the week to watch their games. Cami (5) is loving kindergarten, soccer, all things girly, and anything that interests Jack and Tommy. She's a ray of sunshine in our home...at least 90% of the time!! Daniel (2) makes us all laugh with his dance moves and devious grins. He has officially decided to not be a baby anymore and talks constantly and wants to be wherever the big kids are. We are happy and healthy and send our love to the extended Groberg family around the world!

Joseph & Kalie Groberg Family



The Grobergs

Joseph recently accepted a new job in Carlsbad, CA with Thermo Fisher and he and his wife Kalie are in process of moving and buying a home in that area. They spent the last several years living in Chicago, IL. Joseph was in the Bishopric of their diverse city ward. Kalie taught elementary school with Chicago Public Schools and Catholic School districts until the birth of their beautiful daughter, Finley Valentine Groberg. She is their joy and was born in February of 2020. They loved Chicago but are excited for their new adventures in southern California.

Family Videos and Photos

If any of you have photos or videos from reunions or anything family history related, please send them to me. I will get them digitized and uploaded.

tomgroberg@gmail.com 801-674-8893

Missionaries

Elder Benjamin Christofferson
Campinas Brasil Mission
benjamin.christofferson@missionary.org
[January 2020 — November 2022]

Elder Jacob Christofferson
Phnom Penh Cambodia Mission
jacob.christofferson@missionary.org
[January 2021 — January 2023]

Elder Josh Blaser
Louisville Kentucky Mission
joshua.blaser@missionary.org
[May 2021 — May 2023]

Elder Allen Hilton
Rio de Janeiro North Mission
allen.hilton@missionary.org
[August 2021 — August 2023]

Margaret and Bruce Young
Democratic Republic of the Congo Mission
margaretblairyoung@gmail.com
[January 2022 — June 2022]



Jean Sabin Groberg

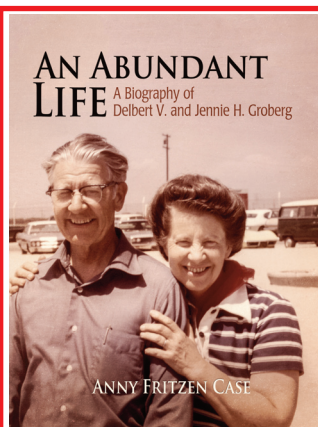
August 30, 1934 - October 8, 2021

“...I did build it [my family] after the manner which the Lord had shown unto me.” - 1 Nephi 18:2

For those who were not able to attend Jean's funeral, the Tongan A pō and funeral services are available online. If you would like a written copy, email tomgroberg@gmail.com

Tongan A pō: <https://youtu.be/aHGjEd7a1dk>

Funeral: <https://fb.watch/8VsKsQAJAV/>



Every descendant of Delbert and Jennie Groberg get their own copy of their wonderful Biography. If you or any of your children or grand-children don't have their own copy, please email, call, or text and I'll send a copy.

Editors Note

We invite you to make tax-deductible contributions to the Groberg-Holbrook Genealogy Association.

Please send your contributions to:

Groberg-Holbrook Genealogy Organization
1605 S. Woodruff Ave.
Idaho Falls, ID 83404

You can also pay via: PayPal to dvgroberg@hotmail.com, or Venmo to @Thomas-Groberg.

You can pay for the cabin these ways as well.