

BIOGRAPHY

Mariam Banks, born on February the 19th, 1921, in Lyman Wyoming, is a native of Wyoming and has lived around the Sweetwater, Uinta, county area most of her life. Mariam has three children. Her first son was born on June the fourth, 1943. Her second son was born on March the tenth, 1945. Her daughter was born October sixteenth, 1947. She gave birth to her children at the hospital in Rock Springs Wyoming.

As A young girl she went to school in Carter Wyoming and the school was so small that all eight grades were in one building. Mariam received good grades in school partly because she says that if you missed some school material in the third grade you could catch up on it in the fourth grade because of the eight grades being in one building. Mariam attended high school for two and a half years then she quit.

As a child Mariam played games like hide and seek and hide the thimble. She was a regular kid that attended all the games when they were being played.

Mariams parents were living in Lyman when she was born. She was born in her grandmothers house in Lyman because they never took people to hospitals in those days for reasons like that.

As a child Mariam got along with other races of people very well. She would play with them as if they were just like everyone else. Mariams parents said that the parents of the children that were of different races never would associate much with other people.

As Mariam grew up she enjoyed the low prices of food or candy or clothes. Most of the candy she would eat when she was young was so called penny candy because that is how much it would cost. She could buy a sucker for a penny. A loaf of bread would cost around five cents and a pound of hamburger for seven to eight cents. Her family would sometimes make candy called honey candy. It was made alot like taffy. She would also make fudge and popcorn balls. She never had alot of candy that she would have to buy because her family was poor so it wasn't often that she would buy candy.

Mariam grew up in a low populated area. Lyman Wyoming was one place she grew up and Lyman was a little town but mostly it was a farming community. Where she lived there was no indoor plumbing so they had to use an out house. A hydrant was put in the area and she would go and get water in buckets and carry it to the house. The town got their water supply from a pipeline that followed the railroad and then was put in to a sistern, which is a big water tank. In the winter, Mariam had to put hot water on the hydrants to allow them to be opened up for use. This all made it a bit difficult to bathe. She would carry the water in the buckets from the hydrant to the house and then put it on a coal stove to be warmed up. Two or three people would bathe in the same tub of water before they would get new water. She would bathe about once a week back in those days.

For health care Mariams family would go to Evanston or Salt Lake. Her father worked for the railroad so whenever her family needed medical assistance they would just hop aboard a train and go. As a young girl, Mariam only had one serious cold and that was called yellow jaundice then, but now is called hepinitus.

She was sick for almost a month and she missed almost a month of school.

Mariam started dating when she was about seventeen years old. Mostly on her dates she would go to dances. It wasn't often to go on dates back then. She had many boyfriends and they would spend time at each others house usually rather than go out somewhere. A relationship of Mariams would usually last only a month or less. The longest relationship she ever had was about two years and she married that lucky man.

Mariams father almost never had vacations and if anyone at the time did it was usually a rare occasion. Her father worked straight through and not often did he get a vacation. On weekends, as a little girl, her family would go out on picnics and go up to the mountains.

Mariams first job was working for a lady that ran the post office and she also ran a hotel. She worked for the lady in the summer time and she would help take care of the lady's kids and she would also do ironing and things like that. Mariams second job was working for the same lady but at the post office instead. Her wages for her first job consisted of twenty-one dollars a month and she thought she had alot of money. With her money she would usually spend it on new clothes. The hours Mariam would work on her first job consisted of going in at nine and working till six. She worked till noon on Saturday and she got Sundays off. She also had holidays off but unlike these days she didn't get paid for them. Mariam has never been laid off from work. She quit her first job to get married.

Mariams family was poor when she was little so on many holidays she would receive homemade articles. Often she would

receive a doll with homemade clothes on it. Her mother would make the doll clothes when Mariam would go to bed.

At school Mariam was expected to wear dresses along with all the other girls in the school. In the cold winter it was alright to wear slacks or jeans.

Mariam had chores she had to do when she was young such as washing the dishes and also taking care of the younger brothers and sisters of the family. She also helped with the cooking. Mariam and her brother had to wash the dishes each morning before they went to school.

Mariam married Walter H. Banks at the age of twenty-one. They met up at a dance in Carter Wyoming when Mariam was eighteen years old. They were married by a justice of the peace, in Green River, Wyoming. In their first years of marriage Walter worked on the railroad and that is where they got their coal to keep their house warm and to cook on. Some appliances that Mariam used when she was first married were a gasoline washing machine and a gasoline iron. While Walter was at work Mariam would stay at home and watch over the kids and clean the house and also socialize with other women of the area. When Mariam got married, her and Walter moved to Granger where she still lives. Walter died in 1974 and it was indeed Mariam's saddest memory over the years.

Mariam is a republican and she has been as far back as she can remember. Mariam's dad was a republican and her mom was a democrat. She says that she just started voting republican and she has stuck with it. She says she votes for the person mostly and not the party. Mariam says she is registered republican but she has voted for just as many democrats as she has republicans.

Mariam first started voting when she was twenty-one years old.

In Mariams view republicans are more for the rich people and the democrats are more for the working class.

Mariam is now living in Granger Wyoming and she lives alone. She has family members all around the county in which she lives, so she is often visited by family members. She works at Little America , which is a motel and a truck stop and a restaurant and also a gift shop, as manager of the souvenir department.

NAME: Mariam Banks

PRESENT ADDRESS: 405 - 2nd St - Granger, Wyo. 82934

1. Present profession or occupation: Manager - Gift Shop
2. Occupations followed in the past (give dates):
3. Date of birth: Feb 19, 1921 Place of birth: Lyman, Wyo.
4. Date of moving to Wyoming: Lived here all my life
5. Full name of parents (give mother's maiden name)
Walter S Tanner - Louise Blumel
6. Names of brothers and sisters (and to whom married): Charles Tanner - Pearl Workman
(Harold Tanner - Mary Hammer) - (Helen Tanner - Clifford Kizzier)
(Luth Tanner - Everett Rollins) (Marie Tanner, Zildon Lee)
7. Schools attended (give dates):
Carter grade school 1926 - 1934 - Mt View Hs School 1935 - 1938
8. Places of residence in Wyoming (give dates): Lyman Wyo - 1921 - 1926
Carter Wyo - 1926 - 1939 - Granger Wyo 1941 - 1989
Lyman Wyo - 1939 - 1941
9. Military service (dates, awards, area served, rank, etc.):
10. Political offices held (give dates): Granger Town Council Member
1974 - 1989
11. Political affiliation: Republican
12. Religious affiliation: L.D.S.
13. Marriage (spouse's name, date and place of marriage):
Walter H Banks - Drew Linn Wyo - Apr 5, 1942
14. Children (names, dates of birth, grandchildren, etc.):
Sons - Walter E. Banks - June 4, 1943
Melvin S. Banks - March 10 ~~1945~~ 1946
Daughters - Marilyn Banks, Oct 16 1947
Jeffrey Eugene Banks Feb 11 1968 - Rock Springs
Rosey James Banks Dec. 9 1969 - Murray Utah
Wendee Ann Banks Aug. 4 1975 - Rock Springs
Michael Leroy Banks Nov. 14 1968 - Rock Springs
Kevin James Banks - Rock Springs
Feb. 20 1971 - Rock Springs
15. List of clubs and societies of which you are a member:
None