

With the permission of Joseph's son, Mike Noble, I am posting this record here to share.

Joseph Edward Noble Jr.

Joseph Edward Noble Jr. born in Mesa, Arizona, June 21st, 1913 at 9 PM, with his father, grandparents and a few near relatives present. Good old Dr. B. B. Moeur of Tempe, was attending physician, with Grandfather Warren L. Serrine administering the chloroform. We called the newborn baby "Edward" so as not to be confused with his father of the same name. He was christened by his grandfather Benjamin Noble, when he was eight days old.

Edward was a large, thin 8lb. baby, with but little light hair, healthy color and large blue eyes. He grew fast and weighed 23 1/2lbs. at five months when he had his picture taken with his mother. He was very quiet and slow in action and he the colic a great deal. Some of the folks thought he was sorta' dumb as he hung his lips open, too. But, when he began school he learned to read very readily and the "folks" changed their opinion right away. He got excellent grades for 3 1/2 years so the teacher had him skip a half-grade. This put him a little behind in mathematics but he excelled in reading, spelling, geography, and history.

When Edward was 9 1/2 years old he sang "A Mormon Boy" in Maricopa Stake Conference which was held in the Mesa Auditorium, later called the "The Mezona". Wendell helped Edward in the song while Linwood accompanied them on the piano.

He sold papers on the corner of Adams and Center Streets. in Phoenix and helped buy his first bicycle, after which he had a paper route.

When 12 yrs of age he was made a Deacon, and was soon was President of the Quorum. He attended all his meetings, behaved well and was obedient.

He entered the Phoenix Union High School when 13 1/2 yrs old, after finishing the Monroe Grade School across the street.

When 14 yrs of age he delivered a ten-minute talk in Stake Conference in Mesa on "How a Boy Should Spend The Sabbath". Bro. Geo. Macdonald who had the Deacons in charge helped him a little with the speech and his Mother finished writing it out for him. He delivered this speech in a fine manner and received a lot of compliments and praise for it.

In Sept., 1927 he got a job on Saturdays as a helper on a vegetable wagon at \$2.00 a day. He was a good boy and saved his money. He read a great deal.

At 14 yrs of age Edward had grown to be 5ft. 4in. tall, and weighed 135 lbs. He was very kind and loving to his Mother.

Then he began to lose interest in school. He played hooky from school and would go to an old Book Store and read one book after another. He dropped out of school for a while, then returned again and graduated from the Phoenix Union High School.

He liked the R. O. T. C. which was part of the High School training and was made a Captain in the same.

During the depression Edward joined one of the CCC Camps up on the Bush Highway, there being no other employment available.

He later attended the Temple College for a year.

He then went on a two-year Mission for the Church and labored in the Eastern States Mission. He filled an Honorable and successful Mission and he was one of the best speakers in the Mission. Upon returning from this Mission he took another year of schooling at the Tempe College. He also joined the National Guard of Arizona, and was made a Lieutenant in the same. He became an Expert Rifleman and as high man in the scoring on the State Rifle Team that competed in the shooting at Camp Perry, Ohio, two different years.

Edward next joined the Army and went to Ft. Bliss, El Paso, Texas. He later was transferred to an Army Post near Norfolk, Virginia. While there he married Violet Grantham Adkins of Logan, West Virginia, whom he met while on his mission. For this the Army let him out and he drove Violet and their first baby boy, Joseph Edward Noble III, to Phoenix. Here he worked for the Standard Oil Co. at the Service Station at Central and Roosevelt Streets in Phoenix, then later at a Service Station in Wickenburg, where he took Violet and the baby boy whom they called "Joe Ed".

When World War broke out the "Call of Duty" was too great for Edward and he enlisted in the Army again. This was a great disappointment to his Mother, because of the low standard of Army Life, and also, he leaving his wife and family.

Because of his previous military experience, he soon was made a Corporal, then a Sergeant, and later a Lieutenant of Infantry. He was sent to Germany soon after "D" day and commanded a Platoon of Infantry thru France and into Germany, where he captured a German Town and took many Prisoners, for this he received the Bronze Medal with two Oak Leaves and the Purple Heart. During this engagement, he was severely wounded in the hip and leg by shrapnel. He was sent to an English Hospital in England, where the young Medical Officer wanted to amputate his leg. Edward refused to permit this, and, that night climbed out of the Hospital window, hired a "Cabbie" and went to another Hospital where they saved his leg.

When he returned to duty he was sent to the Japanese War, and at Guam having been promoted to the rank of Major, he commanded the troops defending "Pork Cop Hill" under constant fire and bombardment for fifty-six hours. For this heroic service, he was promoted to

Lt. Cl. and awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the second highest honor medal given by the Army.

After the war, he was Stationed in Japan and sent for Violet and the three boys, Joseph E. Noble III, Jerry and Michael, which they had at that time. They went there and lived for a year, then returned to the U. S. A. and lived with Dad and Mother 1428 E. Fillmore, Phoenix, Arizona. While here, Violet attended the Tempe college and obtained a B. A. degree for teaching. She bought a little home at 1225 E. Portland, Phoenix, and began teaching at the Capitol School in Phoenix. She also divorced Edward.

Edward married a Red Cross Worker by the name of Genevieve Robinson, and decided to make the Army his Career. He liked the Army and become a “natural” in it. He excelled in all that he did in the Service. Among the things he did in the Service was shooting, commanding troops, inspecting, and instructing. Some of his assignments were Recruiting Duty, Inspecting, and Instructing. He was an Instructor at Ft. Benning, Ga., and as such he did well, and several times took pride instructing classes of high ranking Army Officers.

Because of his knowledge of Army rules and regulations he was assigned the task of rewriting the Army Infantry Manuel, and was given a large Office Force for that Purpose at Ft. Benning, GA.

Having been divorced from Genevieve, and while on Recruiting Duty in Seattle, Washington, Edward met and married Louise Cullen. Two girls were born to them, namely, Shelley Lee and Michele Kay.

Sept. 19th, 1959, Edward flew home to Phoenix to attend a “This Is Your Life” program for his father, Joseph Edward Noble, sponsored by the three Phoenix Stakes. It was a grand affair. The Program was rendered at the Phoenix First Ward Recreation Hall, at 18th St. and Brill, and was arranged by Wendell Noble, assisted by his brother and sisters. With children, grandchildren, relatives, and friends there were about twenty-five hundred people present. It was a lovely party and program and Dad was really surprised.

Then in June, 1962, Edward came home again and took part of the Golden Wedding Celebration of his parents. This was held at the same place mentioned above. He and his brothers and sisters rendered the program and he was also Master of Ceremonies. It was a wonderful occasion ever to be remembered.