

MY PERSONAL NOTES ON MY FATHER'S FUNERAL ARTHUR MANWARING

Alan Cannon took charge of the funeral. Harvey Allen opened with prayer. The choir sang, "Though Deepening Trials". The organ music accompanying was ever so pretty. Bishop Howard W. Anderson was first speaker. He told of how much benefit he'd had from association with dad in the bishopric--how he learned to think first and then act. He said he'd learned that the whole Manwaring family was strong of character. He said he'd rather be sitting with the mourners, because he'd rubbed elbows with Arthur for several years and he'd received many blessings and a testimony from him. I've been to the home many times during Brother Manwaring's illness and his wife has always been genial and smiling and the atmosphere was one of love and unity.

After brother Anderson's speech, Alice Hebdon sang, "Star Divine". Marvin W. Elison was second speaker. Brother Elison said he'd received his first wonderful opportunity from dad--that one day dad came to him and said, "Brother Elison, I've been tutoring you for a long time--now I want you to go to work for me." That started me to working in the church on a road that has kept me in some office or another through the last 25 years. I can remember one night when Arthur and I stayed to a man's home until 2 o'clock in the morning discussing the principals of the gospel. Mr. Manwaring was a man with a testimony of the gospel that he has taught his family since they were small. I've rubbed elbows with Arthur in play and in work, and have found him to be square and honest at all times. I didn't think it would be hard for me to talk at this funeral, but I ask and pray that I can control my emotions. The family needs our prayers and especially the boy over in Australia, who is unable to come here today. He's the one who needs the blessings of the Lord at this time. Then Mrs. Verda Ball sang, "Sundown".

President of the stake, J.E. Williams was the third speaker. "I've bumped elbows with brother Manwaring for many years. I recall a story about some people of a religious sect who made their financial gains by putting on the "Passion Play". Some tourists on their way through this town went to see the play and enjoyed it very much. After the play they decided to go backstage to see the players. The wife decided to take her husband's picture while he held the cross. The husband could lift the cross only with great effort. They inquired of the man who played the part of Christ--why the cross was made so heavy. The man told him it enabled him to feel the same things--sadness, weariness and pain that Christ felt when he carried his cross to Calvary. That's the way I feel today. My mother died while I was on my mission. My companion gave me his sympathy and best wishes but I never did feel that he could fully sympathize with me as he didn't know her either.

I feel that I can fully sympathize with sister Manwaring and her family today, because I've felt exactly what they feel. I can also sympathize with the boy in training in Australia. He needs our blessings and friendship now.

I feel that we owe the Manwaring family something for the way they are always ready and willing to do anything when they are asked. They are all talented and are always glad to help out when they can.

Howard Packham sang a beautiful baritone solo, “The Link That Binds”, after which brother Alan Cannon made a few remarks about dad and how they appreciated the way the children were always ready and willing to help out when we need them. The choir then sang “I Need Thee Every Hour”.

The pallbearers were:

Michael Johnson	George Belnap	Cheslie Woodland
Stanley Elison	Ross Higgins	Alvin Bergeson

The relief society ladies took care of the flowers. There were 58 different sprays and they were very beautiful.

Brother Cannon thanked everyone in behalf of the Manwaring family for all the flowers and the ones who took part on the program, and also everyone who had in any way contributed to the services.

Wanda M. Jorgensen