

Reubwen Emerson Baxter
Brief Biography by his son James (Kip) Baxter

My father's name is Reuben Emerson Baxter. His nickname was "Rube", of course. He was born 14 December 1883 in Salt Lake City. My mother's name is Julia Mary Strong and she was born in Alpine, Utah 31 December 1886.

They both worked for the sugar company (*Utah Idaho Sugar Company*). She moved to Garland and worked for Grover Mercantile Co. Rube went to school until the 8th grade and quit to go to work for Utah Power and Light Company. He also worked for Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company. His mother died in September of 1905, the same year he was called to the Southern States Mission. When he returned, he attended a Relief Society Dance and there met Julia and fell in love. The following spring they were married in the Salt Lake Temple, 17 Mar 1909. Shortly thereafter they returned to Garland where Rube was manager of the Telephone Company there. About a year later they buried a premature baby boy who lived only two hours. They named him Samuel Johnson. Later they had two sons, Harold Emerson, born 20 September 1910, and James Clifton, born 2 May 1912.

They moved to Magna in 1914. He was working for Utah Power and Light when he was severely burned by 2,300 Volts. He slowly recovered and moved to American Fork where he ran a movie theater and also an electrical business. They moved to American Fork in 1916.

Rube owned a dog which they named "Swipe" because he stole food from the table. He also owned one of the first Model T Fords in American Fork.

Reuben died 13 October 1946 and is buried in the Salt Lake City Cemetery

(Note by Karen: Brent loved to go with his grandpa Reuben on his electrical inspections in Salt Lake. Brent first gained a love of things electrical from his grandfather. Reuben gave him a large book outlining the theory behind electrical circuits.)

Julia was made Financial Chairman to build a summer cabin in American Fork canyon, which later became the famous "Mutual Dell".

Julia was valedictorian for her graduation from BYU. She had a nice singing voice and played the piano and was an excellent cook. She cooked for several years for the Lion House. She passed away 16 September 1957 in the L.D.S. Hospital. She lived in Capitol Hill Ward.

(Note by Karen: Pat and Kip took care of Julia for several years. She lived with them. This was not an easy task for Pat as Julia had diabetes)