

MARY S. CHRISTENSEN OBITUARY
(mother of Julius Jensen. Julius Jensen married Vilate Goodrich)

Transcribed from the -Vernal Express, November 28, 1935 edition
By Rhonda Thacker Holton

MARY S. CHRISTENSEN EARLY PIONEER BURIED

Mary S. Cristensen, Native of Denmark; pioneer of Salt Lake Valley and Vernal, passes to the great beyond Thursday, Funeral services held at Second Ward Chapel Saturday.

At 7 o'clock Thursday morning, November 21, death claimed the victory for Mrs. Mary S. Christensen, a pioneer of Salt Lake City and the Ashley Valley, after a prolonged illness of six weeks of cancer and ailments incident to old age. All her children were at her bedside.

Funeral services were held on Saturday at 11 a.m., in the Vernal Second Ward Chapel with First Counselor Charles S. Carter presiding and conducting the services.

At the funeral services a great many friends were present to pay last respects to the departed. There were many floral offerings.

A double mixed quartet consisting of J. Olive Davis, George C. Davis, Miss Meda Walker, Mrs. Rose Walker, Mrs. May Henderson, Mrs. Harmon S. Sowards, John Walker and Arthur Manwaring. Miss Zelda Bingham was accompanist. The following songs were sung "Oh My Father," "I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go Dear Lord" and a tenor solo "My Task," was sung by George C. Davis, accompanied by Mrs. Elva E. Davis.

The invocation was offered by George A. Slauch and the benediction by H. W. Woolley.

The speakers were William H. Siddoway and Charles S. Carter, who told of the struggle of the deceased and her faithfulness through her adversities and the rearing of her family. Interment was made in the Maesr cemetery with E. J. Winder, dedicating the grave.

Mary S. Christensen, 83, was born in Denmark, February 23, 1852, her father being Christian Petersen and her mother Karen Mateesen. Little is known of her early life except that her family and self were LDS adherents, her parents coming to Utah after the emigration of their daughter.

Mrs. Christensen sailed from Liverpool, England on the last sailing vessel to cross the Atlantic Ocean with LDS emigrants. There were between eight hundred and nine hundred emigrants on board this ship.

Because of storms at sea it took seven weeks and five days to make the voyage to New York City. Mrs. Christensen had left Denmark June 5, 1868 and arrived in Salt Lake City September 28, 1868.

While aboard the ship she was married to Hans Jensen, one of the emigrants. Upon their arrival at New York the trip by train was made to Laramie, Wyoming, which was at that time the western terminus at the Union Pacific Railroad.

At Laramie an ox train from Salt Lake had arrived several weeks before to take the emigrants to Salt Lake Valley.. Because the storm had delayed the emigrants provisions were at a low ebb and much suffering was endured by all during the journey.

Mr. and Mrs. Jensen with others, were sent to Draper, where their first child, Richard "Dicky" Jensen was born.

Because of hardships and other causes Mr. Jensen became dissatisfied and induced Mrs. Jensen to accompany him on a homeward trek to Denmark. On arrival at Omaha Mrs. Jensen refused to go further. Her husband in 1875 returned to Denmark where he later died.

She and her three children came back to Salt Lake City, this time all the way by team. To support her family she became an employee of the ZCMI, working in the overall factory for a time.

She married Herman Ambrosen who she later divorced after one child was born. She was given her maiden name by decree of court. In this instance, following the Danish custom of names, her name after Christensen after the given name of her father.

Being a splendid seamstress she later became tailoress of Salt Lake City for Leverberg Company, tailors of New York City, who had established tailor shops in many western towns. She purchased a home there.

During the hard times of 1893 she lost her home, and as her son "Dicky" was established in business in Vernal came here in about 1894 where she since made her home and also an independent living, at sewing or selling goods, until about two years ago when she became a semi-invalid, but still did her own work until six weeks before her death.

Her hatred of being waited upon made her refuse even the good turn desires of Boy Scouts who time after time tried to do outside chores for her. After coming to Vernal, she made alterations for the Ashley Coop and other firms and did dressmaking for private individuals.

All four of her children survive and were here at the time of the death of their mother. Richard Jensen of Vernal commissioner of Uintah district Boy Scouts and retired rural route carrier, Julius Jensen, St. George; Mrs. Carrie Jensen, Murray of Duchesne and Mrs. Maggie Ambrosen Wainwright of Magna.

The deceased was a faithful Latter-Day Saint and always a worker in the Relief Society of her ward. Many of her kindly deeds were known only to the recipient and herself. She never told others of them.

-Vernal Express, November 28, 1935

[Return to Goodrich Family Organization Home Page](#)