



Bishop Dean M. Davies

Second Counselor in the Presiding Bishopric

When the President of the Church asks Bishop Dean Davies details about a prospective temple site, such as how long will it take to walk from the nearest bus stop, Brother Davies doesn't rehearse mere facts. He knows firsthand the experience of the patron by having walked the route.

"How do you do that?" President Gordon B. Hinckley once asked him.

Focused devotion and attention to details are how Bishop Dean Myron Davies—newly called as the Second Counselor in the Presiding Bishopric—has lived his life.

Born in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, in September 1951 to Oliver T. and Myra Davies, Bishop Davies was raised in a family where love and work were guiding principles. If he wanted something, he was to earn it. When persistent pleas to his mother failed to get him a longed-for toy, he considered his options. He still remembers the physical strain and resulting satisfaction from pushing an old-fashioned lawn mower through a neighbor's tall grass.

After serving in the Uruguay/Paraguay Mission from 1970 to 1972, he returned home to marry Darla James, a friend from his early youth, in June 1973 in the Salt Lake Temple. Bishop Davies earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from Brigham Young University in 1976 and later received advanced executive training at Stanford and Northwestern Universities.

Over the years, he and his wife and their five children lived in six states as his career evolved in the real estate industry. He served as stake president, as a counselor in stake presidencies, on five high councils, in bishoprics, and in various ward assignments. He also served as president of the Puerto Rico San Juan Mission from 1998 to 2001. At the time of his most recent call, he worked as managing director of the Church's Special Projects Department.

Among the lessons he has experienced is that "the Lord loves and guides His children." ■



Linda K. Burton

*Relief Society
General President*

As a teenager, Linda Kjar Burton had a sudden realization during a Church meeting in Christchurch, New Zealand. "I knew the gospel was true," she recalled. "I was also aware I had always known." That testimony will now sustain her as she serves as Relief Society general president.

Born in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, to Marjorie C. and Morris A. Kjar, Sister Burton was 13 years old when her family left Utah so her father could preside over the New Zealand South Mission. Sister Burton—the second of six children—attended the Church College of New Zealand and associated with Latter-day Saint teens from across the Pacific. She returned to Salt Lake City with not only a love for varied cultures and traditions but especially for the Lord and for her family.

Sister Burton was attending the University of Utah when she met and married Craig P. Burton in August 1973 in the Salt Lake Temple. The couple decided not to delay starting a family; the first of their six children was born almost a year later.

Working together with her husband, she was able to stay home with the children while he made a career in real estate. Early financial challenges taught the couple to look to the future with confidence "because we knew we had done something hard with the help of the Lord," she explained.

The family took simple vacations and enjoyed being together. Sister Burton served in Young Women, Primary, and Sunday School and on the Primary and Relief Society general boards. She served together with her husband as he presided over the Korea Seoul West Mission from 2007 to 2010. In the mission field, Sister Burton realized—just as she had years earlier in New Zealand—that love transcends language and culture.

She hopes in her new assignment that something she learned from a friend in Korea will apply again: "They will feel your love." ■