



Elder Allen D. Haynie

First Quorum of the Seventy

Elder Allen Decker Haynie was sustained as a member of the First Quorum of the Seventy on April 4, 2015.

Elder Haynie was born on August 29, 1958, to Van Lloyd and Sarah Lulu Lewis Haynie.

He was born in Logan, Utah, but spent much of his youth in other cities in northern Utah and in the Silicon Valley of California. He attended five different elementary schools, two junior high schools, and finally attended a high school in Bountiful, Utah.

This diversity in experience “taught me a great lesson about learning to appreciate everybody,” he said, “because it seemed that every year I was changing locales and having to make friends all over again. One of the things I love about the Church is that it gives us an opportunity to associate with people and find value in their differing backgrounds, experience, talents, and abilities.”

He served in the Argentina Cordoba Mission from 1977 to 1979.

With a bachelor’s degree in political science from Brigham Young University, Elder Haynie went on to obtain a juris doctorate from the university’s J. Reuben Clark Law School in 1985.

He fulfilled a yearlong judicial clerkship on the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Diego, California, before joining the law firm of Latham and Watkins, practicing out of the San Diego office. About five years ago he and his brother formed their own law firm.

Elder Haynie has also served as elders quorum president, ward Young Men president, seminary teacher, high councilor, bishop, stake president, and Area Seventy.

He met Deborah Ruth Hall while attending BYU, and the two were married on December 19, 1983, in the Salt Lake Temple. They are the parents of six children.

Becoming emotional when talking about his testimony, Elder Haynie said he first read and marked the Book of Mormon when he was 12. “I don’t have a memory of not believing; I don’t have a memory of not praying.” ■



Elder Von G. Keetch

First Quorum of the Seventy

A defining moment of Elder Von G. Keetch’s life came as he was completing a judicial clerkship with Chief Justice Warren E. Burger and Justice Antonin Scalia of the United States Supreme Court and preparing to enter full-time law practice.

He could have worked in any city in the United States for a multitude of big law firms. Instead, he and his wife, Bernice Pymm Keetch, prayed for inspiration to know what they should do. After a period of searching, the couple returned to Salt Lake City, Utah, where he went to work for the law firm of Kirton McConkie.

At the time, Elder Keetch thought he might be sacrificing his ability to work on cutting-edge legal cases in order to be near family. Instead, as the chief outside legal counsel for the Church, Elder Keetch argued constitutional issues and precedent-setting cases on religious liberty. He has represented almost every major religious denomination in the country. “I have loved being able to work for such a great client and being able to work on such great issues,” he said.

Born on March 17, 1960, in Provo, Utah, to Gary and Deanne Keetch, Elder Keetch is the oldest of four children. His family lived in Orem, Utah, before moving to Pleasant Grove, Utah—where he and his future wife would serve on their high school seminary council together.

Elder Keetch served in the Germany Dusseldorf Mission and came to love the German people. After returning from the mission field, he married Bernice Pymm in the Salt Lake Temple on November 21, 1981; they have six children. Elder Keetch graduated from Brigham Young University in 1984 with a degree in political science and received a law degree from the university in 1987.

Through the years, Elder Keetch, who was sustained on April 4, 2015, to the First Quorum of the Seventy, has served in bishoprics, on high councils, as a stake president, and as an Area Seventy. ■