



Elder Larry Echo Hawk

Of the Seventy

Since the day in 1972 that Elder Larry Echo Hawk heard then-Elder Spencer W. Kimball (1895–1985) speak of envisioning Native Americans as educated leaders, he has dedicated his life to “lifting people.”

A member of the Pawnee Nation, Elder Echo Hawk was born in Cody, Wyoming, USA, in August 1948 to Ernest and Jane Echo Hawk. He grew up in Farmington, New Mexico, USA, where he and his family were taught and baptized by LDS missionaries in 1962.

At age 17, after being hit in the eye with a baseball, he promised the Lord that if he didn’t lose his eyesight, he would read the Book of Mormon. He regained the use of his eye and read 10 pages every day for nearly three months.

“It was the most powerful spiritual experience I’ve ever had, when the Holy Ghost witnessed to me that the Book of Mormon was true,” Elder Echo Hawk said. “That experience has empowered me throughout my life to help me improve.”

He was recruited to Brigham Young University on a football scholarship and earned degrees in physical education and zoology. In 1970 he was honorably discharged from the United States Marine Corps following two years of service. He graduated from the University of Utah with a juris doctorate degree in 1973.

Elder Echo Hawk has served as an attorney, a state legislator, a state attorney general, a BYU law professor, and the Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior for Indian Affairs—a position he will resign in order to accept the calling to the First Quorum of the Seventy.

Elder Kimball officiated at the marriage of Elder Echo Hawk and his wife, Terry Pries, in the Salt Lake Temple in December 1968. She has stood by his side as he has served as a teacher, bishop, high councilor, and stake president. They are the parents of six children. ■



Elder Stanley G. Ellis

Of the Seventy

Elder Stanley Gareld Ellis knew that no one could prove the existence of God through scientific means, but at Harvard University he learned that he could prove God by testing His promises. Halfway through his freshman year, he ran out of money and secured a job to help pay his expenses. Although he doubted that he could pay tithing and still cover all of his costs, he decided to “prove” the Lord (see Malachi 3:10).

“I paid my tithing first, and a miracle happened,” said Elder Ellis, recently called from the Second Quorum of the Seventy to the First Quorum. “I made it to the next paycheck. And that happened every two weeks for the entire semester. By proving the Lord, I solidified my testimony that He is real and that He keeps His promises.”

Elder Ellis was born to Stephen and Hazel Ellis in January 1947 in Burley, Idaho, USA, and grew up there on a farm and ranch. After a year at Harvard he served in the Brazilian Mission from 1966 to 1968. Following his return, he married Kathryn Kloepfer in June 1969 in the Los Angeles California Temple. They are the parents of nine children.

Following his graduation from Harvard, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in government, he earned a law degree from Brigham Young University. Elder Ellis worked in tax planning and became the chief executive officer of a financial consulting company.

Prior to his call to the First Quorum of the Seventy, Elder Ellis served in presidencies of the North America Southwest Area, the Brazil North Area, the Brazil Area, and on the Boundary and Leadership Change Committee. From 1999 to 2002 he served as the president of the Brazil São Paulo North Mission. He has also been a stake president, counselor in a stake presidency, high councilor, counselor in a bishopric, elders quorum president, and ward and stake Young Men president. ■