



Elder Hugo E. Martinez

Second Quorum of the Seventy

In 1982, Elder Hugo E. Martinez and his wife, Sister Nuria Alvarez de Martinez, were both in their medical residency training in Mississippi, USA, when an unexpected knock came at their front door.

There stood two Mormon missionaries.

“We opened our home to them, but we knew nothing about The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. We didn’t even know about the Mormon Tabernacle Choir,” Elder Martinez says, smiling.

Still, the gospel lessons shared by the elders immediately resonated with the young couple. They soon accepted the missionaries’ invitation to be baptized.

“And we have not looked back ever since.”

On April 5, 2014, Elder Martinez was called to the Second Quorum of the Seventy, becoming the first General Authority from the Caribbean. He is understandably “overwhelmed” by his new assignment.

“But then a sweet sense of peace comes over me and lets me know that the Lord is in charge,” he says.

A year and one month after their baptism, Hugo and Nuria Martinez were sealed in the Salt Lake Temple on October 3, 1983. They are the parents of five children and have five granddaughters.

Elder Martinez was born on January 10, 1957, in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, to Hugo E. Martinez-Sandin and Daly Morales-Alamo de Martinez. While a young man, he chose to follow his father’s professional path and become a physician. He received his medical degree from the University of Puerto Rico (1981) and completed his residency at the University of Mississippi (1984). He practiced medicine until he retired in 2004.

A short time after his baptism, he was called to be a youth Sunday School teacher. He would later serve as a bishop, counselor in the stake presidency, district president, and counselor in the Puerto Rico San Juan Mission presidency. He also presided over the Guatemala Guatemala City Central Mission and was serving as an Area Seventy when he was called to be a General Authority. ■



Tad R. Callister

Sunday School General President

Decades before his recent call as Sunday School general president, Sunday School played a pivotal role in the life of Tad R. Callister.

While Brother Callister was serving as Sunday School president in a ward at Brigham Young University, he got to know his future wife, Kathryn L. Saporiti, whom he married on December 20, 1968, in the Los Angeles Temple.

They are the parents of two daughters and four sons; they also have 24 grandchildren. “A lot of good things happen when you’re the Sunday School president,” Brother Callister says.

Born December 17, 1945, in Glendale, California, to Reed Eddington and Norinne Callister, he declares that he—like Nephi—was born of “goodly parents.”

“My father was my bishop when I grew up,” says Brother Callister. “He used to carry around little cards, and he would memorize vocabulary words and scriptures and Shakespeare.”

Like his father, Brother Callister pursued a legal career. After graduating in accounting from Brigham Young University, he attended law school at the University of California, Los Angeles, and earned a master’s degree in tax law from New York University. He was employed as a practicing attorney with the firm of Callister & Callister.

At the time of his call, Brother Callister had just been released from his calling in the Presidency of the Seventy and in the Second Quorum of the Seventy, where he had served since 2008.

Prior to that, he served as president of the Canada Toronto East Mission, Area Seventy, regional representative, stake president, bishop, stake mission president, elders quorum president and, as a young man, a missionary in the Eastern Atlantic States Mission.

Commenting on the upcoming changes in the adult Sunday School curriculum, Brother Callister says, “The curriculum is, of course, very important, but it’s not as important as the way people teach. The most important thing is that we teach in the Savior’s way, that we teach by the Spirit, and that we teach for conversion.” ■