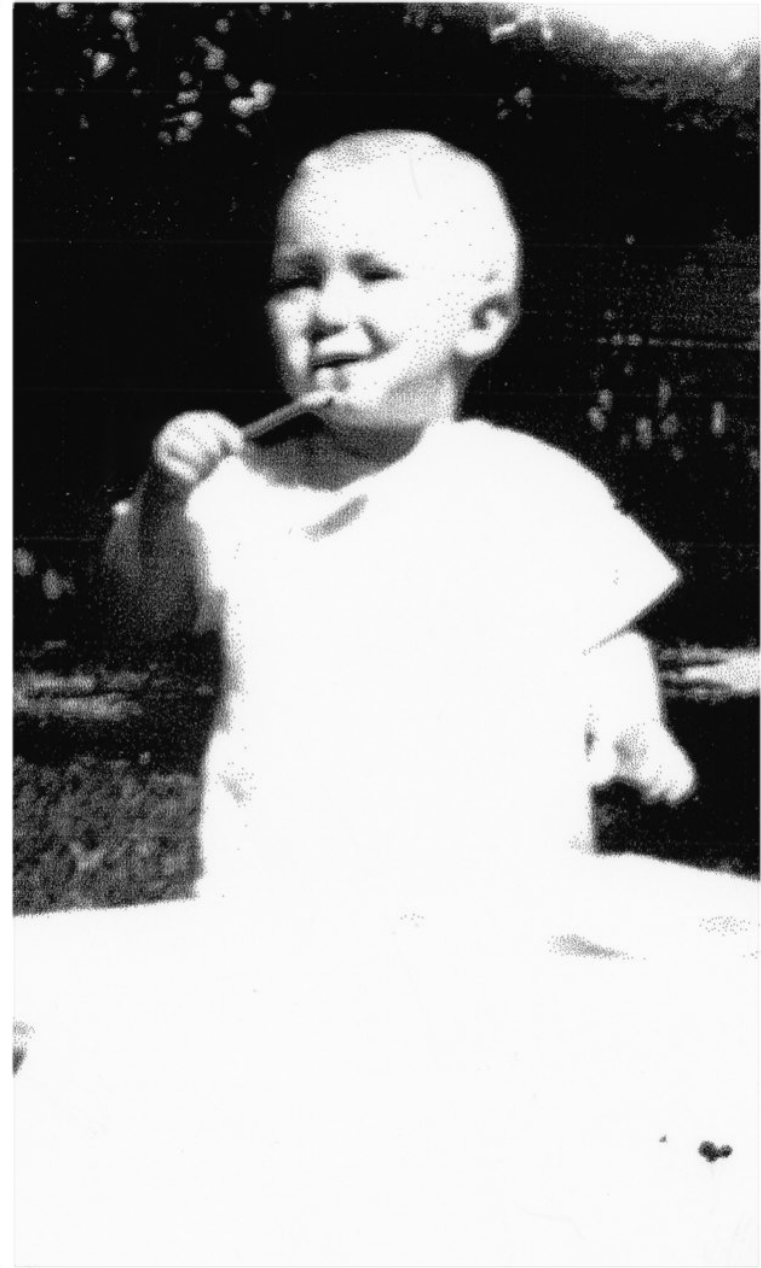


W. DAVID MORTENSEN

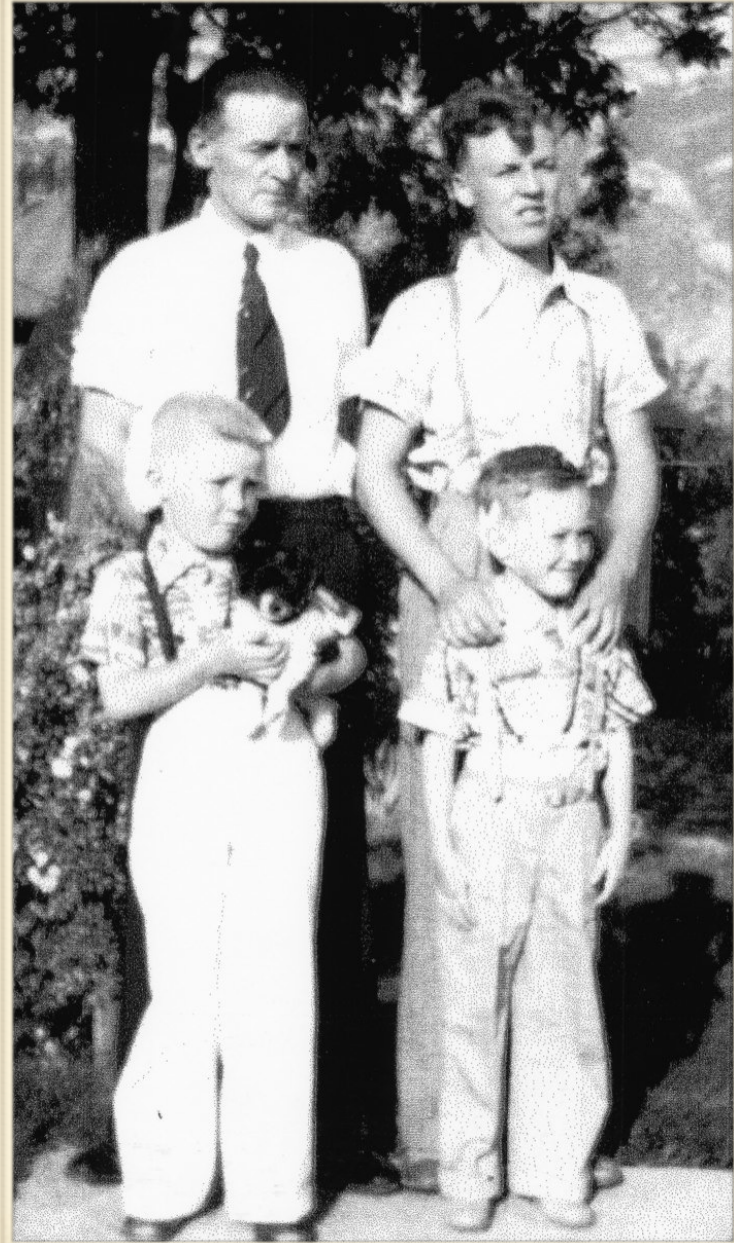
MARCH 29, 2014

CREATED BY JODI BECKER KINNER

- W. David
“Dave”
Mortensen was
born in Provo,
Utah June 3,
1931.
- Dave, age 1.



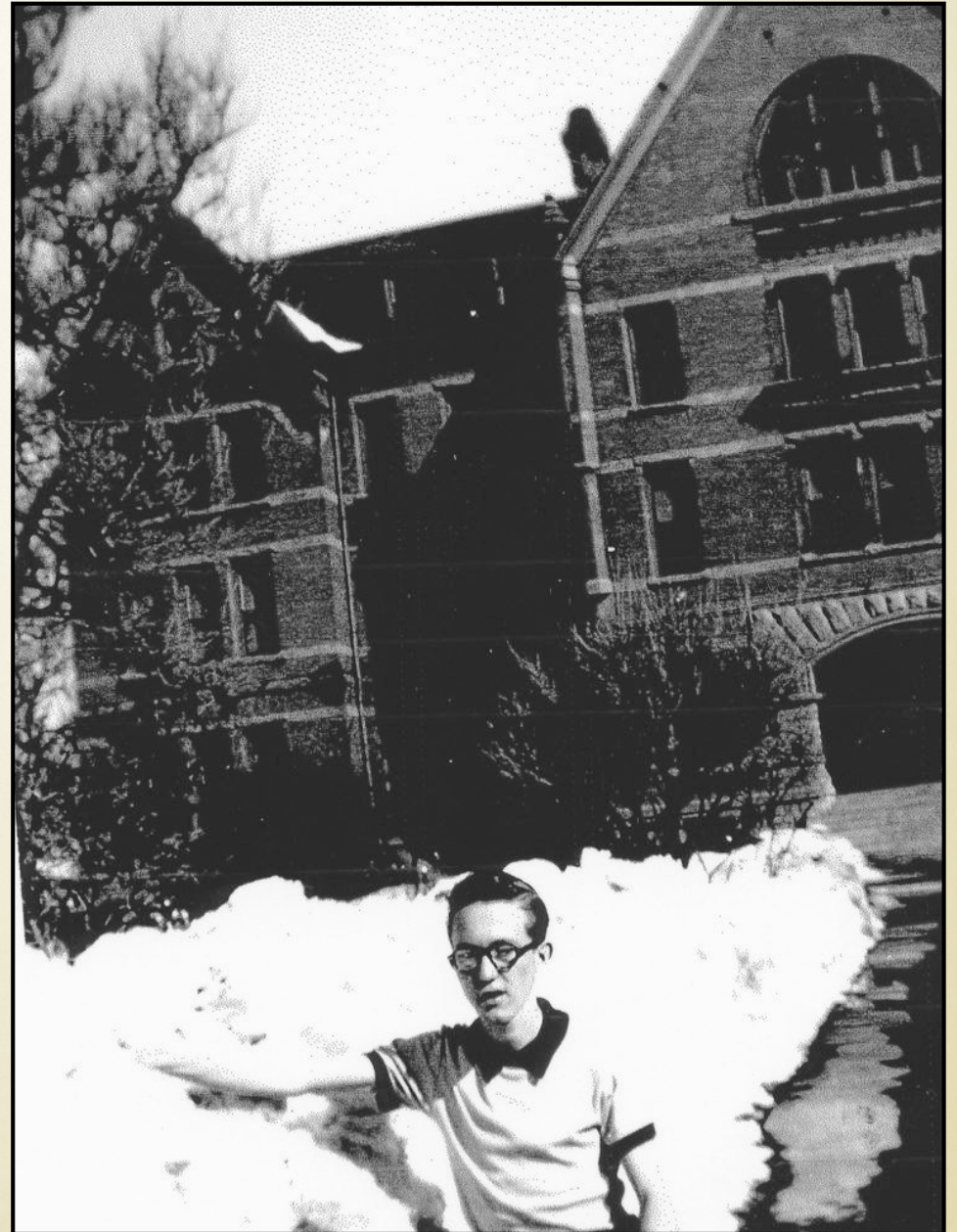
- Dad, Neve, Kent and Dave (age 6).
- He became deaf at the age of 4 from scarlet fever.



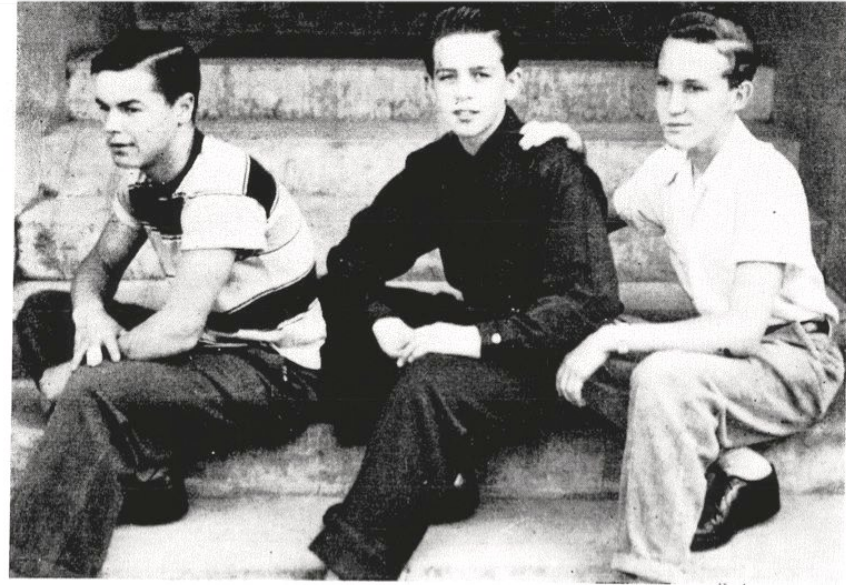
- Dave's last year at Joaquin Elementary School. He was 10 years old at the time. In 1942 at age 11 he was enrolled at the Utah School for the Deaf.



- Dave in front of the USD Main Building.
- The deaf teachers became his role models as he learned sign language for the first time. Thus began a lifetime of advocating for Deaf people.



- Dave with his Park Literacy Society team during his senior year at the Utah School for the Deaf in 1949.



Reading from left to right; Secretary Peter Green, Vice-President Jerry Westberg, President David Mortensen.

The Park Literacy Society

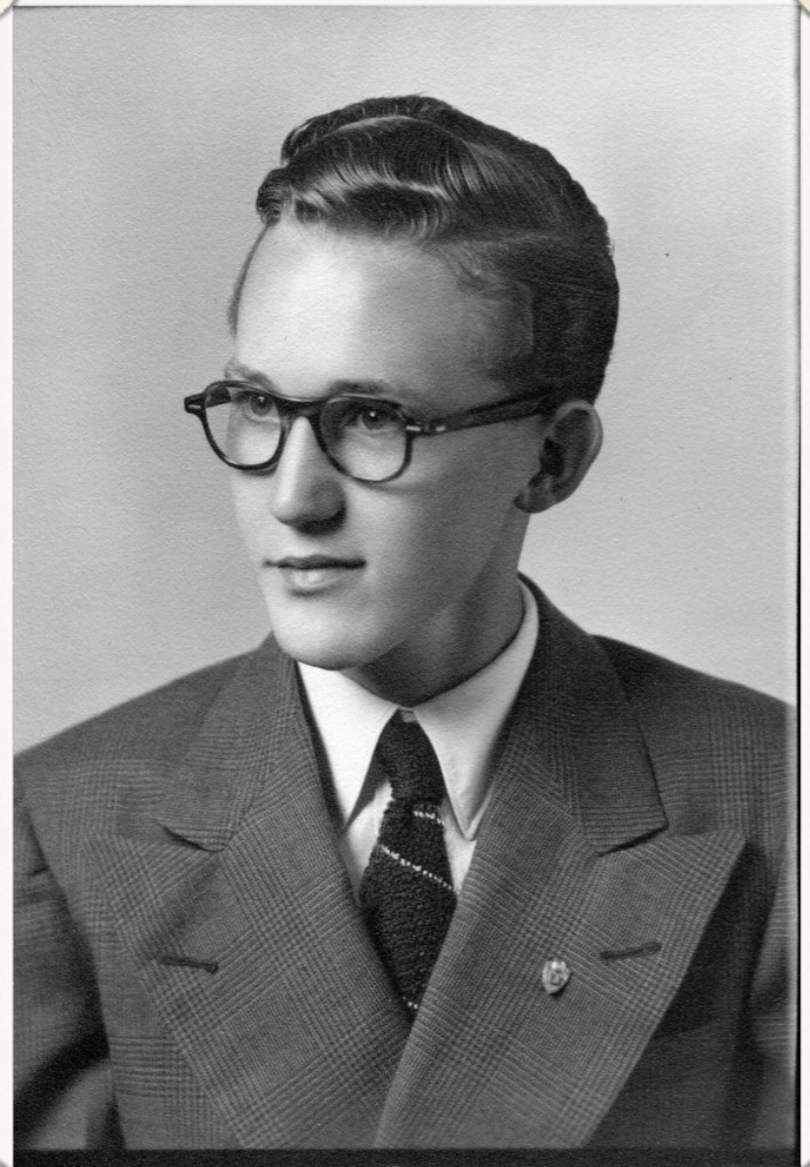
THE PARK LITERARY SOCIETY was established in 1895 by Dr. John R. Park. He was president of the University of Deseret (University of Utah). At that time the school for the deaf was a department of the Territorial University.

The aims and purposes of the meetings, held once a month, are to help prepare many boys and girls who attend it to overcome "stage fright", to help improve their sign language usages, and to help them in "public speaking".

This organization, as you can see is an old one, and it is still going strong. We can boast of an average of 40 members at each meeting, which is a large group.

About twice a year this organization gives a dance and a party for its members, also inviting others from outside of school. This year the club gave a succesful "Homecoming Dance." All who attended were given

- Dave, 1949 Utah School for the Deaf Senior.



- Dave in his classic car.
- After high school graduation in 1949, Dave studied journalism for two years at Brigham Young University.
- He transferred to the University of Utah and graduated in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in sociology, later receiving a master's degree in social work in 1982.
- He was the first deaf certified social worker in Utah and was employed as a counselor for the deaf at Valley Mental Health. He worked nights at the Newspaper Agency Corporation.



- Dave and Shanna's wedding day on June 15, 1954.



- Dave and the UAD 1969-1971 Officers.



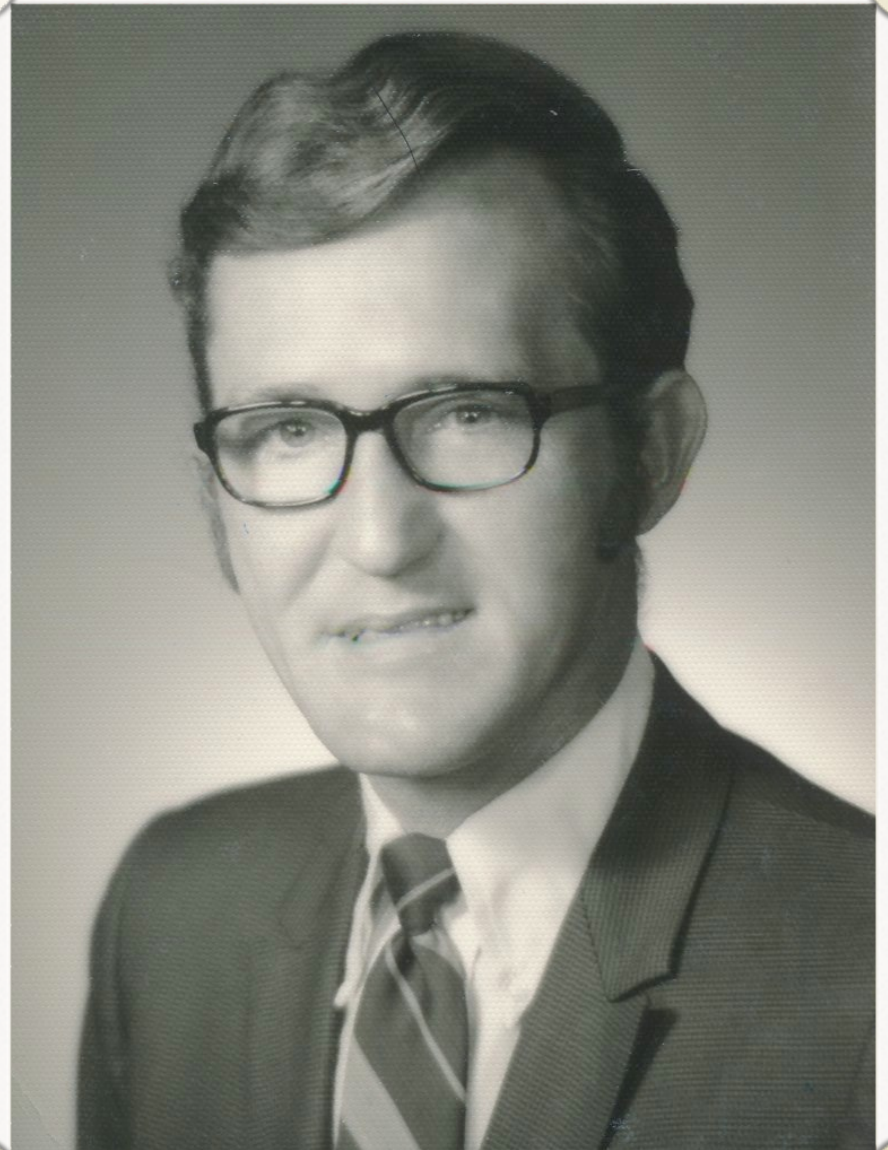
1969-1971 OFFICERS

Front row (left to right): Richard Brubaker, Valerie Platt, Joseph Burnett, Dennis Platt, Ned Wheeler. Back row, Robert Bonnell, Lloyd Perkins, David Mortensen, Robert Sanderson. Absent: George Laramie and Gene Stewart.

- Dave was talking to Utah Governor Scott M. Matheson about the TTYs in 1971. The interpreter was Lucy Greenwood.



- Dave as president of Utah Association for the Deaf, 1975.
- He served as president from 1971-1985, 1987-1991, 1993-1997, a total of 22 years.
- He is the longest serving president in the association.



- Dave with a large mailbox TTY machine.



- Dave was an editor of the UAD Bulletin.
- UAD Bulletin won 1st place at the National Association of the Deaf conference in 1972.



UAD Bulletin Takes First Place

The culmination of a long dream—to be first—began at the NAD convention in Miami, Florida, the summer of 1972, when a "Golden Naddy" was handed to our delegate from Utah, Leon Curtis, who accepted in behalf of the UAD. The Bulletin garnered the most points in judging for various items of interest in a publication for the deaf in the United States. The UAD Bulletin is set and printed in a union shop in Salt Lake City, which also accounts for the excellence in printing. In the above picture, Editor Dave Mortensen is shown holding a copy of the Bulletin and on the desk is the "Naddy." Being first, does not mean that the Bulletin will stop striving for excellence in all categories, but only that to stay in first place when the next national deaf convention comes around it must continue to use new ideas, innovations and news reporting.

- Dave has been an ambitious and persistent leader in the Utah Association for the Deaf.



- Dave in 1980. He is best known for his work as a political activist lobbying the legislators to get laws passed, hosting rallies for causes, writing news articles, and explaining the needs of the deaf.



- 1987 - Enacted the “Hearing Impaired Telecommunication Access Act”
- L-R: Gene Stewart, Peter Green, PSC chairman (can't remember name), next three, Legislators, Tim Funk, Madelaine Perkins (Utah Relay Manager), Dave Mortensen, Robert Bonnell and Governor Norman Bangeter.



- The Utah Relay Service officially went into service on January 4, 1988.
- L-R: Governor Norman Bangeter.
- Lee Shepherd, Kristi Mortensen, Shanna Mortensen, Donna Lee Westberg, Tim Funk (assisted Dave Mortensen on the Hill), Ben Edwards, Mr. Edwards, Roy Cochran, Legislator who passed the bill, Dave Mortensen, Art Valdez and Mae Varley.



- 1989- Utah Relay Service
- L-R: Him Hilber, Diane Williams, Lloyd Perkins, Shirley Snow, Ron Nelson, Kristi Mortensen, Jerry Westberg, Dennis Platt, Roy Cochran, Dave Mortensen , Mae Varley, Robert Sanderson and Governor Norman Bangerter.



- Dave was talking with Utah Governor Norman Bangerter and thanking him for all the signing of the bills advancing deaf causes, 1991.



- 1996 - Utah Relay Service
- L-R: Stephen 'Zak' Zakharias, interpreter, Kristi, Utah Governor Mike Leavitt, Dave Mortensen, Shanna Mortensen, Kristi Mortensen and Jean Jewkes, interpreter.
- They were meeting the Mike Leavitt, the new governor asking him to give support to the deaf.



- **Shanna and Dave Mortensen, 1980s**



- Dave and his family, 1996.



- In September 2007, the Distinguished Service Award was given to Dave for his long time service to the Utah Association for the Deaf, especially with regard to his work with the Utah Legislature.
- L-R: Robert C. Sanderson, Dave Mortensen, Miss Deaf America and Utah Association of the Deaf President Robert Kerr.

