

# Emma M. Emmertson

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Emma M. Emmertson was born on June 27, 1888, in Huntsville, Utah, to Emmert and Petra (Sorensen) Emmertsen. She was a native of Ogden, Utah.

In 1903 at age 15, Emma enrolled at the Utah School for the Deaf in Ogden, Utah. During her senior year in 1907, she joined the girls' basketball team. She graduated that year. Emma could lip-read and speak well.

Four years later, Emma became the second Deaf student to enter the University of Utah. She began her studies in 1911 and graduated in 1917 with a kindergarten teaching credential (Emma M. Emmertson's University of Utah Transcript, 1917).

After receiving her bachelor's degree, Emma taught in Salt Lake City, Utah, for a short time (Utah Digital Newspapers, January 10, 1914). Then she moved to Wyoming to teach at the Wyoming School for the Deaf (Utah Digital Newspapers, January 10, 1914).

At age 30, Emma married a Deaf man named Carl Emil Jorgensen, also an Ogden native, on August 8, 1918, in Farmington, Utah.

Emma's grandson Don Jorgenson II relates that Emma was a suffragette during the Women's Rights Movement in the late 19th century and early 20th century (Anne Leahy, personal interview with Carolyn Jorgenson, wife of Don Jorgenson II, September 30, 2011).



Emma M. Emmertsen, 1907 Utah School for the Deaf Senior  
The Utah Eagle, June 6, 1907

At age 81 on December 3, 1969, Emma passed away. She is buried in Sacramento, California.

## Note

Carolyn Jorgenson, wife of Don Jorgenson II, interview by Anne Leahy, September 30, 2011.

## Bibliography

"Deaf Mute Working Her Way Through University Leads in her classes, adept in many arts."

*Utah Digital Newspaper*. (January 10, 1914).

<http://udn.lib.utah.edu/cdm4/document.php?CISOROOT=/tgm14&CISOPTR=49750&CISOSHOW=50001>

Emma M. Emmertson's University of Utah Transcript, 1917.