

*“Dad’s dream was always to have a farm in Missouri. He did not get this but he had a good life with a loving wife and family and many friends.”*



**SCHOOL DAYS 57-58**

## chapter 6.4

### DAYTON LAWRENCE HARTLEY

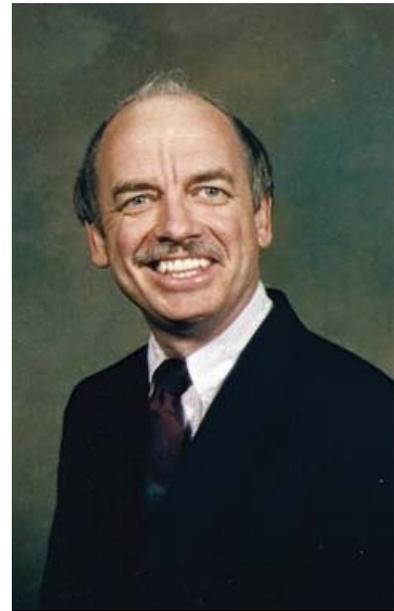
Lawrence & Mina’s third-born (b. 1947)

*Written by Dayton Hartley*

I was born on June 17, 1947, in Los Angeles, CA, the third child of Lawrence & Mina (Bindseil) Hartley. I married Vana Wisner on June 19, 1993, and we have one daughter, Dayna Elaine, born April 2, 1994. My wife, Vana, and I live in Derby, KS, on the outskirts of Wichita, KS.

Vana has a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education from Ohio University and a Master of Science degree from Oklahoma State University. Vana taught 4th grade at Rose Hill (KS) Elementary School for fifteen years. When our daughter, Dayna, was in 6th grade, Vana started teaching 1st grade at Wineteer Elementary School in Derby KS.

Dayton has a Bachelor and a Master of Science degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Wichita State University. Since graduation, Dayton has worked at Beech Aircraft in Wichita in structural dynamics doing aero-elasticity (flutter and gust loads) analyses and tests, landing gear loads analyses and tests, working on aircraft vibration issues, aircraft interior noise and some work on seat crashworthiness. Dayton is presently a principal engineer at Textron Aviation which is the recent combination of Cessna Aircraft and Beech Aircraft.



Like many of her Hartley cousins before her, Dayna is a student at Kansas State University. She is studying elementary education and will be a fifth generation teacher in her Mom’s family. Also, Dayna has an associate degree in Bible Studies and Leadership from Manhattan (KS) Christian University.

## Memories about My Parents

Dad was a farmer/rancher at heart and loved his mom, his brother and sisters and his family very much. Dad enjoyed going back to Ava where Grandma Hartley lived to visit her and all the people he knew. He loved to go down to the town square in Ava on Saturdays to see people he knew. There were many family trips back to Ava for weekend visits.

Growing up it seemed like Dad always had a garden and sometimes sold some of the produce and gave a lot away. Dad



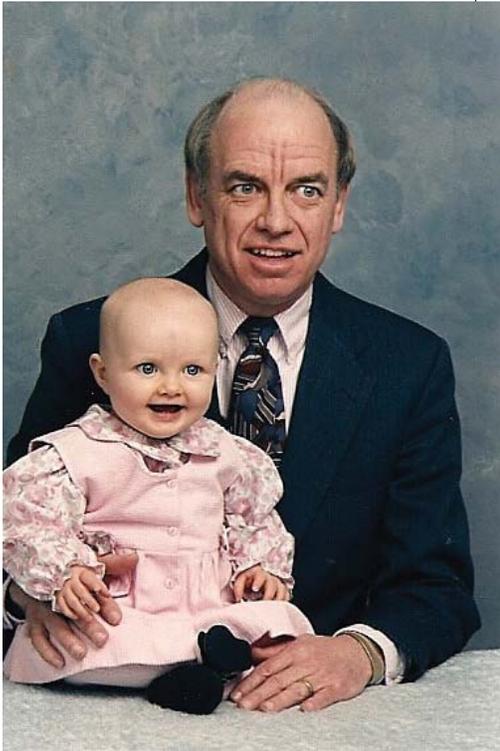
Vana and Dayton on their wedding day, 1993.

## Dayton's Life in a Nutshell

- Born in Los Angeles, CA in 1947.
- Schools: Haysville (KS) and Andover (KS) & Wichita State University.
- Worked as an engineer for Textron Aviation (formerly Beechcraft in Wichita
- Married Vana Wisner in 1993
- One child: Dayna
- Lives in Derby, KS



1993 at Dayton's Wedding  
L-R: Virgil, Johnny, Michael, Dayton, Barbara, Stephen, Richard, and Edward.  
Susan was unable to attend.



Dayton with his daughter, Dayna, who was born in April 1994.



Vana and Dayton with Dayna in 1995.



Dayton, Vana and Dayna at Christmas time.



At left, Dayton, Dayna, and Vana at Lawrence Hartley Family Reunion in 2012.

would grow tomatoes, onions, radishes, potatoes, cucumbers, green beans, watermelons, cantaloupes, eggplants and other things. The radishes and green onions were planted early, and there was always a big harvest. My Mom did a lot of canning of pickles, green beans and tomatoes. Dad at one time brewed homemade beer. It was interesting to watch the process of mixing the ingredients, waiting on the fermentation process, testing with a hydrometer to see when it was ready, bottling the beer and hoping the fermentation was complete so the cap would not be blown off.

Dad raised cows, pigs, and chickens at various times and had horses occasionally. He would buy calves at auction and feed them and when they were grown take them to the Wichita stockyard to sell. Dad had a Shetland pony, a quarter horse and an appaloosa horse, among others. Some of the horses were a little wild so it was good to be careful when walking behind them. Dad had to break one young horse to make it rideable.

Dad also had some milk cows at one time and would get up early in the morning to milk them. He tried to teach some of the kids to milk the cows but nobody could do it very well. Dad also had some Black Angus cows and a bull that looked vicious.

Dad had hunting dogs and enjoyed hunting. He would train the bird dogs and go hunting for pheasants and quail. The quail were very tasty and tender. For a while Dad had greyhound dogs and would use them to hunt jack rabbits. The greyhounds were fast but the jack rabbits were maneuverable; it was exciting to watch the chase. Dad also took the greyhounds to the local dog track on Saturday nights to chase real rabbits and mechanical rabbits; that also was exciting to watch. Dad would take hunting dogs in crates in the back of the pickup and with the neighbors hunt coyotes for the bounty. They would drive around a mile section looking for coyotes, and if they saw one would let the dogs out to chase them toward the neighbor waiting at the opposite road with a shotgun. Dad also did some horse buggy racing at a local track.



Dayton & Vana at Hilton Head, NC in 2005.



2012—Dayna on Prom Night, Derby High School.

Dad enjoyed playing poker. There were many Saturday nights at Aunt Dochia's house with dad and Uncle Bill Luttrell playing poker. Dad would also play poker with neighbors and people he worked with.

Dad's dream was always to have a farm in Missouri. He did not get this but he had a good life with a loving wife and family and many friends. He did get to do many of the things he enjoyed.

Mom was a soft-spoken person and was well liked by everyone. Mom enjoyed her family and visiting with Aunt Verda and Dad's family, and her friends from Faith Lutheran Church. Mom worked hard and never complained. Mom took care of the family, made the meals, cleaned the house, did the shopping and did everything moms do.

Mom was raised in Texas near Lyndon Baines Johnson's home in the country and would ride a horse to school. Mom loved visiting with her brothers and sisters on the phone and on trips to Texas, Oklahoma and California. On trips to Texas mom would speak German with her mom, Oma. Oma would make soap from lard in a tub in the back yard. It was common on these trips to Texas to wring some chicken necks and put them in boiling hot water and then to pull the feathers off (poor chicken).

Mom tried to teach some of the kids to count to ten in German; eins, zwei, drei, vier, etc. Mom, like a lot of teenagers, wanted to get away from home after high school so she went to California where she met Dad.

Mom's cooking was great; fried chicken, meatloaf, creamy mashed potatoes, cinnamon crisps, beans with ham stock, cornbread, raisin pies, gooseberry pies, pecan pies and of course German chocolate cake. It took a lot of sugar to get the tart out of the gooseberries; the gooseberries were picked along the abandoned railroad tracks close to home. Mom did a lot of canning at one time, pickles, tomatoes and green beans. It was challenge to see how many cucumbers could be stuffed into the canning jars; the jars needed to be full.

Mom was a very caring and loving Mom and wife to Dad.



Above, ca 1953—Baby Susan with her five older brothers. Edward & John on the left; Michael & Virgil on the right, and Dayton holding Susan in the center.

**More  
Photos from  
the Lawrence  
Hartley Family**



Above, 1953—Hartley & Luttrell kids. L-R: Joe Luttrell, Johnny, Beverly Sue Luttrell holding Susan, Virgil and Edward Hartley.



At left, 1953—Hartley boys with cousin, Joe Luttrell; L-R: Virgil, Johnny, Edward, Michael, Joe and Dayton.