

*“Dad taught me that life is 10% about the things that happen to you, and 90% about how you react to those things.”*



**SCHOOL DAYS 57-58**

## chapter 6.5

### VIRGIL WAYNE HARTLEY

Lawrence & Mina's fourth-born (b. 1948)

*Written by Virgil Wayne Hartley*

I am the fourth child of nine children born to William Lawrence Hartley and Mina P. (Bindseil) Hartley. My reflections are of a childhood that was wonderful. Like any family, we had our ups and downs. I began life at Los Angeles County Hospital, San Pedro, CA, on October 8, 1948, weighing in at 8 lb. and 10 oz.

#### **Memories About My Parents**

Our dad was a man of many talents, as many farmers need to manage farms. Dad worked as an electrician, machinist, mechanic, welder, oil field worker, lumber jack, carpenter and farmer. The ability to analyze things and work with your hands was passed on to all of his children.

The one overriding thing in the back of dad's mind was getting back to being a farmer. He worked for a farm in California, and also when we moved to western Douglas County, MO near Ava. My younger brother, Johnny, was born there in 1950.

We then moved to Wichita, KS, and Dad worked on farms there also. I can remember mom along with us kids bringing Dad his lunch to the fields where he was plowing or discing the fields. He was covered with dust.

We lived in farm houses all around Wichita, mostly two-story wooden houses which were on farm lands far away from the small towns. We also had many farm animals such as cows, hogs, chickens, ducks, peacocks, horses, ponies and dogs; not many cats or sheep though.

I have two memories among many that stand out. The first is when I was just three or four years old. Dad was sitting at the kitchen table eating breakfast ready to go to work and I was sitting on his lap. Naturally he was feeding me off of his plate. He would chop up his over-easy eggs and bacon and then put ketchup and mustard on them. I loved it! This is when I learned to eat “bread on my butter.”

The second is learning by example. I was around 18 years old and was driving to a class at Wichita State University early in the morning. It was very foggy outside. The signal light had

changed to red. I took a chance and went into the intersection thinking it was still yellow. BOOM I collided broadside with another car in the intersection (low speed).

I called dad and he was so calm. He first asked if I was alright, and everyone in the other car. The man who was driving the other car was a minister. Dad's control of the situation was very thoughtful and his interaction with others was very impressive. From this experience Dad taught me that life is 10% about the things that happen to you and 90% about how you react to those things.

Even though Dad and Mom had their hands full raising nine children, they took time to teach and play games with us. We did many things as a family such as picnics, vacations and trips to visit other family members in Texas and Missouri. Christmas was always special, and we looked forward to it even though we knew there wouldn't be a lot of gifts.

Dad taught us how to drive by letting us drive one of the many different pick-ups we owned. They were stick shift and many times the shifter was on the floor. Through the fields and pastures we would go. Dad also would show us how to hunt and use a gun properly. I can remember going quail and rabbit hunting with dad, Uncle Bill (Luttrell), Uncle Eldon and cousins.

Living away from towns allowed us to go fishing at many creeks nearby where we lived. Dad showed us how to fish and loved to go fishing. Dad was the basis for us learning and knowing about cars. Dad used to tell us that he forgot more about cars than we would ever know. He helped most of us buy our first car and get our first job.

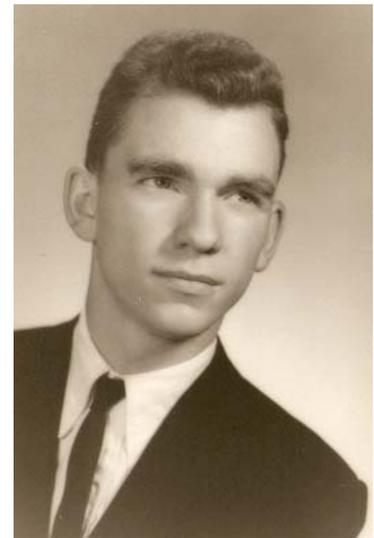
Dad and Mom were both caring and loving people. They expected and demanded that we all be loving and caring people as well. Not just at home but especially in public after all we represented them. They were wise people. Dad and mom led by example. Dad would give someone in need the shirt off his back, and Dad never met a stranger.

Some interesting notes:

1. Dad was always referred to as Lawrence by a lot of friends in Missouri and by lots of the family. But his friends in and around Wichita referred to dad as Bill.
2. Dad taught most of us how to drive; but when in the car with us driving, he would brace himself with his hands against the dash or a hand grab above the passenger door. His words were usually "Son, the light is red" or "Son, aren't you going a little fast" or "Son, aren't you a little close to the parked cars."
3. Mom was usually the softer touch especially when we wanted something. Sometimes she would get tired of us nagging

### **Virgil's Life in a Nutshell**

- Born in San Pedro, CA in 1948.
- Schools: Haysville Elementary; Mulvane High School, Wichita Business College & Wichita State University.
- Moved to California in 1971 and worked 23 years with the telephone company.
- Married Jacqueline Fautleroy in 1982
- Children:
  - Staci
  - Logan
  - Lisa
- Grandchildren: Seven and counting.
- Lives in Phoenix, Arizona.



Virgil Hartley high school graduation picture.



Above, Virgil and Jacqueline (Fauntleroy) Hartley.



Above, Glenwood Springs, CO, 2003—Jacki Hartley, Brittani Williams, Logan Hartley, Lisa Hartley, Virgil Hartley.

her and say “Go ask your dad.” She knew dad would ask “what did your mom say?”; that was usually the end.

### **My Life After Leaving Home**

Education: Haysville Elementary School, Mulvane High School, one year Wichita Business School, two years at Wichita State University and presently going for my BA Degree in Life at the School of Hard Knocks.

I grew up in Wichita, KS, and I packed up and left on January 30, 1971. I arrived in Los Angeles, CA, on February 1, 1971. I was amazed by all the green green and manicured everything!

My Aunt Louise (Bindseil) and Uncle Victor Heiner were my rock and family who helped me so much. This was my mother’s sister (Louise) and family. My cousins and Aunt Louise and Uncle Victor taught me how to enjoy Southern California and the avocado.

I was employed by Pacific Telephone and Nevada Bell (later Southwestern Bell and presently AT&T) for 23 years. I retired in December 2000. I met and married the first beautiful, classy and wonderful lady I met, Jacqueline Ann Fauntleroy, on February 6, 1982. Jacki worked in the same office (9470 Wilshire Boulevard) with me. We were both Service Representatives. Jacki had even won the title of “Miss Wilshire” and was in the papers. Jacki went on to work at the Corporate Headquarters (1010 Wilshire Boulevard), and I went outside working as a repair technician.

Jacki and I had three wonderful and successful children: Staci, Logan and Lisa. Staci Newhouse, born December 22, 1973, was Jacki’s child from a prior marriage.. Logan Hartley was born October 28, 1983, and Lisa Hartley was born March 9, 1985. In 2005, my family and I experienced one of the hardest tragedies anyone would have to endure, the passing of my wife, Jacqueline.

Recently, I moved from Los Angeles, CA to Phoenix AZ to be closer to my daughter, Lisa, and her family.

### **Where Are Virgil’s Children Now?**

**Staci (Newhouse) Ellis**—Staci and her husband Lee Ellis live in the Los Angeles, CA. area where they raise their four wonderful children, Brittani, Brandon, Bryson, and Baron.

**Logan Hartley**—Logan lives in Northridge, CA. Logan has a Bachelor’s Degree and Master’s Degree from

California State University Northridge in Pan African Studies and Sports Management. Logan works as a Teacher's Assistant in Santa Monica, and a Basketball Coach for the 2012 CIF and State Champions, Bishop Alemany High School. Logan is also a referee for various basketball and football games.

**Lisa Hartley-Hampton**—My youngest daughter, Lisa, and her husband, Brandon Hampton, have three children; and twins on the way (due January 2015).

Lisa graduated with a dual degree in Communications and Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley. Brandon also graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a degree in Criminology. Their three children are all under the age of seven—Bralen (six years old), Bishop (three years old), and Brandon Jr. (18 months).

Lisa began her career with Coca-Cola shortly after graduating college in 2007. Lisa and her family make their home in Phoenix, AZ.



Above, standing: Lisa & Logan Hartley. Seated: Staci (Newhouse) Ellis, Brittani Williams, Virgil and Jacki (Fautleroy) Hartley.



Above, Red River, NM, 2000—Virgil & Jacki's Family in New Mexico. Standing: Staci (Newhouse) Ellis and Logan Hartley. Seated: Jacki (Fautleroy) Hartley, Brittani Williams, Lisa Hartley & Virgil Hartley.



Back (L-R): Marc Williams, Brittani Williams, Logan Hartley, Lee Ellis, Brandon Ellis, Virgil Hartley and Bryson Ellis.  
 Front (L-R): Bralen Hampton, Brandon Hampton, Lisa Hartley-Hampton, Staci (Newhouse) Ellis, and Baron Ellis.

At right,  
*"Papa" & the  
 GrandKids*

(L-R) Bralen Hampton, Baron Ellis, Brandon Ellis, Bryson Ellis, Bishop Hampton, Virgil Hartley and Brandon Hampton Jr.



At left, 2012—back  
 (L-R): Logan  
 Hartley, Meme  
 Hampton, Bishop  
 Hampton, Lisa  
 Hartley-Hampton,  
 Brandon Hampton,  
 Virgil Hartley,  
 Front (L-R):  
 Brandon Ellis,  
 Baron Ellis, Bralen  
 Hampton, Bryson  
 Ellis.



At left, Virgil in 2008.



At right, Virgil stretches his arms while standing at the confluence of Beaver Creek (off to the left) and Cowskin Creek (to the right) at Arno in Douglas County, MO. The place is only a couple of miles from where Virgil's Hartley ancestors lived for decades, leading all the way back to the 1850s.