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## chapter 6.9

### RICHARD DAVID HARTLEY

Lawrence & Mina's eighth-born (b. 1960)

*Written by Richard Hartley*

I am the seventh son and eighth child born to William Lawrence Hartley and Mina Paulina Ella Bindseil Hartley. I was born on September 18, 1960, at St Joseph's Hospital in Wichita, KS. Our family was living in a rented house near 21st North and Andover Road at that time.

My dad was 45 years old when I was born. My older brothers told me how dad taught them to ride bikes and how dad even played baseball with them when they were young. By the time I was an age to ride a bike my older brothers were my teachers. But Dad taught me many things before he passed away when I was 22 yrs old. I cannot remember Dad ever talking bad about another nationality or race of people. Dad and mom, by example, gave me a love of raising a vegetable garden. Dad loved to share the produce from his large gardens with his coworkers, neighbors and family. I enjoy carrying on that tradition. During the summer months, I (Roxanne and myself) enjoy making big batches of salsa that I take to my job and share with my co-workers. Wee also enjoy sharing it with our family. Many of the things I learned from my Dad were not appreciated by me at the time, but as I matured, I certainly remember and appreciate them. My Dad, like all of us, had his faults, but he loved his family and worked hard all his life to support his family.

My Mom was 36 years old when I was born. My Mom gave me a love for playing games among many other things. Mom would play games with us kids, she loved to play 42 (a Domino game) and Scrabble. Even into my teenage years I remember playing lots of Scrabble with her. I still love to play Scrabble and 42. Mom passed on lots of good things to me about gardening, preserving food from the garden and hard work. Mom worked hard all her life to provide a nice home for Dad and all of us children. Mom was great at baking bread, frying chicken, breaded pork chops, making mashed potatoes/gravy, baking cornbread, baking cakes, making pies, baking

cookies and in general preparing great food for all of us. Mom treated people with respect and kindness; I cannot remember Mom ever being rude to any stranger, under any circumstance. I was ill (Rheumatic Fever, appendectomy, tonsillectomy, Osgood Schlatters Disease) and assorted other childhood ailments and Mom was always a compassionate care giver.

Mom passed away in 1990 at 65 years young. Dad worked hard, and Mom was the glue that held us all together and I think all in all they raised some very good people that would make them very proud.

My earliest memories were as a four-year-old while we lived in a rental house located just off of 95th Street South between US Highway 81 and Hydraulic St. near Waco, KS. Dad was working at Cessna Aircraft at the time. This house was surrounded by fields where Dad raised hogs and chickens. Dad let my brother Steve and I ride on the back of the disk as he disked up a large garden area. I also remember that this was a two-story farm house where we had a wood-burning stove for heat. We had indoor running hot and cold water, but we had an outhouse. We were living in this house when my brother Edward left for the U.S. Air Force, I remember crying at the time he left to go into the military, or maybe he was going back after being home for leave.

I was home with Mom and my little sister, Barbara, when this house burned down in 1965 from a fire that had started in the chimney. The day of the fire Mom had a bad headache and was in bed, she asked me to check the wood stove because she smelled smoke. I found no smoke, but mom got up and discovered the fire in an upstairs room. We left the house saving the runt pig that was in a box on the front porch. Barbara and I walked to a neighbor's home where we completed watching the Romper Room TV show. As I recall, Mom, Dad, Steve, Barbara and I went to stay with Uncle Eldon and Aunt Verda until Dad and Mom found us another place to live.

The house they found to rent was a two-story farmhouse located 1/2 mile west of Oliver Rd and 1 mile south of K53 in Sumner County, KS. This house was our family home for the next twenty years. I enjoyed growing up in this house, mainly because of the many family get-togethers and the company of my brothers and sisters.

I attended 12 years of schooling (no kindergarten) in Mulvane, KS and graduated in 1978

I had the following jobs as a teenager:

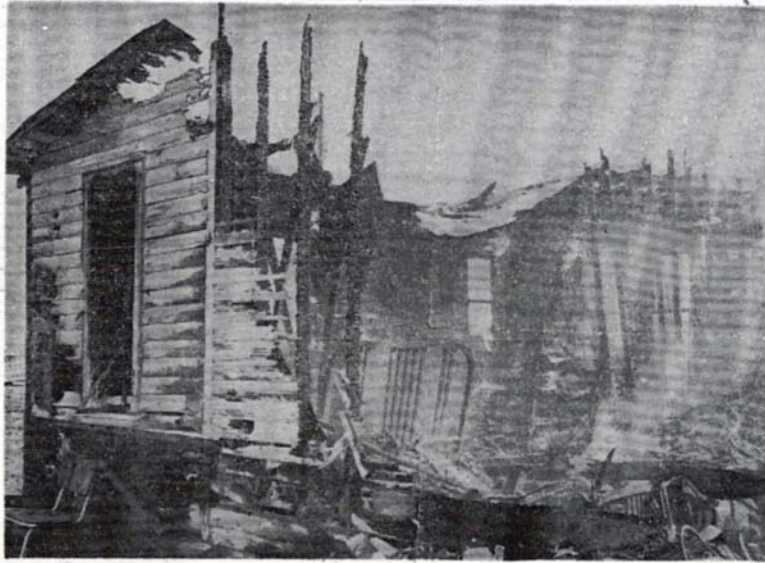
- Age 15: Worked summer job at Joyland Amusement Park as a ride operator.

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

- Born Wichita KS in 1960
- Grew up in Mulvane KS south of Wichita
- Graduated Mulvane KS High School in 1978
- Served four years in the U.S. Air Force
- Married Roxanne Sherman in 1986
- Children:
  - Andrew
  - Allison
- Has worked in aviation since the age of 25
- Lives in Belle Plaine KS south of Wichita



Above, 1978—Richard Hartley, high school graduation.



CHARRED HOME SMOLDERS NEAR WACO  
 . . . William Hartley family of 10 made homeless . . .

Staff Photo

## Family Seeks Home After Fire

Left homeless Wednesday after fire consumed their home at 1101 E. 95th S, William Hartley and his wife, Nina, faced the task of reestablishing a home for their eight children.

The family lost nearly every article of clothing and all of its household furnishings when fire broke out around a wood-burning stove about 9 a.m. Wednesday and swept quickly through the house, leaving only parts of three charred walls standing.

Mrs. Hartley and her two youngest children, Barbara, 3, and Richard, 5, the only members of the family at home at the time of the fire, were not injured. The other children were in school and Hartley was at work at Cessna Aircraft Co. The family spent Wednesday

night with relatives in the Waco area.

American Red Cross workers contacted the victims shortly after the fire and began efforts to provide clothing for them. The organization also will help in furnishing a house once one is located, in addition to supplying the family with linens and utensils, according to Mrs. Daisy Kilmer, a Red Cross case worker.

Several groups contacted the Red Cross office Wednesday with offers to assist the family, composed of boys 5, 8, 15, 17, 18, and 20; and girls 3 and 14.

In addition to clothing, some of the most needed items are dishes, cooking utensils and linens.

Mrs. Kilmer said donations for the family can be handled through the Red Cross office.

**From the  
 Wichita  
 Eagle  
 in the  
 spring of 1965**

- Age 16: Worked summer job at Joyland Amusement Park as a ride operator.

- Age 17: Worked summer job with the Dutchman on South Broadway, raised vegetables for sale to small grocery stores, such as Howard's on South Broadway.

- Age 17 thru 18: Worked after school and weekends at Howard's supermarket as sacker, then shelf stocker. I met my wife to be (Roxanne) while working here.

- Age 19 thru 21: third shift blow mold operator at Coleman Company. I made lids and liners for the Little Oscar and Big Oscar coolers. The more acceptable parts I produced the more bonus pay I received.

- Age 21 back to Howard's as a checker before I entered the US Air Force in April 1981.

- Age 21 - 25: USAF, six weeks Basic Training at Lackland AFB in San Antonio; six months fundamental electronics and B52 Bombing Navigation System Mechanic training at Lowry AFB in Denver. The remainder of my USAF time was spent at K.I. Sawyer AFB in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, near Marquette and just south of Lake Superior.

Article about the fire that burned out the family in 1965

- Age 25 - 30: worked at Boeing in Wichita as a Technical Writer. I helped create the Manual Set for the B1B Simulator, KC-135 Operational Flight Trainer Manual Set and the F4 NWDS (Navigation and Weapon Delivery Set) Technical Orders.
- Age 30 - 45: worked at Boeing as a Manufacturing Engineer (Project Planner) on fuselage construction for all the 737 models.
- Age 45 - present: worked at Spirit AeroSystems (Spirit Aero-

Systems is the divestiture company of what was Boeing Wichita Division) as a Manufacturing Engineer (Project Planner) on fuselage construction for all the 737 models.

My oldest brother Michael taught me how to play tennis; we started in the yard on a dirt court and eventually we progressed to the tennis courts in town. Mike and I continued to play tennis throughout his life. Mike gave great toys to us young kids and then he would join us in playing with them. I lived with Mike for about a year (1980) while I was going to Wichita State University and working third shift at the Coleman Company. Mike passed away in 1998 from complications of Insulin Dependent Diabetes.

All of my siblings have meant a great deal to me throughout my life. Dayton also was a great gift giver when us younger kids were still living at home. Dayton also sent me copies of the Wichita Eagle while I was in the Air Force (1981-1985), so I could read about the great Wichita State Shocker basketball teams. While Dayton was still single, we played a lot of tennis and occasionally played pool. Edward and Virgil took me fishing when I was young, I think it was on a fishing outing with Edward that I remember catching my first fish.

John coming home on leave from the Navy and building a baseball backstop in the field behind our house and then all of us playing baseball was one of many good memories of times spent with my brother John. John always had time to play catch with a baseball while I was growing up.

I had Osgood Schlatter Disease as a child and it causes severe pain in the knee joints. Often times Mom would rub my knees to help with the pain and I could sleep, but sometimes Mom was too tired and she would ask my sister, Susan, to rub my knee until the pain subsided and I could sleep. Susan was kind enough to do that for me and it meant a lot to me. I remember Susan taking me to several movies while I was growing up; that meant a lot to me. Today, when I get on the phone with Susan, we can talk for hours.

Steve, Barbara, and I are close to the same age so we had times of arguing and many other times of good fun while we were growing up.

I met my wife, Roxanne Sherman, in 1978 while we both worked at Howard's Supermarket. We wrote letters to each other while I was in the Air Force. I would see her when I came home on leave from the USAF. I got out of the Air Force in



Above, 2000— funeral of Uncle Eldon Hartley (L-R) Allison, Roxanne, Richard, and Andrew



March 1985 and we started dating shortly thereafter. We were married on February 5, 1986, in Wichita

### *Our Children, Andrew and Allison*

**Andrew Kenneth Hartley** — Our son, Andrew Kenneth, was born on April 24, 1987, at Wesley Hospital in Wichita. Andrew was a good student in the Belle Plaine, KS, school system. Andrew played high school football, played trombone in the band and was in several school plays during high school. He played the wizard in the Belle Plaine High School production of Wizard of Oz. Andrew graduated from Belle Plaine High School in May 2006, and he started at Kansas State University in Manhattan, KS in August 2006.

Above, 2011—Roxanne and Richard at the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Richard's cousin, Sue (Luttrell) & Larry Masters

Andrew followed his older cousins Laura and Amy Hartley by working at The Derby Dining Hall on campus at KSU. During his senior year at Kansas State, he wrote his senior thesis on the history of the Kansas State vs Kansas University sports rivalry. This led to his appearing on local radio and TV to discuss what he had learned about the rivalry. Andrew graduated from Kansas State with a Bachelor of Science in History in December 2010.

Below, 2011—Manhattan, KS Andrew, Allison, Roxanne and Richard—the family was celebrating Allison's graduation from Kansas State University.

Andrew is currently working part-time and going to Wichita State University pursuing a History degree that will allow him to teach high school history and coach football his other great love.



**Allison Mina Hartley** — Our daughter, Allison Mina, was born on November 27, 1988, at Wesley Hospital in Wichita. Allison was an honor student in the Belle Plaine school system. She played the clarinet in the band and was involved in FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America). Allison was on the high school year book staff for three years. She graduated

in the spring of 2007 and followed her brother to Kansas State University in the fall. Allison also worked at the Kansas State Derby Dining Hall.

Allison graduated with a degree in Early Childhood Education with an emphasis on Special Education. She is now employed at Andover, KS, teaching early childhood special education.

We are proud of our kids and their accomplishments.

## More Photos from the Lawrence Hartley Family



At left, 2012 Reunion—(L-R) Andrew, Allison, Roxanne and Richard