

SQUIRE REYNOLDS

Early Pioneer Settlers of Pima



Squire and Nancy Fidelia Norton Reynolds

An early settler in the Pima area was the Squire Reynolds family. Squire was born February 14, 1837 in Caldwell County, Missouri to John Wesley Reynolds and Phoebe Jane Ramsey. There were eleven children in this family, Squire being the fourth.

Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds and their oldest child were converted to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints by the first missionaries sent out to preach the restored gospel to the world. They were baptized in March 1838, just eight years after the church was organized by the Prophet Joseph Smith. Squire and other brothers and sisters were baptized as they came of age.

Squire met Nancy Fidelia Norton in Salt Lake and they were married in June 1864 in Lehi, Utah. They left for Arizona in the fall of 1880. Two of Nancy's brothers joined them on the trip.

When they got to Show low there were several families already there. **Some of them tried to discourage them from going to the Gila Valley, saying that everyone there was down with the chills and fever, even the dogs and the chickens.** But Squire said, **"For one I am going on no matter what for I was called by the authority, by President Brigham Young to go to the Gila Valley and because of that I believe that my family and I will be protected so we can fill our mission there. I was called to go there, so that is where I am going."** Some men laughed at him and told him he would change his mind and come back, but he never did.

They arrived in Pima in March 1881 now having nine children. Eight more children were born in Pima.

With the Reynolds faith and hard work they helped the settlement to grow and prosper. They worked hard in the church and the Community to fill their assignment given by President Young.

Squire Reynolds was a good farmer and also he made a living with his team of horses and wagon hauling freight from Bowie to Globe and back. He also made big gardens every year to raise vegetables and food for his family to have to eat and can for the winter.

Squire passed away May 31, 1906, and Nancy passed away March 12, 1933.

Squire and Fidelia were the parents of sixteen children, fourteen living to

adulthood. Martha Amanda (Aunt Mandy) Dodge, Squire Enook, Mauriea (May) Blake, Mary Etta Olsen, William Taylor Reynolds, Phoebe Ann Williams, Laura Ellen Rose, Dona Almira Foster, Fidelia McEuen, Sarah May Rose, John Wiley Reynolds, Hazel Bertina Hause, George Edger Reynolds and a grandson Earl Clayton Reynolds who always made his home with his grandparents.

Submitted by Mina Reynolds Lee