

my father's ~~oldest~~ oldest brother was

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The Story of my Life

By
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I was born on Oct. 23, 1886, at Lehigh, Kansas, in Marion County, near the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Mrs John Durksen was the midwife and doctor.

They said I was born a month too soon, so they kept me in a homemade incubator. (As mama told me). She said I weighted less than five pounds.

When I was 6 months old they moved to Inman, Kansas, on a farm for one year. Then my parents moved to Janzen, Nebr. on a wagon. We had a pair of mules. Here in Janzen we lived till 1891 then we moved to Kirk, Colo.

Father homesteaded 3 miles south of what now is Jose, Colo, or 3 miles west of Kirk and 1 south. There they lived in a dugout, that father dug. I was 3 years old then.

From now on I can remember how mom and dad farmed in Colo. They had one team of mules, and a cow and five chickens. Then in the year of 1893 my third brother was born in the dugout. His name was Henry. It was a hard time for our parents with four boys and no income and no crops.

I remember father coming in and telling mama I will go see if I can find some work, and something to eat. So he went to Rev. Engler and Rev. Burgethold. They lived north of us close to the M.B. church. It was a sod house church. and they said that they had some