

## Ervin J. Warkentin

He was baptized by G.B. Huebert of the Reedley Mennonite Brethren church.

His parents had a Model T Ford. That was what they used to move around in Oklahoma and Texas. They used this vehicle when they moved to CA in 1933.

(Ervin J. Warkentin)

In the truck there were 6 of us children, plus Mother and Dad and all of their things, clothing, bedding and food. We made our long trip to California. It took us 7 days. Many a mountain. We kids all were pushing the truck up and some places we walked down. The trip was real exciting. Our first stay was in Bakersfield, CA, Uncle Henry Kilewer's home. They didn't have enough room in the house so we slept out on the lawn. It was too hot anyway.

Mother and I bought a trailer in Kansas and we had a 1940 model Ford and made the trip to CA from Kansas with all the things that Mother had and our wedding gifts. We started out our married life with wedding gifts (bedroom set), some clothing and the trailer that Dad Heinze bought for us and \$1000.00 debt and no job. This was just after I had returned from my service.

I was drafted in 1941, just before World War 2. I spent 6 months in Oregon near Bonnavill dam and then was sent to Comino Camp in California and then to Lake Tahoe. From there I was sent to Puerto Rico where I spent 2 1/2 years before I came home. Soon after I came home to Reedley where I met June Heinze, whom I later married.

Our first home was at 1025 1/2 K. Street and then we moved to 1025 K. Street and then to 113 Rupert. Later we moved to the country on a farm, 20736 E. Huntsman Ave. We presently live at 331 E. Curtis Ave. Reedley, California.

Dad's prayer style that he often begins his prayers with:

"Our gracious heavenly Father we come to you this evening hour praising and thanking you that you've been with us and blessed us..."