

MAX STANLEY HARDER was the sixth and youngest child born to Jacob Harder (4/10/1864) and Annine Frederika Hennings (12/14/1880), on December 23, 1913, at Ritzville, Washington. His parents operated a large cattle ranch fifteen miles east of Ritzville. His early schooling was on the ranch, in a one-room rural school near by, and to High school in Ritzville. He married Alana Pauline Thiessen February 14, 1941 at Coeur de Alene, Idaho.

After his father's death on November 6, 1943, Max and Alana were in partnership with Max's older brother, John, for seventeen years. They operated a large commercial herd of hereford cattle-- a cow-calf operation, in Adams, Lincoln, and Whitman counties in Eastern Washington.

In January 1944, his Mother, Annine, and his sister, Anne, moved to 403 South Palouse Street in Ritzville. At this time, Max and Alana moved into the 24-room ranch home that had been built by F. M. Rothrock in 1918. In the 1920's, he operated the largest registered Shorthorn herd of cattle in the United States. While living here, Max and Alana had two children; Rexford Henry Harder, born September 23, 1946, and Virginia Ann Harder, born July 14, 1950, both in Spokane, Washington. The family lived in this Rothrock home until December, 1973, when Max and Alana moved 600 feet to the west in a new house built and planned by Virginia. At that time, their son Rex and his family moved into the Rothrock house. Beginning in 1962 to the present time (1976), the family has been operating their commercial herd of Hereford cattle as a partnership known as "Harder Livestock Company." They have incorporated their

~~approximately~~ **MANY** acres of land into "Harder Land Company." The family has done extensive travelling, having been in practically all of the fifty states. Also, they have made five Livestock Study tours, sponsored by the Western Livestock Journal. In the first tour in 1962, they visited cattle ranches in Hawaii, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, Singapore, Bangkok, Hong Kong, and Japan. On this trip, Virginia went through Hawaii; Rex went through Australia. The second tour in 1964, Max, Alana and Rex visited eight countries in South America. In the third tour in 1966, Max, Alana and Virginia visited nine countries in Europe. In the fourth tour, Max and Alana went on a Round-the-world trip in 1968 to Hawaii, Philippines, India, Pakistan, Rhodesia, Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, Greece, Switzerland, and Germany. On the fifth tour in 1972, they again visited livestock ranches in Rhodesia, Mosinbique, Kenya and South Africa; returning they visited Greece, Turkey, Isreal, Austria, Germany and Denmark.

Our daughter Virginia married Robert McKay, Jan. 4, 1977 and lives on a wheat farm at Almira, Wash.