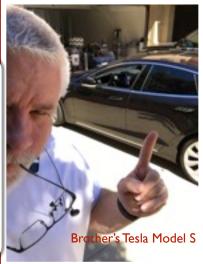


# FAMILY, FAITH, LEADERSHIP = TRANSFORMATION







## What Enabled This Type of Transformation?

Monday Morning, December 11, 2017, at ~10:45am in the morning, my father-in-law David Loren Patterson left his earthly body in exchange for his promised eternal life. Free of hearing problems, aches and pains, and the burden of old age, he sadly left us behind. David Patterson was born in 1931, and died in 2017 at the age of 86. Looking back on his life as we discussed his memory, it dawned on me how much life has changed over three generations. Last week, I was at the Los Angeles Auto Show with my

THE 2018 JEEP WRANGLER AT THE LA AUTO SHOW

brothers. It was amazing to see the concept vehicles and technology that is changing the auto industry, and the driving experience for consumers. My brothers and I drove from Orange County, California to Los Angeles in a Tesla Model S. On the journey, the car was driven autonomously. Adaptive cruise control, lane departure and correction control, and park assist to get into those tight parking spots are just some of the controls that got us there safely. The experience got me thinking about what is the factor that



JOHN IN FRONT OF THE 2022 VW ID BUZZ - ALL ELECTRIC!

results in and enables these technology transformations, be it the auto industry, space and technology, entertainment, or any other industry. I strongly believe that the family microcosm we all have combined together enables this transformation. As stated on the cover page, I am the result of many great leaders. All of them were family leaders who set the example for the following generations. And the generations carry the torch.



BROTHER DAVID POSING WITH TESLA MODEL 3

## COPLEY FAMILY VALUES

WHO I AM HAS A LOT TO DO WITH MY FAMILY. I AM JOHN T. COPLEY (1965 - TBD)

SON OF JOHN S. COPLEY (1932 -2010) & MARY LAURA COPLEY (1936 - TBD)

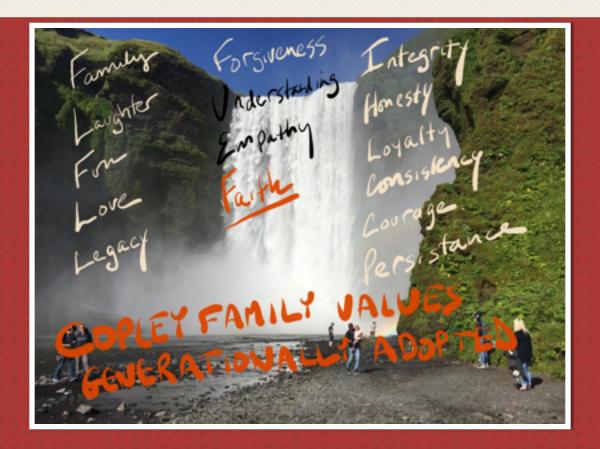
GRANDSON OF OSCAR EDWARD COPLEY (1902 - 1981) AND LILA SMITH COPLEY (1905 - 1987) AND

GRANDSON OF REX PRATHER (1905 - 1973) AND ELEANORE SABROE PRATHER (1911 - 2005)

GREAT GRANDSON OF THOMAS BENTON COPLEY (1872 - 1952) AND FRANCES PLINA SMITH (1876 1953) AND GREAT GRANDSON OF GEORGE JONES SMITH (B. 1871) AND GERTRUDE PRITCHARD (B. 1879)

AND GREAT GRANDSON OF IRA EDGAR PRATHER (1877 - 1932) AND ALICE B BALLENTINE (1882 - 1972)

AND GREAT GRANDSON OF THOMAS PETER SABROE (B. 1886) AND A. CHRISTINE JENSEN (1887 - 1972)



WHEN I THINK OF THE TRANSFORMATION THAT HAS HAPPENED IN THE AUTO INDUSTRY - FROM A 1917 DETROIT ELECTRIC THAT STILL HAD A HORSE CARRIAGE STYLE TO A MODERN CAR AT THE LA AUTO SHOW THAT CAN DRIVE ITSELF, I THINK OF THE VALUES THAT GOT US (OUR FAMILY AND MILLIONS OF OTHERS) FROM THERE TO HERE. IT WASN'T JUST MY FAMILY THAT MADE THAT TRANSFORMATION, IT WAS OUR SOCIETY, MADE UP OF FAMILIES. I BRAINSTORMED THE VALUES THAT MY FAMILY HAS DEMONSTRATED OVER THE GENERATIONS ABOVE, AND REFLECTED ON THEM. IT IS WHO WE ARE, AND I AM PROUD TO BE A PART OF THIS GREAT FAMILY, AND UNITED STATES SOCIETY AS A WHOLE.

#### MURDER?

On the way back from his logging adventure, young (age 19-20) Oscar and his friend hopped trains to West Virginia. On their way through the mid-west, they were both arrested for murder of a hobo. They proclaimed their innocence but were held until a meeting with the Judge. Immediately released by the Judge at the charging, they wondered why. The Judge held up his Masons ring, which Oscar was also wearing, and said "Masons don't murder". They were released and on their way. How would that change our lives if it had gone differently?



## MY DAD'S PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS

THIS PHOTO IS MY GRANDPA AND GRANDMA COPLEY (OSCAR AND LILA) AND BOTH OF MY GREAT GRANDPARENTS (THOMAS AND FRANCIS COPLEY AND GEORGE JONES AND GERTRUDE PRITCHARD).

#### OSCAR FDWARD COPIFY

OSCAR COPLEY, BORN IN THE HALLOWS OF WEST VIRGINIA (CRUM COUNTY) IN 1902. LEFT HOME AT AGE 14 AND CAUGHT TRAINS TO OREGON TO LOG. HATED IT. WENT BACK HOME AND THEN TO COLORADO WHERE HE MET LILA. WORKING IN STORE MANAGEMENT, HE BECAME A JC PENNEY STORE MANAGER AND ENTREPRENEUR. LIFE LONG PERSISTENCE AND DEDICATION TO FAMILY WERE HIS VALUES. RAISED ONE BOY AND THREE DAUGHTERS ONE DYING IN YOUTH. RETIRED AND BECAME A MASTER GARDENER IN HIS OWN BACK YARD. ALWAYS APPRECIATED LIFE AND ALWAYS PROUD OF HIS FAMILY.



### JAMES CASH PENNEY

Oscar Copley went to work for a little store - local to Colorado called JC
Penney. My Dad remembered the day that they had a dinner visitor at their house. It was James Cash Penney, the founder of JC Penney! Didn't seem like much then but looking back, it was quite the honor.
Oscar went on to form a new store called Copley Tedfords, which was a similar style merchandise store. This ended up being one of the failures experienced by Oscar that he had to overcome. Demonstrating his persistence and ability to overcome.



#### LILA SMITH COPLEY

MY GRANDMA - BORN IN FT.
LUPTON, COLORADO TO GEORGE
AND GERTRUDE JONES. MARRIED
OSCAR COPLEY AND EVENTUALLY
BECAME A KINDERGARTEN
TEACHER. TAUGHT TWO
GENERATIONS OF CHILDREN IN
THE NEBRASKA SCHOOL SYSTEM
AND BECAME AN HONORED
TEACHER. SHE INFLUENCED THE
LIVES OF MANY.

#### MY MOM'S GRANDPA



THIS IS THOMAS PETER SABROE, MY GREAT GREAT GRANDFATHER. THE SON OF DANISH IMMIGRANTS, HE MET HIS WIFE CHRISTINA JENSEN THROUGH A FRIEND WHILE WORKING ON THE RAILROAD. HE LATER BECAME A SWTICHMAN AND THEN A YARDMAN WITH THE RAILROADS IN IOWA. HE PURCHASED A DOUBLE LOT FOR HIS FAMILY AND BUILT A HOME WHILE THE SECOND LOT BECAME FILLED WITH A GARDEN THAT HE TENDED AS A HOBBY. HE AND CHRISTINA LIVED IN BELL PLAINE, IOWA.

door between the two shops and that was all it took for Eleanore to recognize Rex and visa versa. The two fell in love and got married in Iowa in 1934. Three years later, Rex and Eleanore purchased the Lipsett shops for \$900 and changed the name to "Prather Beauty Shop" and

LOVE THAT BARBER!

Eleanore Sabroe and Rex Prather were both in the barber / beauty shop business.

Coming together at Mr. and Mrs. Lipsett's

"Lipsett Beauty Shop" and "Lipsett Barber

Shop", Eleanore was a beautician, and Rex

was a barber. There was a connecting

### REX AND ELEANORE WITH MARY LAURA PRATHER

300

REX PRATHER AND ELEANORE SABROE PRATHER WITH YOUNG MARY LAURA PRATHER, MY MOTHER, CIRCA 1941. THERE WAS ONE MORE CHILD TO COME ALONG NINE YEARS APART FROM MARY. THAT WAS MY AUNT CHERYL. REX AND ELEANORE OPERATED PRATHER BEAUTY AND BARBER SHOPS IN IOWA UNTIL 1956, WHEN THEY LEFT FOR THE CALIFORNIA DREAM. IN 1957, THEY OPENED PRATHER BEAUTY AND BARBER SHOPS IN FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA, AND OPERATED THAT UNTIL RETIREMENT IN EARLY 1970'S. REX PASSED AWAY IN 1973. ELEANORE OPERATED THE SHOPS FOR FIVE YEARS AFTER REX PASSED AND SPENT HER LAST YEARS CLOSE TO GRANDKIDS AND FAMILY. EVENTUALLY LIVING WITH MARY LAURA AND JOHN, SHE LOVED HER FAMILY. I REMEMBERED HER FAVORITE FOOD WAS TOMATOES WITH MAYONNAISE -APPARENTLY THE KEY TO A LONG LIFE..



#### MY MOM'S GRANDMA



THIS IS A. CHRISTINA JENSEN, WIFE OF THOMAS PETER SABROE. THIS IS MY GREAT GREAT GRANDMA. SHE SERVED AS WIFE AND MOTHER OF THREE CHILDREN (FLORENCE, LAURA, AND ELEANORE). FLORENCE DIED EARLY, ELEANORE IS MY GRANDMA. A. CHRISTINA WAS ALSO THE DAUGHTER OF DANISH IMMIGRANTS. SHE WAS KNOWN FOR HER COOKING. IN LATER LIFE, AFTER THOMAS DIED, SHE WORKED AS A NURSE IN A VETERANS HOSPITAL IN CALIFORNIA.

#### Not Pictured

Not Pictured but incredibly important to our family tree is Ira Edgar Prather and Alice Bell Prather, Father and Mother of Rex Prather picture above. Ira and Allie B (as she was called) were son and daughter of mid-west pioneer families. Ira was an lowa farmer and also was an early day heavy equipment operator clearing and cleaning local roads. Ira and Alice Bell had 3 daughters (Violet, Blanche, and Glee) and one son (Rex). Glee suffered hearing loss and lived with Allie her whole life. She was my favorite great Aunt. After Ira died, Allie B sold the farm, moved to Omaha, NE, and started and opened rooming houses for young business people.

## JOHN AND MARY COPLEY











## Leadership Lessons from John and Mary

"Do unto others as you would have them do to you" Golden Rule

"Do what you do to honor the Lord"

"Don't forget! The Lord can come back at any minute - don't be caught doing something you don't want to be doing at that time!"

"Don't forget your last name!"

These are just some of the things I remember hearing growing up in my house. My parents are John and Mary Copley. I think I got the jackpot with them as they are the best example of loving dedication to family, faith, and teaching that I know.

John S. Copley was born in a small house in 1932 Walsenburg, Colorado to Oscar and Lila Copley. John was the first and only boy in the family - to be followed by one more girl.

John was raised in Colorado and Nebraska, and graduated from Sidney High School in 1950. He started his post high school education at University of Colorado Boulder and intended to major in Architecture. He was a very talented artist as seen by the picture he drew later of his bride, Mary Laura Copley.



One of life's first lesson in failure was this time at University of Colorado. He

didn't do well in ROTC - he got a "D". This was during the Korean war and the draft was always a possibility. John and his friend enlisted in the Marine Corp and served for 4 years. He served in Japan at Camp Gifu and excelled as a company clerk. He rose to rank of Sergeant. After his time in Japan, John transferred to Naval Base in Lincoln, Nebraska. While recruiting at University of Nebraska Lincoln he met his sister's best friend, Mary Laura Prather.

Mary Laura was a cute 19 year girl from lowa, raised as the loving daughter of Rex and Eleanore Prather. Mary had one sister 9 years younger than she. She was cute, energetic, and loved the first dessert she shared with John, the CRIB (brownies and ice cream - which became a long term tradition in the family). Mary was perfect for John as she also had the love for family and a strong faith.

Sergeant Copley completed his military commitment in February, 1956, and in April, 1956, John and Mary were married. John persevered in his school work at the University of Nebraska in Pre-Med. At the end of his junior year, he was accepted at the University of Nebraska College of Medicine in Omaha. Mary worked in the finance office at the school. During his Junior Year in Medical School, they were blessed with their first set of twins, Amy and Beth (February, 1960). John graduated from University of Nebraska Medical School in 1961.

The lessons that this taught me are to never stop dreaming about what you can be, and don't let a single or even multiple failures stop you from where you want to go. John demonstrated consistency, dedication, perseverance, and love for his family in his pursuit of his education.

John started his medical career in Insurance Medicine, then soon switched to Emergency Medicine, eventually ending in Occupational medicine. His first son David was born in 1962 during internship and residency at Deaconess Medical Center. In 1965, there would be two more boys added - twin boys John and James. Finally, in 1969, little brother Daniel was born to complete the family. Our family started in 1960 and was completed in 1969. From Colorado to California, to New Mexico, and Washington, and finally Arizona the Copleys moved around a lot. The moves strengthened the family bonds and to this day, all kids are very close. Our family was and remains one of the closest knit families I know.

In Arizona, John experienced challenges in business and health but continued to demonstrate perseverance to all of his kids. It was not an easy period of his life, but John and Mary always were able to laugh, and together weathered all the storms. John retired in 1997 as Medical Director of Hughes Aircraft and Mary loved being by his side every day until he died in 2010 in his home in Spokane (his favorite place). It was hard to see him go - but Mary continues to lead our family with the same dedication and influence as if Dad was here with us. She has built new friendships, and has traveled the US seeing her kids and grandkids.

Through their leadership examples, John and Mary have kids that are successful in all their endeavors. Those professions are Accounting/Finance, Engineering, Construction, Manufacturing and Merchandizing. Their examples continue to influence all the way down to their Grandchildren.

# MEMORIAL FOR DAVID L PATTERSON - MY FATHER IN LAW





## David Loren Patterson (1931 - 2017)

David came from a broken family, and grew up in foster homes. The place he considered home was a little farm in the Finnish community of Meadowbrook, Oregon. It was there that God provided the perfect foster family. A couple with no children and a farm to run. A couple that took in his older brother first, then brought Dave and his younger brother "home" as well. He grew up working on that farmmilking cows, growing filberts and beans, and raising sheep. When his foster parents were told not to take the boys to church, they sent them across Milk Creek and over the little bridge (Galloping Gertie) to the neighbor's farm so they could go to church with them. He lived in Finland as an exchange student with International Farm Youth Exchange, then went back and lived there again. During this time, he met composer, Jean Sibelius and later, Nobel Peace Prize recipient, Albert Schweitzer. He and his little group of exchange students got to share birthday cake with Ava Gardner on her birthday aboard their ship coming back to

the US. He spent time in Germany in the US Army as an occupational therapist. It is exceptional that Dave never let his broken early childhood drive his life-except in a positive way.

He went on to graduate from Oregon State, work for the forest service, and go to seminary. He started dating Ellen Mitchell while at OSU. They'd known each other most of their lives through Clackamas County 4-H, but she was 5 years younger, and he didn't "notice" her until the day he carried her typewriter across campus after working on the 4-H annual together.

His first job in ministry was as youth pastor at the little church he had gone to as a kid on the farm. After that, he served with Village Missions, a mission organization that provides pastors to small rural churches that can't fully support a pastor. He served in Sunnyside, Oregon, Bridge, Oregon, Monticello, Utah, and Mud Lake and Dubois, Idaho.

## DAVID PATTERSON MEMORIAL (CONT.)

While in Monticello, he got his pilots license, and then in Idaho, flew between the two communities he served quite often. The Patterson kids loved when he flew over their house and waved his wings. They also loved to fly with himespecially when he would let them take the yoke and steer the plane. In 1974, Dave left Village Missions to serve with Flagstaff Mission to the Navajos, and later American Missionary Fellowship (InFaith). He worked as a missionary in the Flagstaff, Arizona area/Navajo Reservation until coming to live in Spokane four years ago-39 years total.

Some things to know about David Patterson. He was very creative. He was patient. He never held a grudge. He had a very detailed memory. He loved to teach-whether adults in an upholstery class, high school students in a shop class, a jail inmate across a table, men learning how to be Biblical leaders in their church, a group of kids doing leatherwork in our dining room, or a small group of people in a home studying God's Word. He taught people to love a good story-and he had many of them. He passed on a love of beauty in the things around us, whether it was God's creation, beautiful architecture, or music. He helped my wife collect rocks and minerals for her very extensive rock

collection. He attended every concert his kids played in, and almost every half-time show they performed in. He taught his kids to be thorough in everything-not to do the least they could, but to do the best they could do. He taught his kids to read maps and stop at scenic overlooks and historical markers. He taught them to fish and how to shoot a gun. They visited most of the National Parks in the west. He could speak Finnish and was always working on his Navajo. He loved people and kept a pen and paper in his pocket at all times so he could write down the names of people he met and little things about them.

The most important thing Dave taught us was to love God with all our heart. He gave his whole adult life to tell those around him about God and how He loved us so much that he sent His Son, Jesus to live and die so that we, as sinful people, could have a personal relationship with a perfect God. Dave LOVED to study his Bible, and he loved his Savior. This Christmas, he will be celebrating the birth of Christ in heaven.

Hágoónee', Dave. All is well. We love you, and always will. See you later!

## PROFESSIONS OF JOHN AND MARY'S GRANDCHILDREN

- 1. ACCOUNTING
- 2. ENGINEERING
- 3. BANKING
- 4. MINISTRY
- 5. BUSINESS OWNER
- 6. HEALTHCARE (NURSING)

CHANGING THE WORLD ONE DAY AT A TIME.

## Leadership Through The Generations

In closing, our lives are intertwined. Millions of families have family value systems like mine. No family is perfect; having individual flaws and challenges. Overcoming these flaws and challenges is about who we are, and applying those lessons to every day life. Moving the bar day to day, week to week, year to year, and decade to decade results in the generational transformations we see in everyday life. Who remembers using an outhouse as their sole means? That was a way of life in the early days just a few generations ago. Who

remembers NOT traveling in an airplane from one side of the country to the other? I don't. I complain about the lines and time it takes, not appreciating the shear miracle of air travel.

Family plus Faith plus Generational Leadership = Transformation.

We have seen it. And we will continue to see it! Isn't it exciting to see where our leadership takes the next generations? What will they be talking about in their ORGL 605 Final Projects?

## COPLEY FAMILY TODAY



From Left to Right – Dan S Copley (1969), James R Copley (1965), Beth A. Farmer (1960), David J Copley (1962), Amy L Stene (1960), Mary Laura Copley (1936), and Non-Bearded John T Copley (1965)

Riverfront Park - Summer, 2015