

HISTORY QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Who was principal of the Butler Elementary School from 1939 to 1951?

ANSWER

Harold W. Blair was born February 10, 1915, at Granite, Utah, to Parley and Ivy Dean Cowley Blair. A short time later, his family moved to a farm in Butlerville. He received his early education in the Jordan School District, attending Butler Elementary, Sandy Jr. High and Jordan High School. After graduating from high school, he attended Snow College in Ephraim, Utah. He taught school for three years in the Uintah Basin before returning to Butlerville to live with his parents. He taught one year at Riverton before serving as principal of the Butler Elementary School where he also taught 5th and 6th grades. On May 28, 1941 he married Shirley Ruth Wilson, from Butlerville. He and his wife moved into the house west of the school, where they lived for 10 years. Harold graduated from the University of Utah in 1947 with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and received his Masters Degree in Administration in 1955. All of his additional schooling was done at night school, summer school and correspondence. After leaving Butler Elementary, some of the positions he held, were: principal at Riverton Junior High School, Vice Principal at Mt. Jordan Junior High, and Principal of Mountainview Elementary School in Greenfield Village. Harold continued working as a teacher and administrator in the Jordan School District for 40 years. He and his wife Shirley made their home in Cottonwood Heights, building, a house next to Shirley's parent's home. Harold was active in church and civic affairs. He served on the Cottonwood Heights Community Council and he and his wife served a mission to Argentina. He died April 5, 2009, at the age of 94.

Published February 2015 – Gayle Conger