

**"Testimony of Elder Minos Arthur (M.A.) Smith"**  
*As told by his granddaughter, Julie (Smith) McCormick*

Minos Arthur (M.A.) Smith was my paternal grandfather.

M.A. Smith was born into a wealthy family that owned a sizeable set of oil wells throughout Oklahoma, as well as multiple ranches and banks. Back in these days M.A. Smith's family was well worth multiple millions of dollars. M.A. was raised as a faithful Methodist. As a young man, M.A. met his future wife, Elizabeth (Moore). While preparing for marriage, they both agreed that it was best to be of one faith and agreed to study each other's churches. Elizabeth was a faithful member of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (RLDS) and had a gift of faith in the truth of the Restored Gospel. As they studied and prayed together, M.A. fell in love with the Fullness of the Gospel and made intentions to unite with the RLDS.

M.A. went to his father, Jim, to advise him of his intentions to marry Elizabeth and unite with the RLDS. Unfortunately for Jim, even though he was a good man with high morals, and a believer in Jesus, due to the precepts of men became blinded when he received his opportunity to receive the Fullness of the Gospel. Jim became outraged and gave M.A. an ultimatum. Jim declared the RLDS as an evil, Mormon cult! The choice given to M.A. was to remain a Methodist and forsake the Restored Gospel in order to retain his Earthly inheritance, or to forsake his Earthly inheritance for this "cult". For M.A. this choice as difficult as it may have seemed in terms of earthly things, it was easy, as M.A. had received a greater gold through the heaven's treasures offered to him through the Restored Gospel! M.A. rejected his father's wishes and forsook his earthly inheritance to unite with the Church of Jesus Christ!

For the remainder of his days M.A. Smith would continually struggle financially to make ends meet. Continually he was a hard worker as a farmer in Crescent, IA and always carrying a second career as either a traveling salesman, fuel service station owner, or real estate agent throughout the years. During the great depression M.A. fell on hardships as well and nearly lost the farm in Crescent. As a last resort he reached out to his father Jim, who agreed to give him a gift amount of approximately \$1,700 to save the farm from being lost. This was the only case of financial help M.A. would ever receive from his father.

At (80) eighty years of age, M.A. had recently lost the love of his life, Elizabeth and was ready to enter into his reward. From this point on, M.A. would continually speak about how he would be going home in the near future. Because of the concern of his children, M.A. was hospitalized at the now demolished VA hospital in Omaha, NE. The doctors were unable to determine a physical reason for any illness or disorder, and was declared "healthy as a horse". M.A.'s son, Robert (Bob) G. Smith went to visit him in the hospital. At this particular visit, M.A. excitedly reported to his son Bob that a couple of men would be coming to get him and take him home from the hospital at a given time. Bob assured M.A. that this wasn't going to transpire. Regardless, M.A. attested that this was what would indeed happen. The conversation ended, Bob said his good-byes to his father and then left. Just prior to the time declared by M.A., the nurse called Bob advising that he return to the hospital as M.A. was insisting that "they were

coming to get him to take him home!” Bob was not able to get there in time before M.A. would pass away. At the time declared by M.A., the nurses on duty noted (2) two men dressed well in clean suits had walked by the nurses station and visited M.A. Note that the only way in or out to his room was to pass by the nurses station, The orderly attending to M.A. noted that M.A. was overjoyed exclaiming “They’re coming to get me!” The orderly went to the nurse’s station to report the patients unusual remarks, and when the nurse and orderly returned to M.A.’s room, M.A. had passed away, on to his reward, and the (2) men had disappeared! M.A. Smith lived a full life, loved, lived, and breathed the Fullness of the Gospel, and endured to the end through his last breath! M.A. Smith traded his earthly treasures which moth and rust doth corrupt, for heavenly treasures that will last him an Eternity! M.A. “Went for the Gold!” (See Matthew 6:19-21 and II Nephi 13:24-32)