

Why Lorenzo never saw his son Lester Lorenzo in mortality?

When Lorenzo Crosby was called on his mission to the Southern states in April 1902, Lorenzo & Mollie's children were Hannah age 4, George age 2 and Mollie was 5 months pregnant with Lester Lorenzo. Mollie gave birth to Lester Lorenzo 26 Aug 1902.

(1902 Photo of Mollie holding Lester Lorenzo)



Lorenzo was killed 21 Feb 1904 by outlaws in Kansas City, Missouri while returning from his mission, making Mollie a widow with 3 young children under 6 years of age.



*(1907 Photo of Lorenzo & Mollie's 3 children Hannah, George Ellis, & Lester Lorenzo

Mollie's father, Ellis Whitney Wiltbank, built a home for Mollie near him in Greer where he was bishop of the small Mormon community. Starting in 1907 there was an epidemic of highly contagious scarlet fever that swept the country and even took the lives of four young children in the rather remote village of Greer.

Lester was one of those young children. He died of scarlet fever 4 March 1909 at age six.

Mollie had to take her son, Lester Lorenzo, by horseback from Greer to Eagar to bury him by herself so others would not be exposed to the highly contagious, deadly scarlet fever.

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Comment by Becky Crosby upon reading this story :

'That is a story I have never heard before. I can't imagine how hard that would be. And to have to face that trial as a single mom.