

# One Room School

by

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I was born August 9, 1923. I went to Shaff School - a one room school - it is on Martindale Road corner of Shaff. I lived on Theisen Road a quarter mile from Shaff Road. Back in 1930 the roads weren't named then. I, my brothers, sisters and all the other kids walked  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles to school because back then the roads weren't plowed. On stormy days my teacher Mrs. Bessie McBride used to take me home with her. Her husband Bill McBride used to bring her to school with a team of horses and sleigh caboose. (Something like a fish shanty that was heated with hot bricks) They lived north of Murner School.

Going to a country one room school was a good experience. You knew what was going on in each class. Listening to each class each day. There were only 3 or 4 in each grade. When I was in the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Clara Taskey quit school so the teacher Mrs. Noffsinger put me a grade ahead.

In 1937 or 1938, Mr. Harrington was my teacher. He walked 4 miles to school. He lived on Allis Road about where the stockyards are on Town Line Road. About that time, I was in seventh grad. I thought I was in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade because I was for a few years taking classes with older kids.

Well, in 1937 or 1938 Shaff School was consolidated with Elmira School. We were bussed to school then and they plowed the roads and the first school bus driver was Earl Huff.

A one room school was nice. The teacher spent all day - and every day looking at all the kids. Back then, we learned arithmetic, good penmanship, reading & writing. I have many fond memories.

The school was a nice stone building with a front porch.

The county doctor and nurse used to come and give us our shots.

The Superintendent of Schools, Sim J. Lewis, would come visit every so often.