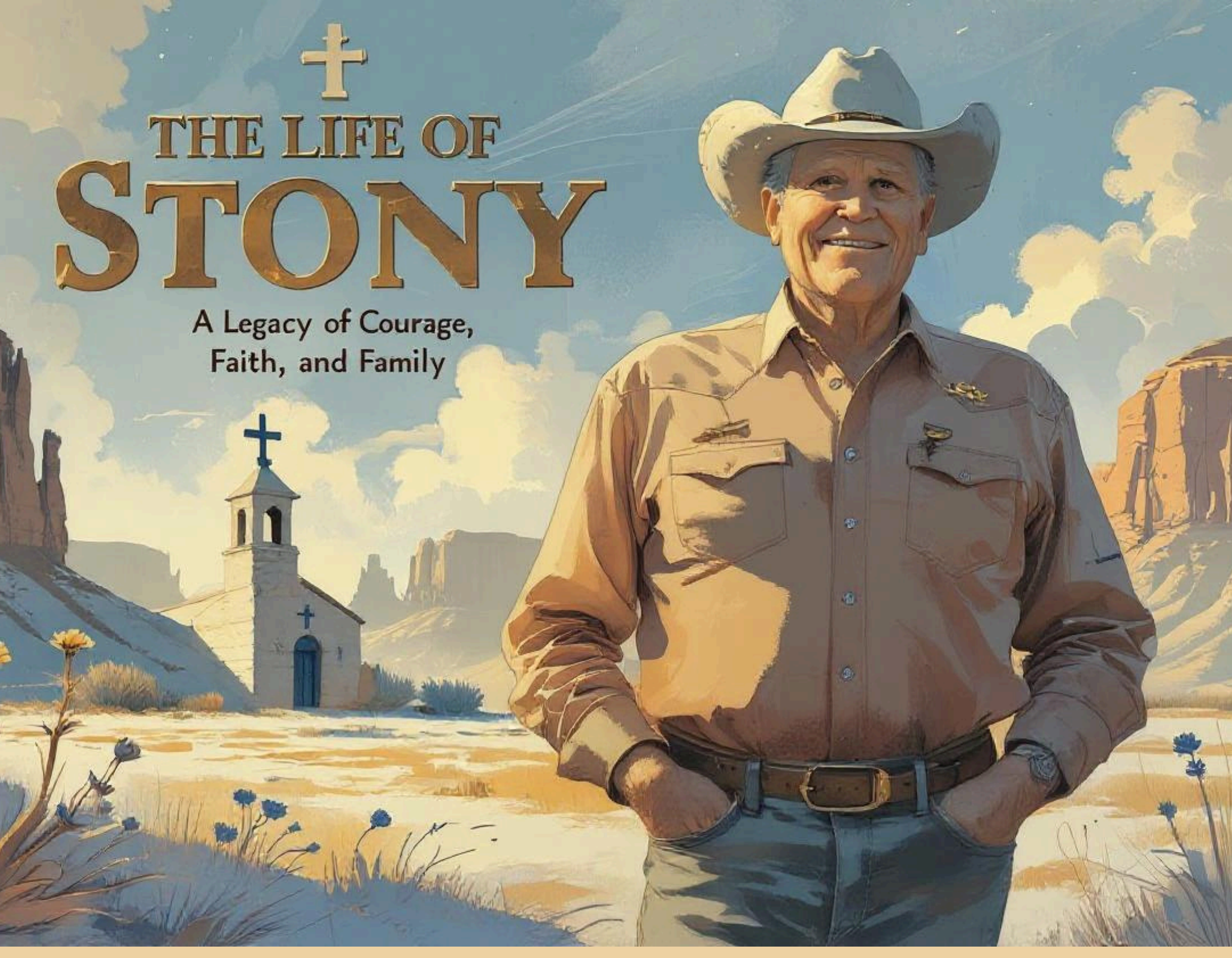


† THE LIFE OF STONY

A Legacy of Courage,
Faith, and Family

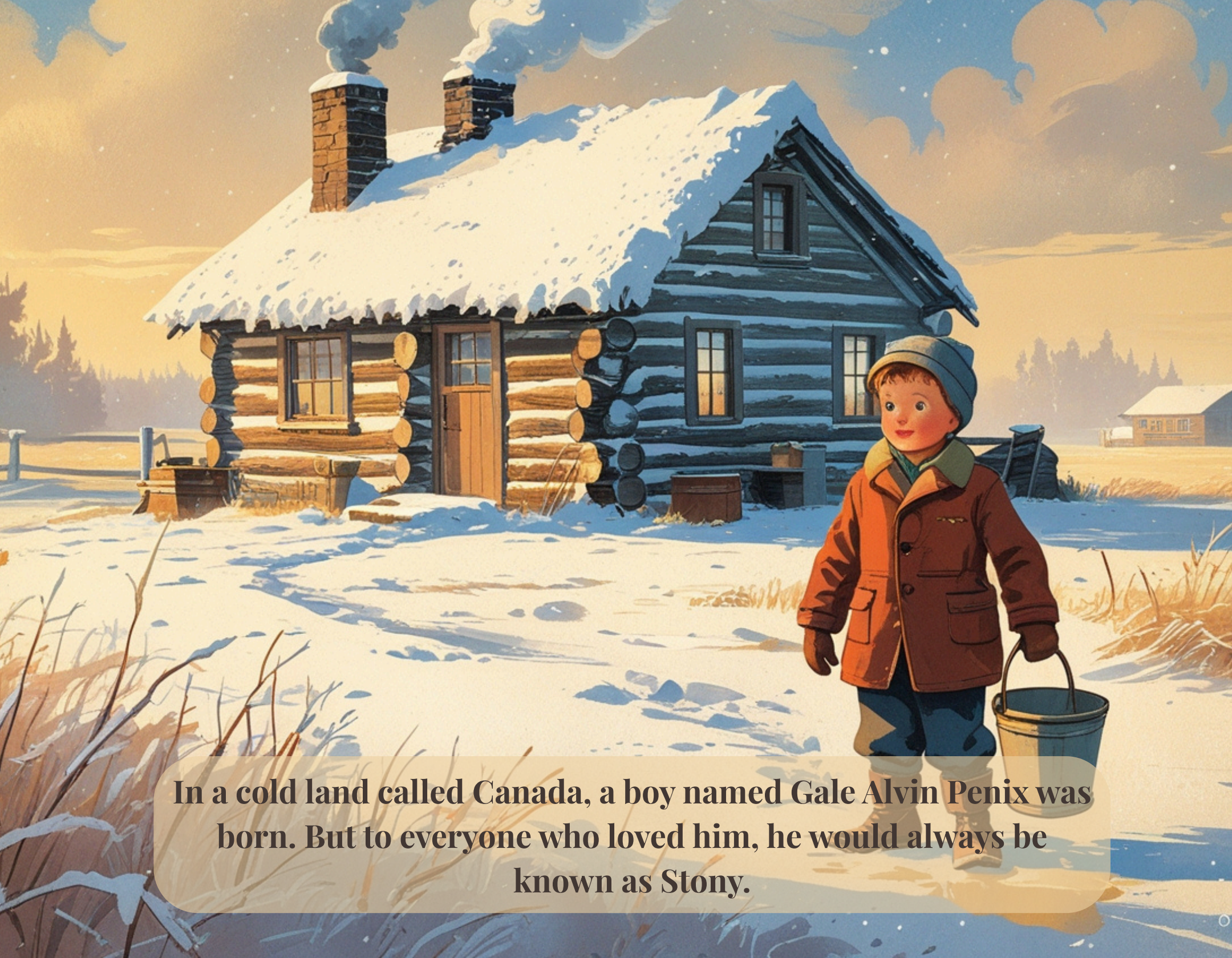


Story

**A legacy of courage,
faith, and family**

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16



In a cold land called Canada, a boy named Gale Alvin Penix was born. But to everyone who loved him, he would always be known as Stony.



Stony grew up on a ranch where wheat grew tall, horses ran free, and chores were part of every day.



He went to a one-room schoolhouse, riding in a buggy pulled by his horse, Babe.



He had a horse, Big John, that was his pride and joy. He would race the cowboys in the area and always win.



When Stony's family moved to Indiana, he delivered milk before school, played sports, and became class president. He was even the valedictorian!



After high school, Stony married Mildred and became a father. He worked hard learning masonry, then moved to Michigan to support his growing family.



After the heartbreaking loss of his young son, Stony made a brave decision. He joined the Marines, ready to serve his country in World War II.



Stony trained as a Marine in San Diego and Hawaii. He sailed across the Pacific Ocean, ready to serve in one of the most dangerous battles of the war.



Stony fought bravely at Iwo Jima as a machine gunner in the Marines. It was a dangerous place, but he stood strong to protect his fellow soldiers and his country.



While fighting on Iwo Jima, he was wounded but survived. A bullet stayed near his spine forever.



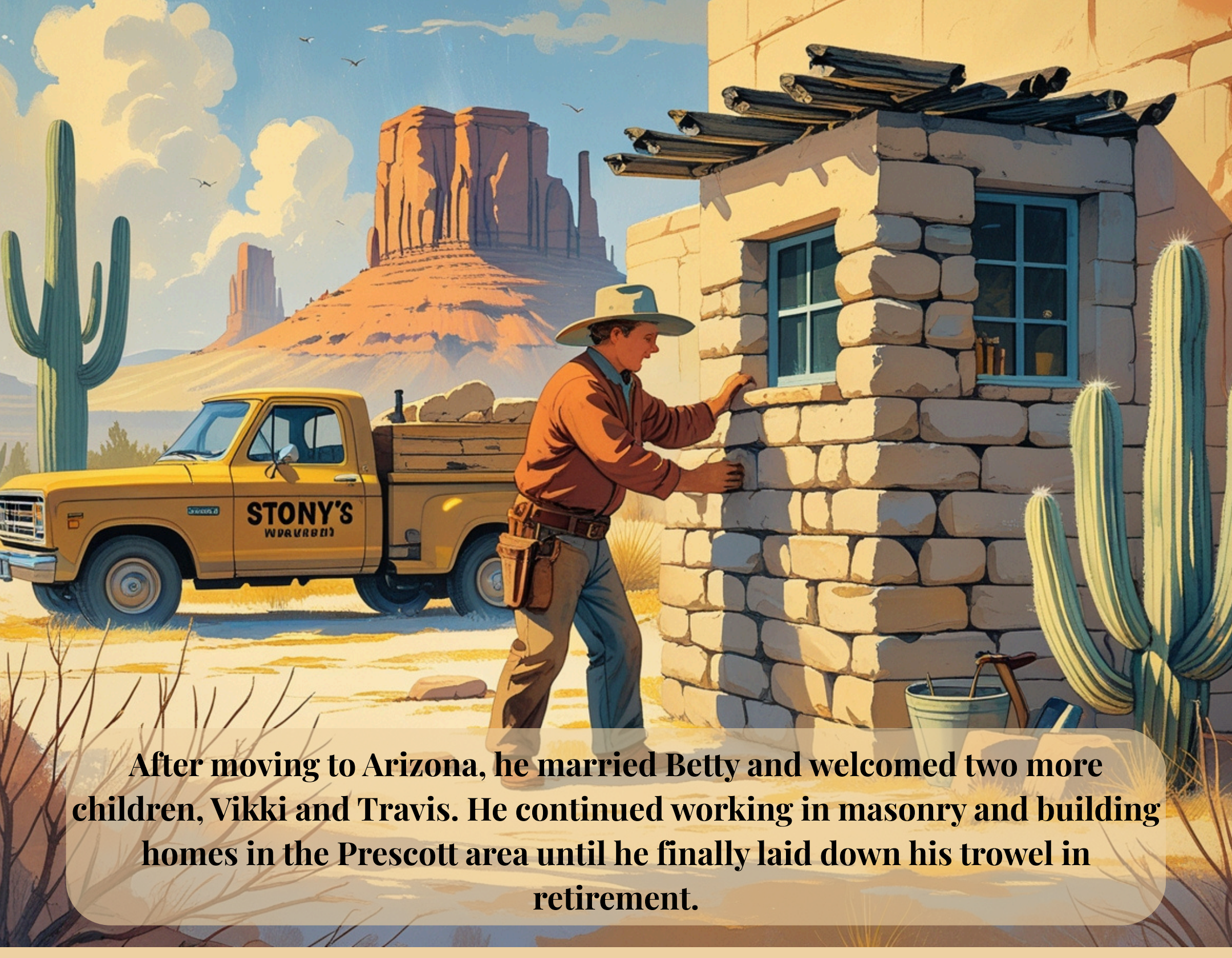
After the war, Stony worked alongside the Japanese people. He realized they had also lost so much. It was a time of healing — and soon, it was time to go home.



No one knew Stony was coming home. But as he walked down the street to his grandmother's house, she saw him and cried, 'Stony's home!' He was finally safe.



After the war, Stony moved to Hollywood, Florida, where he started Stony's Masonry. For 10 years, he built homes and friendships, shaping the community with hard work and heart.



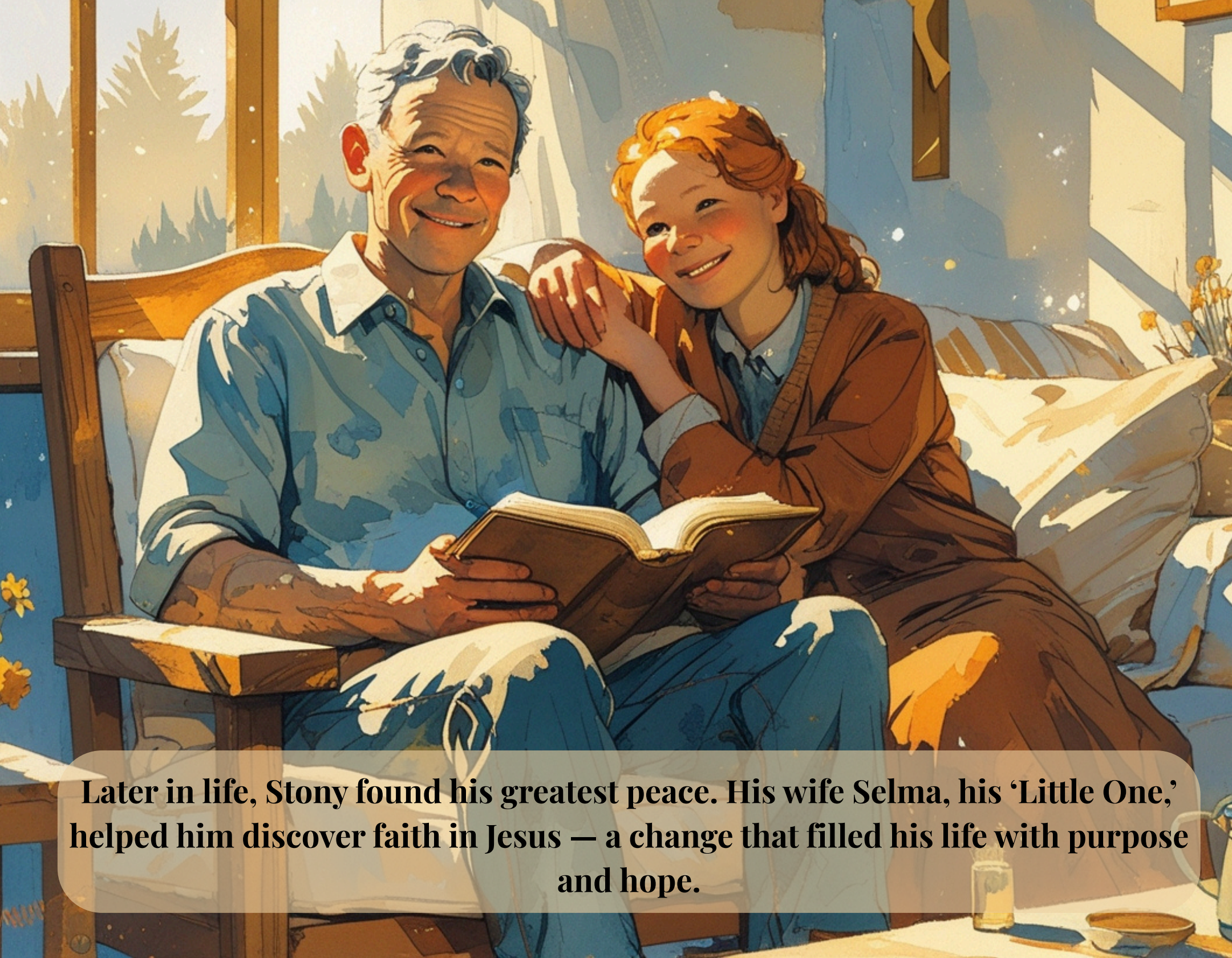
After moving to Arizona, he married Betty and welcomed two more children, Vikki and Travis. He continued working in masonry and building homes in the Prescott area until he finally laid down his trowel in retirement.



In Arizona, Stony loved the outdoors—hiking, camping, and hunting. He spent special time with his family, teaching them about the land and life.



Stony and his daughter Vikki shared many adventures — exploring hills in their Jeep with their Doberman, Duke. She always called antelopes ‘cantaloupes,’ which made him smile.



Later in life, Stony found his greatest peace. His wife Selma, his ‘Little One,’ helped him discover faith in Jesus — a change that filled his life with purpose and hope.



Stony loved horses his whole life. He would use them to hunt, ranch, and just enjoyed having them around.



Stony earned medals for bravery — the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and more. But he was most proud of being a father to Helge, Tonya, Vikki, and Travis.

Snapshots of Joy







