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Willis Aaron Jensen was born in Dodge City, Kansas but spent his childhood in West Valley, Utah as the oldest of 10 children. After graduation from high school he entered Brigham Young University (BYU) on a full tuition scholarship. After one semester there, he spent 2 years in Guatemala as a representative of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. He had many wonderful experiences teaching and working with the people there and learning Spanish. He returned to BYU to complete a BS degree in Statistics in 1999. He met his future wife, Jenilyn, in a Statistics class after they both began the MS program in Statistics at BYU. After doing an internship with Intel in Chandler, Arizona in the summer of 2000, he returned to finish his MS degree in 2001, and was the recipient of the Mary G. Natrelle Scholarship from the Quality & Productivity (Q&P) Section of the American Statistical Association (ASA) in 2001. He then worked at 3M Corporation in St. Paul, Minnesota as a Six Sigma Coach for 2 years before returning to school to obtain his PhD in Statistics from Virginia Tech.

While at Virginia Tech, Willis has received a student grant from the Q&P Section of the ASA to attend the 2003 Fall Technical Conference, received the Ellis R. Ott Scholarship from the American Society for Quality (ASQ), participated on the winning team in the Stat Bowl at the 2005 JSM, and won the Jesse Arnold award for excellence in teaching from the Department of Statistics at Virginia Tech. He did an internship with Procter
& Gamble in the summer of 2004 and has served as a referee for the Journal of Quality Technology and Quality and Reliability Engineering International. Upon graduation in May 2006, he will begin work as a Statistician for W.L. Gore & Associates in Flagstaff, Arizona.

He married Jenilyn Baer in August 2001 and they are the proud parents of 3 children; Sadie (5), Aaron (3), and Susannah (10 months).