Obituaries

Bryan Gray

September 10, 1948 ~ May 25, 2024

Farmington, Utah—Bryan Gray passed away at his home on May 25, 2024, after a lengthy and valiant cancer battle. He's now knockin' on heaven's door. Born on Sept. 10, 1948, in Salt Lake City, the treasured only child of Mark Gray and Donna (Southam) Gray. Bryan was a lover of music, books, travel, the arts, baseball (except the "dreaded Yankees"), Las Vegas and a few nice glasses of wine. Dinner reservations were essential in the life of Bryan, and he loved supporting the economy via his appetite. Bryan loved to joke that he wanted to write a book, "All Our Friends are Servers," and this most included those at the Oasis Cafe. A special thank you to Connor and the rest of the Oasis team for their kindness. A Highland High School alum, he received his undergraduate degree at Westminster College and later moved onto the University of Utah for his master's degree in journalism. His career began as a teacher at Layton High School. For over 40 years he also penned the sometimes controversial, always entertaining Cyclops column for the Davis County Clipper, all while running his Shades of Gray Communications and Gray Print Media businesses. He soon became the go-to maestro of piloting local political campaigns. He loved the hurly-burly of politics and religiously watched the PBS NewsHour in the last two decades of his life — right up until his last days — Bryan worked as a salesman for AlphaGraphics, but he lamented that he never sold anything illegal. After being diagnosed with ocular melanoma, an incredibly rare form of cancer, he was given six months to live. He defied the odds and outlived that prediction by 12 years.

Bryan is survived by his beloved wife, Dawn Brandvold; children, Mark Gray (Kacy) and Julie Gray; stepchildren, Neil Brandvold (Chiara) and Erin Brandvold; and spouse, Vargie Gray. He will also be deeply missed by nephew Mark Hamois, the Harrison Family, and his dear friend Kevin Gann. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Graveside services were held.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to St. Jude Children's Hospital or the Utah Food Bank.

Pragmatic til the end, Bryan implored friends and family not to mourn his death — in the words of Bob Dylan, "Don't Think Twice, It's All Right."

Lasse Bang

1945 - 2024 / In loving memory

Farmington, UT—Lasse Bang was born July 31st 1945, in Oslo Norway to Waldemar and Astrid Bang. Died May 14th, 2024, in Farmington UT. He was 78 years old.

After Lasse graduated from East High School in 1964 he went on to attend The University of Utah. Lasse worked for the Gillette Company, retiring after 40 years.

He married, Genean Roberta Madsen Sept. 4th, 1965. They had 2 children: Natalie Genean Bang and Jeffery William Bang.

Lasse came to America from Norway with his family in May 1951. He was a loving husband and father, who loved to travel, and was lucky enough recently to do that with his family and take a final trip to Norway. He had a love for golf and played for many years. One of his favorite places to play was, Oakridge Country Club, which is where we will be celebrating his life.

Lasse was proceeded in death by his parents, his brother Bjorn Bang, and his sisters, Barbara and Vicky Bang. He is survived by his wife, 2 children, 6 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, and his 3 younger sisters.

His celebration of life will be held, June 9th, 2024, 1:00 pm at Oakridge Country Club, 1492 Shepard Ln Farmington UT. Please come share a memory!

Yvonne Leigh

Salt Lake City

Shirley Yvonne Leigh, born on April 14, 1932, in Annabella, to parents LeCoy and Vaurida Nordfors Anderson, passed away peacefully in Salt Lake City on May 27, 2024, with her daughter, son, and son-in-law by her side.

Yvonne cherished her childhood in Richfield, where she found joy playing in creeks, riding horses, and swimming at Fish Lake. After graduating from high school, she earned a music scholarship to the Branch Agricultural College (BAC) in Cedar City, where she was crowned Miss Branch Aggie and later placed second in the "Miss Utah" competition.

A talented singer, Yvonne performed in numerous musical dramas and sang Handel's "Messiah" with the Utah Oratorical Society for many years. She met her future husband, George Leigh, on a blind date, leading to a joyful marriage filled with travels to such places as Japan, Australia, Canada, Hawaii, the Caribbean, and the Panama Canal. They enjoyed dancing at the Terrace Ballroom, dining at the Fort Douglas Country Club, and playing golf and tennis. Yvonne excelled at golf, winning several awards during her 40 years playing golf at Hidden Valley Golf Club in Draper and Ventana Country Club in Tucson, AZ. She also cherished her weekly bridge games with close friends.

While raising her children, Yvonne served as Primary president for the East Millcreek LDS 10th Ward, demonstrating her gifted leadership, and love for children. Her greatest joy in life was her family; she found immense happiness in spending time with her loved ones, nurturing and supporting them, and celebrating their achievements. Their presence brought her unparalleled fulfillment and purpose.

She is survived by her children: Robert (Robyn), Laurie (Mike), Lance, and Richard (Teresa); grandchildren: Brad (Liza), Kim (Akira), Ryan (Amberly), Todd, Marisa (Richie), Taylor, and Christopher; 7 great-grandchildren; sister, Karen Cornelius; lifelong friend, Betty Lynn Davis.

Yvonne was preceded in death by her husband, George D. Leigh; parents, sisters: Aleith and Joyce; brother, Shirl; brothers-in-law: Lowell Bagley, John Hood, and Don Cornelius; nieces: Jeanette and Renee.

Yvonne embraced life with enthusiasm and a positive spirit. She cherished every moment, whether enjoying her favorite activities or spending time with loved ones. Her deep connection with family and her zest for life was evident to all who knew her, and she found profound joy in creating lasting memories with those she held dear.

Many thanks to the caregivers at the Legacy Village of Sugar House and Canyon Health Hospice in Salt Lake City for their tender care and watch over our dear mother.

Graveside services will be held Friday, June 7, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. in the Richfield City Cemetery. Viewing will be in the Magleby Mortuary in Richfield from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Funeral Directors, Magleby Mortuary, Richfield. Salina and Manti. Online guestbook at www.maglebymortuary.com.

In lieu of flowers, please make a online gift in memory of Yvonne Leigh, to the Dementia Society of America www.DementiaSociety.org/donate.

MAGLEBY MORTUARY

Kevin Michael Brophy

In Loving Memory

Born November 1, 1953, Salt Lake City; died May 11, 2024, Rancho Santa Fe, California.

Beloved son, husband, father, grandfather, and brother.

Survivors: mother, Carol; wife, Amy Jo; children, Kelly Garnet, Kevin Michael, Jr. (Lindsay), Megan, Ryan; grandchildren, Jarrah, Saylor; brother, John Paul.

As Lucan, friend to the wolf and the farmer.

Gary Lynn Walkingshaw

1942 ~ 2024

Gary Lynn Walkingshaw was born May 2, 1942 to Raymond Eugene and Selma Mabel Andersen Walkingshaw. He passed away peacefully on May 17, 2024, surrounded by loved ones. Gary was a larger-than-life kind of person in all the best ways. His strength, kindness, warmth, and humor were one of a kind and will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

He married the love of his life, Carolyn Joy Casper, on June 5, 1959. Theirs was a true love story that lasted 64 years. He was lost when she passed in December and could not live without her.

Gary was the kind of person who could find adventure in unexpected places. Whether it was traveling the world, fishing, golfing, or biking the San Juan Islands, Gary was always trying new things, and he lived a life full of accomplishments. He built a successful career as a salesman for Levi Strauss, sang in the Salt Lake Symphonic Choir, lovingly restored a 1960 Mark IX Jaguar, and became a talented and prolific painter later in life.

Gary was generous to a fault, always helping those in need. He worked hard his entire life to take care of his loved ones and made many lifelong friends. There is nothing Gary loved more than his family, especially his grandchildren. His daughters have many fond memories of him playing the guitar and singing to them throughout their childhood. From the impromptu concerts to the driving lessons that were really life lessons, Gary always found a way to show you he cared. He will be greatly missed.

Gary is preceded in death by his parents, his beautiful wife, and his brother Raymond Eugene. He is survived by his daughters Julie Walkingshaw Kunz (Floyd), and Cindy Poulsen (Ben), his grand children Jessica Ralph, Jennifer Eutsler, and Alex Eutsler, his 6 great grandchildren, his brothers Gail and Dennis (Cay), and his sister-in-law Arleen.

A celebration of Gary's life will be on Thursday, June 6 from 5-7 PM at Starks Funeral Parlor, 3651 South 900 East, Salt Lake City, Utah. Guests are encouraged to use parking and entrance located on the north side of the building.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Starks Funeral Parlor. Please visit www.Starksfuneral.com to share photos and memories with Gary's family.

Oscar Wood Moyle IV

1972 ~ 2024

Wood Moyle, a literal and figurative giant in the community, died unexpectedly on May 19, 2024 from surgical complications. He was 52 years old.

Immediately recognizable for his tall stature, big smile, and booming laugh, Wood worked tirelessly to guide organizations that touched countless lives in Utah. He served on the boards of the Crimson Club, the Natural History Museum of Utah, Rowland Hall-St. Mark's School, and Westminster University. He was a director of the Edward L. Burton Foundation and a director and chair of the R. Harold Burton Foundation. Wood's steady, enthusiastic, thoughtful, and strategic leadership elevated the boards on which he served and his fellow board members alike. His positive presence, deep caring, stellar insights, unparalleled work ethic, quick wit, and sense of humor will be sorely missed.

Natural History Museum of Utah Executive Director, Jason Crylen, reflected, "Wood has long been an integral part of the Museum community. He was instrumental in the campaign for NHMU's beautiful home, the Rio Tinto Center." Wood chaired NHMU's annual Lecture Series Planning Committee, helping to identify, evaluate, and invite the incredible speakers who bring their scientific expertise to enrich the Utah community.

Rowland Hall Head of School, Mick Gee, observed, "In addition to being an engaged and active parent in his children's lives, Wood's unwavering commitment to Rowland Hall has been immeasurable." Over his 11-year tenure on the Board of Trustees, he chaired the Nominating Committee and the Capital Campaign Committee and led the Headmaster's Council while also contributing significantly to the Governance Task Force.

Wood was passionate about helping the underserved and marginalized citizens in our community. He believed that education changes the future for children and should be available to everyone, regardless of financial circumstances. R. Harold Burton Foundation Executive Director, Steve Morgan, said of Wood, "He loved his family and was grateful for his heritage. His grandfather and grandmother, who created the foundation in 1985, would be so proud of his thoughtful stewardship and efforts to honor their legacy." During his tenure, the foundation awarded over 3,000 grants to hundreds of Utah nonprofit organizations, improving the lives of thousands of children and adults.

He valued service to our country, supported programs for veterans, and led the campaign to create The Center for Veteran and Military Services at Westminster. Westminster President, Beth Dobkin, commented, "Wood was instrumental in supporting Westminster's transition from college to university and the Board of Trustees' statement and action plan regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion. His warmth and humor extended across his leadership roles. Wood will be deeply missed, and his contributions to Westminster will be remembered for years to come."

Wood was born in Salt Lake City on February 5, 1972 to Oscar Wood Moyle III and Judith Covey Burton Moyle. After graduating from Rowland Hall, Wood attended Lewis & Clark College, where he played center for the Pioneers' basketball team and obtained his bachelor's degree in history. He obtained his MBA from The Bill and Vieve Gore School of Business at Westminster.

Wood was an avid student, and persuasive debater, of history, politics, and philosophy. He read voraciously and assembled an impressive collection of books on military history. He enjoyed Star Wars films, strategy games, Dungeons and Dragons, and Michigan football. He was a consummate family man and cherished spending time with his son, wife, and stepdaughter. Some of Wood's favorite times were spent with his family cheering on his son at his basketball and soccer games, building Legos, solving jigsaw puzzles, and reading bedtime stories with voices for each character.

Wood is survived by his wife, Becca, son, Oscar "Ocky" Wood Moyle V, stepdaughter, Emma Elizabeth Umipig; sister, Rebecca Burton Moyle (Tyler Lange); nieces and nephew, Isabella, Anne, Beatrice, and George Lange; "brother," Noel Edward Hunt; and mother, Judith Covey Burton Moyle.

A celebration of Wood's outstanding life will be held at the Natural History Museum of Utah on June 3, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. The Moyle family suggests contributions in Wood's honor to the Natural History Museum Utah or Westminster University.

Gary Michael (Mike) Elggren

Celebration of Life

Salt Lake City, UT— A celebration of life and lunch in honor of Gary Michael (Mike) Elggren will be held Saturday, June 15 at Sugar House Garden Center, 1602 E 2100 S, Salt Lake City, UT 84106. We invite his friends and family to join us in sharing memories and stories.

Steven Lee Smyth

1942 - 2024

Dublin, CA—Steven Lee Smyth, a Utah transplant who resided in Dublin, Calif., for the last 50 years of his life, died in his sleep May 25 at age 81. A man of many interests, he was a raconteur who especially loved talking about his family history.

He is survived by Ann Smyth, his wife of 59 years, their four sons—Steven Jr., David, Patrick, and Jim—three grandchildren—Ian, Victoria, and Sydney—two brothers—Jim and Ashby—and two sisters—Marjorie and Marilyn.

Steve was born on Aug. 17, 1942, in Salt Lake City, the first child of Sidney, a hatter, and Freda, a nurse. He attended the University of Utah before he began managing movie theaters. Employment with Syufy Enterprises eventually took him and his young family to California in 1971. After one year in San Jose and another in Santa Ana, the family relocated to Dublin.

A love of reading enabled him to talk about a wide range of subjects, and his years in the movie business gave him a reservoir of film knowledge. Among his proudest moments was hosting a sneak preview of Francis Ford Coppola's The Godfather Part II in 1974, allowing him to meet the director and view a rough cut of the masterpiece before its final edit.

A self-learner, he taught himself to cook and to master coaching tactics and strategies so that he could coach his sons' soccer and Little League teams, which consistently ranked among the best in their leagues.

His heart never left Utah, however. His father and grandfather built a family cabin in the Uinta Mountains in 1935, and he spent summers there throughout his young life. In retirement, he spent as much time as possible at the cabin located in Holiday Park. He loved nothing more than sitting on the porch, visiting with longtime friends, and telling family stories.

His wishes were to have his ashes scattered there.

Ronald George Neeley

1965-2024

Heber, Utah—Ronald George Neeley passed away Sunday, May 26th at his home in Heber City, Utah. Ron is the son of Willard Edmund "Ed" and Myrna Jeanne Robbins Neeley. Born on September 2nd, 1965, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Ron is survived by his mother, Myrna Jeanne Robbins Neeley; sister, Brenda Robbin Petersen; niece, Carrisa Salcines and grandnephews Drake and Beau; as well as nephew, Tyler Petersen. He is also survived by Mike Neeley, Steve Neeley, and Gary Neeley all of Salt Lake City, Utah; as well as Kay Neeley Galli and Bonnie Neeley Hill of Salt Lake City, Utah.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, June 3rd, 2024, at the Blackburn Vernal Mortuary beginning at 11 am. A viewing will be held from 10:00 to 10:50 prior to the services.

Larry Fife Dahle

1931 ~ 2024

St George, UT—Lieutenant Colonel USAF Larry Fife Dahle (Ret) passed away in his home in St. George, Utah, surrounded by his loving family on the morning of May 3rd, 2024. He was born on May 16th, 1931 in Weston, Idaho to Joseph Merland Dahle and Maxine Fife Dahle. A celebration of life will be held June 7th from 4-7 PM at the Cottonwood Country Club, 1780 Lakewood Drive, Holladay UT.

Colleen W Sorenson

1934 - 2024

Taylorsville, UT—Colleen Woolley Sorenson, cherished mother, grandmother, and friend, passed peacefully in her home on May 17, 2024, ready to be reunited with the love of her life, George Leonard "Lenny" Sorenson. Born on March 9, 1934, in Richfield, UT, to Earl and Fern Woolley, Colleen was the beloved oldest child in her family, adored by her Nana and aunts. She grew up in Pleasant Grove, UT, where she attended Pleasant Grove High School, participating as a majorette and a pitcher on her softball team.

Colleen's life was a testament to her deep faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ, regarding the Savior as her best friend. As a devoted mother of six and a dedicated homemaker, she ensured her home and car sparkled "like the top of the Chrysler building." Her unwavering support extended to her grandchildren in all their endeavors, and she delighted in taking road trips with them. Colleen loved hosting family gatherings, embraced nature, and had a keen interest in geology. She was an avid photographer, capturing countless family moments—despite the occasional mishap with a lens cap or lack of film. Her photo albums were a testament to her meticulous and beautiful works of art. Colleen was a devoted Utah Jazz fan, familiar with every stat and player, and everyone knew better than to interrupt her during a game.

Her career included many years as a manager at Sorenson Research and 23 years at the Utah State Driver License Division, retiring at the remarkable age of 77. Colleen championed the underdog, valuing her friendships and work. Intelligent and curious, she never forgot a birthday and was a meticulous planner, especially when it came to family gatherings and documenting them with photos, with every person's name and date written on each photo, ensuring no person was forgotten.

Colleen faced numerous challenges with courage, including the loss of her beloved and humorous son Wayne, the love of her life, Lenny, and surviving an aneurysm and brain tumor. Despite these hardships, she remained a resilient warrior, deeply loved and missed by all who knew her.

Colleen is survived by her children: Russell Sorenson, Cheryll Simpson (David), Robert Sorenson (Nicole), Kerry Sorenson, and Laurie Ahlstrom (Rick); 17 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; and many great-great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her siblings: Earl, Ruth, Mary, and Allen. She was preceded in death by her husband, George Leonard Sorenson; her son, Wayne George Sorenson; daughter-in-law, Susan Sorenson; parents, Earl, and Fern Woolley; and her sisters, Doral, and Susan "Susie."

Services for Colleen will begin on June 6th with a memorial at Valley View Mortuary from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M., located at 4335 W 4100 S, West Valley. On June 7th, Funeral services will be held at the LDS church at, 5800 S 2700 W, Taylorsville, beginning with a prayer at 10:30 A.M., followed by the funeral service at 11:00 A.M. Burial services will follow at Valley View Mortuary where she will be laid to rest between her husband George and son Wayne. Colleen's family extends heartfelt thanks to all her caregivers during her illness and to her family & friends for their love and support, with special gratitude to Cheryll and Dave for providing a loving and caring home in her final years.

POOR