



## Chris Nielson

March 21, 1946 - December 15, 2017

Grant Christian Nielson “Pops” taught his children and grandchildren that top runners always finish their race by leaning over the finish line giving 110%.

On Friday December 15, 2017, Pops did just that. He passed away due to cancer, in his home, surrounded by his family. He was born on March 21, 1946 in Salt Lake City Utah to Grant Christian Nielson and Frances Alameda Goodman. Raised in Southern California, he apprenticed as a camshaft machinist at the age of 15.

The bleached-blond Southern California boy married his high school sweetheart, Jeanna LaMoyne Hislop on March 23, 1968. In 1969 Pops started working for the Chevron Refinery and in 1971 Chris and Jeanna moved from Redondo Beach, CA to Farmington, UT where they raised their 5 beautiful children for the next 28 years.

Pops continued his world-renowned Nielson Vintage Race Cam business while working for Chevron Refinery in North Salt Lake. He retired from Chevron in 1992. In December 1997, he fought and survived a brain aneurysm. For the past 20 years, he has lived on borrowed time to influence all 17 of his grandchildren.

He is a dedicated member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a true disciple of the Savior Jesus Christ. He was the best Dad, husband, soccer coach, and friend. He loved teaching children all the great mysteries of life and children loved his teachings. He knew a little about everything. He taught the camshaft was the heart of the engine. Pops, you are the heart of our family!

Pops is survived by his beloved spouse Jeanna LaMoyne Hislop Nielson “Muppy” of nearly 50 years, their 5 children; Lezli Dea Finch (Rob) of Yakima, WA, Erinn Holly Pedersen (KG) of Cedar City, UT, Geoff LeMoyne Nielson (Kelli) of Zionsville, IN, Emily Kathleen Cahoon (Brian) of Highland, UT, and Elizabeth Anne Christensen (Leo) of Mesa, AZ and 17 grandchildren.

Funeral Services will be held Friday, December 22nd, at 11:00 am, at the Farmington Utah South Stake Center, 695 South 200 East, Farmington, Utah, where a Viewing will be held prior from 10:00 to 10:30 am. Interment in the Farmington Cemetery.

The family requests a donation to the General Mission fund on [LDS.org](https://www.LDS.org) in lieu of flowers.

Funeral Directors: Utah Valley Mortuary.

# Cemetery

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## Farmington Cemetery

500 South 200 East  
Farmington, UT, 84025

# Events

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**DEC** **Viewing** 10:00AM - 10:30AM

**22**

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Farmington Utah South Stake Center  
695 South 200 East, Farmington, UT, US, 84025

**DEC** **Funeral Service** 11:00AM - 12:00PM

**22**

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Farmington Utah South Stake Center  
695 South 200 East, Farmington, UT, US, 84025

# Comments

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“ To the family,Chris was always such great guy and so much help to me when I was racing.Today I was challenged with a build and thought I'll call Chris I instantly felt good looking forward to the phone call ,not knowing he had passed. Thank you for sharing him with us . Neil Bisciglia

**Neil J Bisciglia** - May 01, 2020 at 02:02 PM

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“ Nielson Family :

Sorry as I just found out a few days ago.

Had the pleasure of Chris coming by my camshaft shop in Littleton Co. and bring me masters from Racer Brown that where from the Harmam & Collins Camshaft Company - and was pleased lets say honored to also have Chris give me a offer to grind cams for him before he could not anymore to supply his customers - Chris was a good guy to me and will miss talking to him on the phone-Looks like the city got their land they wanted - Chris told me they would have to come in shooting to take his livelihood away from him & i would have done the same.

Gods Speed my friend.

Craig Lockwood @ Black Widow Cams AKA Harman & Collins Cams also.

**Craig Lockwood** - April 05, 2018 at 04:38 PM

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“ Geoff,

You are in our thoughts and Prayers. As a past motorcycle racer, I thought I would look up some info on your dad and I found a number of quotes from racers that used his services. Racers are hard folks to please but your dad must have been quite the man. Trust and honor then craftsmanship go a long way. Here are few I thought you might like from folks I do not know but who posted years ago about his work. I know he was an incredible man.

- It's been quite a while ago, like 12 years. He did a couple 270 GMC shafts for us. I'd rate his services first class!
- Chris is a straight shooter really knows his S\_\_\_ on early hemi cams!!!!
- I had him grind a 394 cam for me years ago, easy to talk to over the phone absolutely no complaints
- He did a 3/4 race grind on my Ford flathead six cam. The price was very reasonable and he turned it around fast. I've had it on the road 7 years, no problem. Great work.
- I just got a cam back from him for that blown y block, great service so far and hope to have it running for the Road Agents.

Guy & Debby Boyle  
Macon Georgia

**Guy Boyle** - December 19, 2017 at 10:30 AM



“ Jeanna, So sorry to hear about Chris passing on. I saw you with family in church Sunday, but I had to leave with my family right after the sacrament to drive to Phoenix with them. I am here until Feb 10 so I will miss the funeral, BUT I knew before i left and was able to make a contribution through Lane to the mission fund.

I enjoyed knowing Chris. He was such a likable guy and went out of his way to be friendly to everyone. The two of you were a perfect pair and I admire all that you meant to each other and what you were able to accomplish together!

My husband Jim had family in Farmington for years. Don't know if you ever knew Paul and Kathleen Watts, but they were Jim's aunt and uncle.

May you be blessed with the comfort that loving family, a sure testimony of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and knowledge of our purpose on earth and hereafter brings. May the Holy Ghost calm a troubled heart in your loneliness when those times come.

Love, Sandy Allen

**Sandra B. Allen** - December 19, 2017 at 11:03 PM



“ Jeanna, dear friend. Heartbroken and tears since learning of Chris' passing. Have driven past the house several times but many cars and grandchildren playing in front yard and was assured you were surrounded with loved ones. You both set such a sweet and dedicated love and respect for each other. Will miss his twinkling and kind eyes and his quiet and concerned demeanor. We have kept you in our prayers knowing the challenges your family faced and will continue to do so for that peace, comfort and sustaining faith to guide and bless you in all your endeavors.

**Pat and Carla Lee** - December 21, 2017 at 11:57 AM



“ Geoff and family. I'm so sorry you have to say goodbye for now but thankful that you will meet again someday. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers as you travel this road

**Bonnie Fraley** - December 22, 2017 at 06:36 AM



“ Dear Nielson family, We have missed you and have thought about you often since you left Farmington. We're so sorry to hear that Chris passed away. We really wish we could have been at the funeral to see all of you and to express our condolences. We will dearly miss Chris, and express our love to each of you. You have often been in our thoughts, and always will be. Drew & Rhonda

**Drew Pearce** - December 26, 2017 at 11:58 PM