



Christy Johnson

December 18, 1969 - February 5, 2018

Christy Johnson, beloved daughter, sister and friend passed away February 5, 2018, at home. Christy loved crafts and needlepoint. Her most recent projects were crocheted baby blankets for each of her great-nieces and great-nephews.

Christy was kind, generous, funny and quick-witted. In addition to making her family laugh, she excelled in debate. She won numerous extemporaneous speaking awards in high school, including the Governor's Cup in 1987. She served an LDS church mission to Cape Town, South Africa.

Christy was the daughter of Clyde Lawrence and Ruth Butcherite Johnson. She grew up in Provo and attended Timpview High School and Brigham Young University. She is survived by her mother, Ruth Johnson, five sisters: Lorie Johnson, Leslie (Dave) Weber, Kathy (Rod) Stewart, Carrie (David) Bench, and Wendy (Michael) Asay, 13 nieces and nephews, and 5 great-nieces and great-nephews.

Christy was buried near her father in the Spanish Fork Cemetery on February 10, 2018, in a graveside service for her loving family members.

Funeral Directors: Utah Valley Mortuary. Christy's family invites you to share messages and memories at <http://www.uvfuneral.com>.

Cemetery

Spanish Fork City Cemetery

420 South 400 East

Spanish Fork, UT,

Comments



“ Delores Harris wrote this letter upon getting news of Christy's death. She has asked me, her son, to edit it for this blog. I've left it as it was aside from the final paragraph, which involved a planned get together which has now already taken place. Here's the letter:

Dear Ruth, Lorie (and Christy),

I have had you all in my mind for the past many days. It's difficult accepting the idea that Christy is gone. Every time I go outside or look out the window I'm given another painful reminder. And I'm so sorry for the sorrow you feel.

Christy was such a happy, pleasant person and found enjoyment in helping others. I remember how she enjoyed working in your yard. She was often weeding and working for many hours, sometime alone and often with Lorie. And it was not too surprising to suddenly find her in our yard doing some weeding in our flower beds all by herself. I thought it was so cute of her to come over to our yard and pull up the toadstools in our grass in the backyard. She said they needed to be pulled out by the roots or they would just keep coming back.

Christy has such a tender heart and she loved animals. We remember Max your dog and most recently Stormy the cat. She loved our cats and kittens too and came over frequently to play with them. On occasion she brought over a can of Fancy Feast to give them a little treat. She enjoyed making them happy. I recall that she even had a horse for a while.

It sure doesn't seem like it's been over forty years that your family moved into that newly built house across from us. I was happy to learn that you had children about the same ages as some of ours. Christy was three years old if I'm remembering correctly. She and Leilani and Heidi became good friends and have spent many happy years playing and growing up together. Carrie and Linda are the same age too and had fun times together along with Jean Nielson.

Thank Heaven for the Gospel and for the knowledge we have that we will be with our departed loved ones again. It's what keeps us going when we're separated by death, isn't it? I'm so grateful for this knowledge. And what a comfort it is to know that their aches and pains and troubles are over for them and they are in a good place. Christy is with her father and free from suffering. What a blessing!

[removed one paragraph here]

Much love,

Delores

P.S. I am so grateful and feel so blessed to have had your family as our wonderful neighbors for all those years. We all love your family!



“ It was very easy to be friends with Christy. She was a very accepting person, quick to call you a friend. We had many adventures together with other friends when we were young. Christy had great enthusiasm for life and liked to try new things. I also remember her laughter, which was infectious. The two things that stand out the most as I think about Christy are her love for animals, and the great love she had for her family. It seemed whenever we were together, she would speak with great fondness about her sisters and their families.

Thank you for your friendship, Christy. You will be missed!

With love,

Emilee Keith Knell

Emilee Knell - February 21, 2018 at 12:49 AM



“ I was lucky to go to the same high school as Christy. She was always so witty and poised, and had an innate kindness about her. I don't think that I ever heard her say a mean or disparaging word about anyone, at a time where most did not have that kind of maturity. Our paths did not cross much later in life, but reading these condolences, it sounds like her kindness and generosity continued throughout her life. I was saddened to hear of her passing. Heartfelt condolences to all her friends and family.

LaNae Huber Murray

LaNae Murray - February 18, 2018 at 07:56 PM



“ Christy and I were in the same group of friends during high school. She was so much fun. And beautiful. And feisty too. And very supportive. I remember her coming to see me audition for the school play. I was terrified, knees knocking, to sing on stage in the theater. I hadn't done that before. Christy stayed after school to root for me from the audience, and her support meant so much to me. We did a lot together and made so many great memories. Our paths went different directions after high school and we didn't keep in touch probably because I moved out of state, but I will always remember her with so much warmth and love in my heart. I'm so sad to hear that she has passed away. My condolences go out to all of her friends and family. With love.
Deidre (Jensen) Call.



Deidre Call - February 17, 2018 at 07:37 PM



“ Some of my earliest memories are of Christy taking my brothers and me to get ice cream cones at Arctic Circle. She always knew how to make us feel special and loved. I will miss her a lot and I am thinking about our family during this time.

Love,

Alex

Alex Bench - February 17, 2018 at 12:58 AM



“ Before the Johnsons built their new house directly across from ours on Sagewood Avenue, the Hadleys had a horse pasture there. I can still picture the wooden corral with the horses inside it and the tall trees behind it. The trees are still there today.

I was a teenager when the Johnsons moved into the split-level house which replaced the corral. That must have been about 1973. They had six girls who, oldest to youngest, approximately matched the range of ages of my own brothers and sisters. The two middle children, Kathy and Carrie, quickly became fast friends to me and my sister Linda, likewise the two middle children in our own family of eight children. I have a vague memory of Kathy and me walking home from the Helaman Hall swimming pool during that first summer that they lived there, chatting amiably together but walking quite far apart, keeping our distance from each other as we walked along the sidewalk across from the Marriott Center the way most any girl and boy would at that age.

Later, in high school, Kathy was a close friend and confidant, and I appreciate her help in getting through occasional hard times during that tumultuous period. The neighborhood kids between my sister Linda's age and mine hung out a lot together at that time, and that included both Kathy and Carrie. We did fun things like visiting the drive-in theater with Ross Woolf's old Ford pickup truck (which he still has) parked facing away from the screen and a pile of lawn chairs set up in and outside of it or pulling the occasional prank on a schoolmate or neighbor. Also, Tamme Webb's father and mother were second parents to many of us in the neighborhood, and we spent many an evening there watching Brother Webb hypnotize those of us who were suggestible enough to go under. Kent Purdy's was a particularly entertaining case.

I never knew Christy as well as my three youngest siblings did, but she was a good friend to them, and she was always cheerful and friendly whenever I ran into her in recent years, which was quite a lot up until they moved away about a year ago now. Like Linda, I remember her and Lorie watching out for my parents in later years, taking the trash cans out when they needed to be taken out and bringing them back in the next day, picking up their mail when they needed it, placing the newspaper on the porch where it would be easy for them to retrieve, and even weeding the lawn on occasion just to be helpful.

My condolences to Sister Johnson and to Christy's five sisters and also to my own little brother and two sisters who were close friends of Christy's. I don't pretend to know what the world after this one is like or whether there even is one. But I have a steadfast hope that there is and, if there is, I hope that Christy is having an opportunity to become reacquainted with her father, Clyde, and with other loved ones who departed before her. And I hope she and Brother Johnson have already dropped in on my own recently deceased father and exchanged some witticisms and a smile with him.

Love,

David



“ I was so sad to hear about Christy, I'm so sad she is no longer with us. The first time I met Christy I was walking our dog, Free. We had just moved to the (Pleasant View) neighborhood and I didn't know many people. As we approached the Johnson home, I noticed a blonde gal kneeling and tending the beautiful flowers in the front yard. She turned as we came up the sidewalk, and in her boisterous, friendly voice said, "he looks like Max!" Max, being the beloved family dog. Christy was always so friendly, and as others have written, always seemed so happy to see me. She always gave a warm welcome when I came over to the Johnson home. She had a great sense of humor and enjoyed clever jokes and observations. She had this special twinkle, a sparkle in her eye with a hint of mischief. She would perfectly deliver jokes and one-liners that would have us all laughing. Christy and I share a love for animals. She and her dear Mom, and sister, Lorie, would always ask after our dogs and how they were doing. I know Stormy, the cat, was especially loved and a sweet companion. I marveled at the beautiful flower beds, and tended gardens at Johnsons. I know Christy played a vital role in creating the beauty of the lawn and garden at the Johnson home. Christy was likely one of the most non-judgemental persons I have ever known. She was caring and kind. She had strong opinions and would share them, but never at the expense of another. Even with her health struggles and the pain she endured, she was thoughtful of others and enjoyed fun banter and humor. I know she appreciated the love and devoted care of her dear sister Lorie, and dear mother, Ruth. My heart goes out to Lorie and Ruth, and the rest of the Johnson family. My life is much richer for having known and enjoyed the company of such a big personality, and smart and clever, and kind soul, and beautiful, dear Christy.

Much love from,
Maureen Jastremsky (Jonsson)

Maureen Jastremsky - February 16, 2018 at 07:21 PM



“ Nice to hear from you, Maureen. So sorry you and Eric are no longer there in the PV1 neighborhood, but I hope you're both happy wherever you are. (Springville is what I think I heard.)

David E Harris - February 16, 2018 at 09:29 PM



“ Christy was so cute and kind. She helped one of my daughter's with her math in high school. She really liked my youngest and gave her a necklace for her baptism. We spent one 4th of July at her house and went on lunch dates. I'm so sorry for her family's loss.

Rachelle - February 16, 2018 at 04:09 PM



“ Oh how I love Christy. She always had a laugh, a smile and wanted to share any knowledge she thought would help others. I remember in Psychology the teacher asking about what idiosyncratic behaviors people might have that would confuse others and Christy immediately volunteered her habit of looking sideways and blinking (to help her contacts get back in position) and the teacher was thrilled for such a perfect example. I remember so many weekends hanging out together and especially a getaway to Park City. Christy decided she wanted to dye her hair and we ran to Walmart and got the supplies and experimented on her together. Her heart was nothing but kind. Her mind was always willing to share. I love her dearly and she will be missed.



Jan Thomson - February 16, 2018 at 02:46 PM



“ Lovely photo, Jan! Thanks for posting it.

David E Harris (Leilani & Heidi's brothe - February 16, 2018 at 09:33 PM



“ Dear Aunt Ruth and family:
 We were so very sorry to learn of Christy's passing. We send our sympathy and love to you at this difficult and tender time. May you feel the peace and comfort of our Heavenly Father's love..... and our love as well
 Sincerely,
 Carol and Shirley Butchereit

Shirley Butchereit - February 14, 2018 at 01:53 PM



“ Oh, sweet Christy!!! Life with you was always a FUN adventure :)! Few people I have known throughout my life have the whimsical nature as you do! So many memories are flooding through my mind... Its impossible to think of you without seeing your darling smile & contagious laugh :)... You loved to laugh more than anyone I know! Your love for your family was unlike any other ~ You loved sharing stories about your cute nieces & nephews, your sisters, your mom, your pets... It was easy to see they brought SO much joy to your life! You are a beautiful soul, and our lives will not be the same without you. One of my favorite recent memories with you was when our group of friends got together for a fun weekend in Park City... We got very little sleep, but what a blast we had together :). I remember summer days slip 'n sliding in the Harris' backyard, making "Chocolate Scotcheroots" at midnight, learning how to make gyoza in your kitchen (still THE best I've ever had), and late night drives for "Scooby Snacks". You have always been a wise soul with a light heart ~ Sure love you sweet friend! I hope you are filled with beautiful PEACE & JOY! You will forever be in our hearts :).

Julianne Rowley - February 14, 2018 at 02:39 AM



“ How fun to read about your adventures together with my sisters and with Christy! Nice to hear from you, Julianne.

David E Harris (Leilani & Heidi's brothe - February 16, 2018 at 09:34 PM



“ I grew up across the street from the famous Christy Johnson, who was always full of playfulness and humor. She is known for telling a story with slight embellishment, for the entertainment of the listener, with lots of laughter throughout. She was playmate throughout childhood, and someone who stopped by to visit many times into adulthood as well when I was in town visiting family. I always found Christy to be nothing but positive, and always supportive of my own personal life changes, for example being a single parent by choice. She showed great kindness to my daughter as well. I can hear her contagious laughter ringing in my mind as I type this, and the result is both cheering based on the memories, and saddening due to our loss of her. My hope is that her family members will find peace during this difficult time, and I feel some gladness knowing Christy is released of her pain. Christy suffered in life as many of us do, but she did so with dignity, grace and a blithe demeanor. She was a wonderful person that my entire family will forever recall with fondness.

Nathan Harris

Nathan Harris - February 13, 2018 at 06:10 PM



“ Really great comments and memories, Nat!

David E Harris - February 16, 2018 at 09:34 PM



“ So sorry to hear that sweet Christy is gone. She was such a unique and cheerful person, always willing to help, and a great friend to my younger sisters. My dad used to laugh about her when she was a little girl since she was so curious and uninhibited. She would pop across the street quite often to ask him questions and follow him around while he was working in the yard. I was particularly grateful for the help that she and Lorie gave to my parents as Mom and Dad got older, and was sad to have them move from the neighborhood after so many years. In recent years, even with her own health problems, Christy could be found weeding mom and dad's flower beds or removing toadstools from the lawn for them, shoveling snow or taking in their trash cans. She was always so friendly whenever I saw her. Condolences to Ruth and the whole Johnson family on her loss. And blessings to Lorie for being the best big sister anyone could have. The self-sacrificing care she has given Christy and her mother over the last many years have been an example of true charity. May Christy finally be free from pain and be at peace. Love,

Linda Harris Pugmire

Linda Harris Pugmire - February 13, 2018 at 12:47 AM



“ I enjoyed reading these memories, Linda. Thanks!

David E Harris - February 16, 2018 at 09:35 PM



“ Dear Ruth and family,

We were so very sorry to learn of Christy's death. We have sweet memories of our time together in the Pleasant View 1st Ward. We send our sympathy and love to you at this tender time.

Sincerely,

Reese and Kathryn Hansen

Kathryn T. Hansen - February 13, 2018 at 12:16 AM



“ I was so very sad to hear about Christy. Growing up across the street from the Johnson's, I've known Christy all my life. I have so many great childhood memories spent with her.

One specific memory happened when we were quite young. We had gotten permission to feed, brush and even sometimes ride some horses that belonged to a nearby neighbor. On one occasion, Christy and my sister and I went into the horse enclosure and must have spooked one of the horses. The horse started bucking and kicking up her back legs towards us and followed us as we ran. I remember feeling really scared. Christy, however, stayed very calm and immediately took control of the situation as she pulled me close to her and instructed me to get behind her and stay there putting me out of harm's way. She was an inherent nurturer and protector.

Christy loved animals. She adored and took such great care of the various pets she had over the years. She took great care of our family pets as well! It was not uncommon to look out onto our back deck and see Christy sitting with our cats in her lap and a brush in her hand smoothing their fur and getting out all of their mats. She would even treat them to a can of tuna now and then. :-)

I loved the beautiful snapdragons that grew in the Johnson's backyard and remember playing back there with Christy. I loved being invited over after a rainstorm to help bail out their boat. We'd take buckets and pots and scoop out all of the water from the boat cover to keep it from sagging and causing damage.

I have many memories of playing in the MTC and selling Kool Aid and popsicles to the missionaries. Christy had such a fun and adventurous spirit and was always up for some excitement which continued on into our high school and college years and beyond.

Christy had a bright mind and would help me with my math now and then. She was patient and relaxed and explained things really well. She was a great teacher.

Christy made the best chocolate chip cookies and gyoza! I have great memories of sitting in her kitchen, talking and laughing and eating the yummy things she would make.

Christy had such a kind, generous and loving heart. I don't remember her ever speaking unkindly about anyone. She was quick to help and serve those around her. Christy and Lorie were always so good to my parents - shoveling their walk, pulling weeds, taking their trash cans in and generally watching out for them.

Christy was a happy, positive, fun loving person with a really great laugh. As the years went on, she struggled with various health problems and often didn't feel very well yet she was always cheerful when I would see her.

I feel so lucky to have grown up across the street from such great neighbors and to have had Christy as a friend.

All my love to Ruth, Lorie and the entire Johnson family -
Heidi Harris Bergeson

Heidi Bergeson - February 12, 2018 at 11:48 PM



“ Fun memories, Heid!! I loved the story about the horse. I never knew Christy all that well, and that story says a lot.

David E Harris - February 16, 2018 at 09:37 PM



“ Dear Ruth and Lori,

I am so blessed to have known Christy and it was such a pleasure to be her visiting teacher. I know how much she loved her family. What a beautiful woman she is inside and out. I am so sorry for your loss, but know she has been welcomed on the other side by her dear father. You are in my thoughts and prayers. May you find hope in the knowledge that families are eternal. You are greatly missed in the Pleasant View 1st Ward.

Love,

Maren Hale

Maren Hale - February 12, 2018 at 06:27 PM



“ Christy’s family moved in across the street from mine when we were both 3-years-old. She was my oldest friend, and I’ve known her for as long as I can remember. She was just a month older than me and about 6 inches taller! She stood by me as a loyal friend throughout our lives. Christy had a cheerful personality and a great sense of humor. I’m sure there must have been times when we had disagreements as children, but I don’t remember a time when we were upset with each other. Christy had an enthusiasm for life and the ability to get to work when a problem needed to be solved. A memory comes to mind in of an incident in our teens with a broken door when we were at a friend’s house. She jumped right in to find the necessary tools and fix the problem. Christy had a big heart and a generous, helpful nature. My life is better for knowing Christy, and I will miss her.

Leilani Garfield

Leilani Garfield - February 12, 2018 at 05:12 PM



“ That was a very thoughtful post.

Nathan Harris - February 13, 2018 at 06:10 PM



“ Nice post, L!

David E Harris - February 16, 2018 at 09:37 PM



“ Christy was born a week before Christmas. The hospital sent her home in a Christmas stocking. Each of us waited for “our turn” to hold our new baby sister.

One of my favorite memories of Christy was when she was barely old enough to crawl. She would climb up onto the fireplace hearth and sit there smiling triumphantly. It was her special space to watch all the activity in both the kitchen and the living room. It's so hard to believe that was so many years ago.

Christy was such a very generous person. I remember getting a letter from Christy while she was serving as a missionary in the Cape Town, South Africa Mission. Christy had been teaching a lady who was quite poor and had a small baby. The lady had very few cloth diapers. She would wash them daily and put them on the clothesline to dry. She was worried that as the seasons changed and the temperature got cooler, the few diapers she had would not dry as fast as she needed them. Christy, of course, immediately went out and used the majority of her food money to buy diapers and supplies that she felt this lady needed. Christy never thought twice about giving away anything, or everything, she had for those in need.

I will miss you, my little sister!!!
-- Wendy

Wendy Johnson Asay - February 12, 2018 at 04:51 PM



“ Lorie,
I was saddened to see that you lost your sister, Christy. You might not remember me but I enjoyed getting to know you and Christy during the time that I worked for Dr. Will Christensen. My thoughts are with you at this time.
-Marin Rasmussen

Marin Rasmussen - February 12, 2018 at 10:05 PM



“ I really enjoyed reading this memory, Wendy! I'm so sorry for this, and I hope you and your mom and sisters will have plenty of help to get through it. Please also give our best to Mike. I'm hoping he has completely recovered by now from his bike accident.

David E Harris - February 16, 2018 at 09:39 PM



“ Aunt Ruthie and family I am shocked and saddened by the sudden loss of Christy. Christy and I had so much fun together my freshman year of college and the year after my mission. We got along so well and had such good times together that on more than one occasion people would comment on what a "cute couple we were". I will always remember trips to Lagoon, late night adventures, our crazy road trip to California, and Sunday dinners with Aunt Ruthie. Christy and I would frequently have discussions late into the night and she often provided insight and wisdom that a 19 year kid needs but would ignore coming from his own parents. Christy always believed it was her place to give me her honest feedback on the girls I was dating. I still remember her saying "Oh, I like Jen, she's a keeper" 25 years later Jen and I are still going strong. I am grateful to have had a cousin that I can truly say was a good friend and a great influence on my life.

Scott Butcherite

Scott Butcherite - February 11, 2018 at 06:33 PM



“ We were so saddened to hear of Christy's passing. She had such a beautiful smile and was always so cheerful. Our youngest son, Scott, and Christy had some interesting times as freshman students at BYU. We are all better people for having known Christy. Our sincere condolences to you Ruhie and your family on the loss of your daughter.

Uncle Charlie, Pat, David, Jan, and Scott

Charlie Butcherite - February 11, 2018 at 02:35 PM



“ Dear Aunt Ruthie & family - I was so very sad to learn of the passing of my sweet cousin and childhood playmate. My heart aches with you and your whole family at the sudden loss of your daughter and youngest sibling. It feels wrong to lose her so young and my deepest sympathies are with you. I have so many memories of my time with Christy: being together on holidays and begging to stay together for a few days after each one, riding bikes through the MTC grounds, boating at Bear Lake, hanging out with her and her friends at BYU, and more recently visiting with her at family weddings or at home. As I think of these experiences, the common thread in all of them is her infectious happiness and beautiful smile. Even during times when life was difficult, I felt only positivity and love from her and joy for our time together. She always made me feel that she was so happy to see me no matter how much time had passed or how unexpectedly I showed up on her doorstep. She and I spoke fondly of the beautiful bond our fathers shared as brothers and that bond served to bind us as well through their love for one another. She often expressed to me a special tenderness toward my father that she said stemmed from how much he reminded her of her own, with whom she had too little time in this world. I am comforted to picture Christy and Clyde reunited and making up for lost time. May she rest in love and peace.

Jana Spangler - February 11, 2018 at 01:51 PM