



## Claude "Chad" Hinckley

September 18, 1927 - March 2, 2015

Claude Corey "Chad" Hinckley, aged 87, died at his home, surrounded by his family, on Tuesday evening, March 2, 2015, of congestive heart failure. He had been on hospice care for eighteen months, surprising his doctor, nurses, and aides as he rallied time and again.

He was born on September 18, 1927 to Claudius Warren and Mildred Lewis Hinckley in Provo, Utah, at the Birthing Center on South University Avenue. He was the first of four children born to Claudius and Mildred and they grew up on the family farm on the west side of Provo. As are so many of the Hinckley's of Utah, he was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. When Claude was a toddler, he had difficulty saying his own name – "Claude" came out as "Chad" - and so Chad became a nickname that stuck with him throughout his life. Chad worked on his Uncle Marion Hinckley's farm in order to gain a few dollars to use for socializing with his friends or dating. He would borrow Uncle Marion's truck to go out to the movies or some other local activity. He attended Provo High school but he was not the best of students. Toward the end of his high school days he was barred from attending a class and was told that it was apparent that he would not have enough credits to graduate with his class and was asked to leave the school. He had received his draft notice but decided to enlist in the United States Army in 1946. He served in South Korea in the period of time between the end of World War II – when The U.S. had driven the Japanese out of Korea and divided the country – and the beginning of the Korean War. He served as a switchboard operator until 1949 when he received an Honorable Discharge as a Sergeant. He returned home and attended the Utah Technical College where he obtained an Associate's Degree in diesel mechanics. He worked for the Kofford Trucking Company as a long-distance driver for thirty-two years, retiring in 1989.

While working at Kofford's, his friend Don Hudson introduced him to his girlfriend Nida Cox, who suggested that he should meet a friend of hers. In 1959 he met the love of his life and soon after married Norma June Van Patten on October 5th of that year in Las Vegas, Nevada. June brought three children to the marriage and within a few years they added two more daughters, so Chad went from being a carefree bachelor to the head of a

large family in a short time. They bought a home in the “new subdivision” on Provo’s west side soon after returning from Las Vegas where they lived together for the remainder of his days. Not long after that, Chad gained a new co-driver and Roy and Donetta Davis moved into a house just through the block. The Hinckley’s and Davis’ were fast friends for many years. After leaving Kofford’s, he worked for a number of years at his brother Mike’s automotive repair shop before settling down to enjoy his retirement. He and Mike traveled together to attend races – everything from yachts to Indy-type cars – across the western U.S. As his vitality waned with his advancing age he was not able to get out and socialize as much and turned to watching sporting events on television. He was a big fan of the Atlanta Braves baseball team. During his life he was always a friendly and cheerful person to friend and stranger alike – making them feel welcomed and valued - and he delighted in each new member of the family as they came along in their time. He truly was one of the “good guys” in life that too often go unappreciated. Thanks, Dad, for everything you were and did for us. We love you and will miss you terribly.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Elizabeth Francie (John) Montrose. He is survived by his wife, June Hinckley; his children, Ron (Rhonda) Hinckley of Provo, UT, Vickie (Steve) Ryant of Provo, UT, Cathy Hinckley of Provo, UT, Janie (Mike) Amiot of Cedar Grove, WI; his siblings, Patty (John) Newell, Mike (Rena) Hinckley, Jerome Hinckley; as well as twenty-two grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

The family would like to extend a huge thank you to Sunrise Hospice, and especially Gabriel Roca and Amy Stone, for their incredible – and tireless - efforts in helping Chad and his family through this difficult period. Gabe and Amy became as close to family as you can get without a piece of paper to go along with it. Thank you and we love you.

Funeral Services will be held Saturday, March 7th, at 11:00 am, at Lakeside 8th Ward, 131 South 1600 West, Provo, Utah, where Visitations will be held Friday, March 6th, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, and prior to services on Saturday from 10:00 am to 10:40 am. Interment in Provo City Cemetery, 610 South State Street, Provo, Utah.

Funeral Directors: Utah Valley Mortuary.

# Cemetery

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## Provo City Cemetery

610 South State Street

Provo, UT, 84606

# Events

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**MAR 6 Visitation 06:00PM - 08:00PM**

**6**

Lakeside 8th Ward

131 South 1600 West, Provo, UT, US

**MAR 7 Visitation 10:00AM - 10:40AM**

**7**

Lakeside 8th Ward

131 South 1600 West, Provo, UT, US

**MAR 7 Funeral Service 11:00AM - 12:00PM**

**7**

Lakeside 8th Ward

131 South 1600 West, Provo, UT, US

# Comments

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“ We were so sad to hear of Chad's passing, but happy for him to be out of pain and with loved ones long since passed. He has always been a special person to me. He was sweet and kind to me when I was a little kid and always had a nice word when he saw me throughout my life. Once when in my teens, we were driving to California and passed him in his rig. We all pulled over and had a short visit on the side of the road somewhere in Southern Utah! That is a happy memory. In those years we didn't see him much because of his work. Though he did visit my parents often in their old age. His kindness and service to our Dad, George Marion, when Dad needed help in his garden as he got older, is legendary. He was so patient with Dad and always pleasant. Sometimes when we are working in our garden, people have been heard to say, "where is Chad when you need Him?" I am certain there are a lot of people in Heaven who are really glad to see him! We send our love to your sweet family and hope Heavenly Father's comfort will fill your hearts. Much love, Lynda Hinckley Homer and family

**Lynda Homer** - March 07, 2015 at 10:07 AM

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“ Chad we will always remember you !  
-Love George and LaRee Ellis

**George & LaRee Ellis** - March 06, 2015 at 01:15 PM

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“ What a blessing and honor to have been his home health aide. I am so grateful for him and for him always being in a laughing mood. Every day even till the day he passed away when I helped with his care Chad always smiled. Will miss him. He was like a grandpa to me. Love him and the family. Till we meet and laugh together again Chad.

**Gabriel Roca** - March 06, 2015 at 12:50 AM

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“ Claude thank you for your support and membership in The American Legion Family. We wish you blessings and we enter you into the Post Everlasting of our organization.

May your family accept our condolence ans Sympathy at your passing. We will miss you.

Randy D. Edwards

**Randy D. Edwards** - March 05, 2015 at 07:42 PM

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“ 5 files added to the album Chad's Family Photos



**Nick Collide** - March 04, 2015 at 05:42 PM