



Daryl Rodgers

March 26, 1951 - September 9, 2016

Daryl Blaine Rodgers, born March 26, 1951, peacefully died in his home September 9, 2016 with his dedicated wife by his side, as a consequence to a 38 year dance with Multiple Sclerosis.

Daryl was born in Richland, Washington, the 2nd of 6 children, to Jerry George Rodgers and Bessie Jean Cline Rodgers. He grew up primarily in Pasco, WA with a great group of friends who have remained friends through all these years, and who all voice appreciation for the good influence he had on them. Daryl received his Eagle Scout award at just 12 years old, with more than the required merit badges. Daryl had an artistic flare that was first recognized in Jr. H.S. with his award winning, scholarship earning, water-color labeled Cat and Dog Fight. He broadened his acumen in the artistic field as he traveled through Mexico and Europe with school singing groups. He was very active with racquetball, hiking, camping, running and was the organizer of countless group water-skiing parties on the Snake River and Colombia River in Pasco, WA during High School years. He felt he had to work harder than others to meet the same standards of academic accomplishment which others had- but he really didn't need to. His 'overworking' made him excel far beyond the average in academics and performance.

After High School he attended Brigham Young University for a year and then between 1970 - 1972 served an honorable mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints to the Australia East mission. Upon returning, he attended Arizona State University in their acclaimed architectural program and graduated Cum Laud. There, again, he participated in plays and musical groups. He graduated and began working in Salt Lake City for a large architectural firm Montmorency Hayes and Talbot, and later was a partner with a fellow architect in their own business in Provo, Architectural Coalition. During these periods his first symptoms of numbness began. He was later diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. Architectural drafting in those days was all done by hand on paper – no computers. Because of difficulties using his hands, he decided to return to school in the field he really loved – film making- hoping to teach when he got too ill to make film. He entered BYU to work on a Ph.D. in Film Theory and Criticism, and in the process made an

educational short film, which he marketed after graduation.

During the process of raising funds for his film, Daryl went to San Jose, California on a summer sales job. There at church he met Julia Dennis. They married for time and eternity on December 16, 1988 in the LDS Oakland California Temple. After her graduation from Chiropractic school, they moved to Orem Utah and he settled in on his dissertation work: An Application of Inner Speech Theory in the Development of a Theory and Methodology to Explain and Analyze Cognition and Experience of Sound Cinema. He finished his PhD in 1991, and was told by one professor on his defense committee that his dissertation was the best he had ever seen come through their department. (It was brilliant!) By the time he graduated, he was no longer physically able to make film or teach. However, his education was put to good use as it became an enjoyable hobby for he and Julia to see an individually, well made movie up to 6 times in the theater and analyze its script, acting, directing, cinematography, etc. They had a lot of fun.

Daryl and Julia were able to have one (very beloved) son, Caleb Rodgers. With his decline in health he was not able to work; however, Daryl was an essential contributor to the family. He and Julia would discuss projects or itinerary and he would say, "Let's do that" – and they both knew that meant "Julia do that." But whenever she was overwhelmed, stuck or burnt out, he would come and do some small necessary steps, or give necessary input and consultation which would revive her ability to finish their project.

His health and ability declined through the years, and in 2000 he was confined to a wheel chair full time. However, his 'drive to do' never died. He would still go to a local gym 3 days a week to push weights, and on the opposite 3 days of the week he would (with the help of a harness and hoist) jump on the home trampoline or ride a stationary bike.

Daryl was full of stubborn determination and he employed it to good things. He took the lead in their family to have their daily scripture study and prayer together, even the night before he died when he could barely talk he called for family scripture and prayer. Daryl was a faithful member of his ward, always attended church, went to the temple frequently and participated as he could. He is known for his great smile. He commonly received compliments of gratitude for how his example of faithfulness and endurance with a positive attitude inspired those around him. When someone was told he went to church the Sunday before he died during his bad exacerbation when he was so weak he couldn't even lift his arms, they were shocked and said, "You went to church?" He said, "That just what I do." He loved to routinely take "walks" around the neighborhood just to get out of the house, even in recent years when it was more difficult for him to drive his chair by himself for long distances.

Daryl Blaine Rodgers was very loved by his family and others. He never lost his desire and determination to walk again – and now he can.

He is preceded in death by his father, Jerry George Rodgers. He is survived by his wife, Julia Dennis Rodgers and his son, Caleb Jarom Rodgers; his mother Bessie Jean Cline Rodgers Shaw (Ben), and his Siblings: Renee Rodgers Bailey, Paula Rodgers Church (Dave), Russell Gene Rodgers (Trish), Jerry Wade Rodgers (Paris), and Bryan Sterling Rodgers (Andrea), numerous nieces and nephews and their spouses and children, aunts, uncles and cousins with spouses and children.

Funeral Services will be held Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at the Orem LDS 6th Ward Chapel, 365 South 900 East, Orem, UT where Viewings will be held Tuesday, September 13 from 6 to 8 p.m. and prior to the services on Wednesday from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Interment will be in the Evergreen Cemetery, 1997 S. 400 E., Springville, Utah.

Funeral Directors: Utah Valley Mortuary.

Cemetery

Springville Evergreen Cemetery

1997 South 400 East

Springville, UT,

Events

SEP 13 **Viewing** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

Orem 6th Ward

365 South 900 East, Orem, UT, US, 84097

SEP 14 **Viewing** 09:00AM - 10:30AM

Orem 6th Ward

365 South 900 East, Orem, UT, US, 84097

SEP 14 **Funeral Service** 11:00AM - 12:00PM

Orem 6th Ward

365 South 900 East, Orem, UT, US, 84097

Comments



“ Mr Rodgers:

Whereever you have been, are, or will be, it's always a beautiful day in the neighborhood because of the positive spirit you have always shared with those around you.

Your old friend,

Cindy C.



Cynthia Cook - March 01, 2017 at 06:50 PM



“ Thank you Julia for emailing me about my good friend Daryl's passing. My deepest condolences and sympathy to you and your son Caleb for the temporary loss of your awesome husband Daryl! I always looked for him at Stake Conference and would stop when I happened past your home when I went past on my trike. Yes, he can walk now and some day I'll do it with him! All because of the Atonement and Resurrection of Jesus Christ! Until then - PEACE...

Daniel Maughan - October 18, 2016 at 12:17 AM



“ Hi Julia,
Sorry to hear about your loss. I wish your family the best in the ensuing future.
Best,
Tonna (Char & Richard's daughter)

Tonna - September 16, 2016 at 12:41 AM



“ It was amazing to read Daryl's obituary and to see how he excelled in every way in his life! My memory him is of a man smiling and always positive--completely submitting to the will of the Lord. I never saw a hint of irritation or frustration when he tried to maneuver his challenged body. He seemed angelic to me. What an example of meekness, Christ-like love, and enduring well!

How right he was to choose Julia, who has been a faithful, devoted companion--always seeking to improve his quality of life, and willingly stepping up to support the family.

It was a match made in heaven, and after a lifetime of being refined like gold, the future is oh so bright for this beautiful couple.

Shirley Smith (formerly Wilson) - September 13, 2016 at 08:54 AM



“ Dear Julia~
Please know of our love for you as you meet this next challenge in your life. You and Daryl are both people who are great examples of Christ like love. We have always admired Daryl's willingness to keep doing all he could do, with a smile.
We will be unable to attend the viewing and funeral as we will be working in the temple those days, but we will be there in spirit. May the Lord bless you and your son as you move forward in faith.
With much love, Bob and Marcia Sorenson

Sorensons - September 13, 2016 at 12:22 AM



“ Julia, I am so sorry for your loss. I remember one year when you and Daryl and Caleb came out to the house to pick cherries. Although Daryl could only get the ones he could reach from his chair, he did what he could to help and was so cheerful the whole time. He is such a good example of enduring well. My thoughts and prayer and with you and Caleb!

Amy Bernards - September 12, 2016 at 10:49 AM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Julia D. Rodgers - September 10, 2016 at 07:56 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Photos of Daryl



Julia D. Rodgers - September 10, 2016 at 07:54 PM