



Gloria Ann Graff

December 6, 1943 - April 14, 2018

On December 6, 1943, a beautiful baby girl was born to Jesse Root Gathercoal and Geraldine Joy Peterson. They named her Gloria Ann. She grew up in California with her older sister Ginny, and her younger sister and brother Claudia and Jack. When Gloria was little, she loved to go swimming and horse riding, and she loved playing in the mud to make pies. In 1952, when Gloria was eight, missionaries taught her family and they decided to be baptized. Gloria got to be baptized on the same day as her sister Ginny and her dad, which was pretty special for her.

As she got older, Gloria loved going to mutual. She learned how to dance there, and every year there was a dance festival. She also enjoyed participating in the road show where she got to act and dance some more. In eighth grade, she was a cheerleader at Daniel Webster Junior High. As a teenager, she did a lot of babysitting, for 25 cents an hour. She also got a job working in a donut shop. She always said the best part about working at the donut shop, was you could fill a donut with as much cream filling as you wanted!

After high school, Gloria attended Nursing School at Brigham Young University. She loved learning how to help people feel better. While at BYU, she began dating her home teacher, Jonathan Kirk Graff. When he first proposed to her, she said no. But the second time he asked, she said yes. They were sealed for time and all eternity in the Salt Lake City Temple on September 2, 1966. They lived in Oklahoma, Georgia, and South Carolina, before settling in Utah for the last 42 years.

Gloria became the mother of one son, Jonathan, and five daughters; Melanie, Julianna, Andrea, Elaina, and Marianne. She was a very loving and wonderful mother.

Gloria was fun and feisty and had a great sense of humor. She loved baking and always made birthdays special for her kids by decorating their cakes however they wanted. She also made the very best chocolate chip cookies ever. She loved working in her flower garden because she loved making things beautiful. She was very talented at sewing and made all kinds of Halloween costumes, clothes, and even prom dresses.

Gloria also taught her children the value of hard work by having them help her with the vegetable garden. All together they would pick the peas and shell them after she had blanched them. They picked and cut green beans and she canned them. This continued with tomatoes, cherries, peaches and applesauce. She taught her kids to work quickly and well. She taught them to have fun while doing so, and to enjoy the fruits of their labors throughout the year.

Gloria served faithfully in all her church callings. She served mostly in Primary and Relief Society and enjoyed working with the children and sisters of the ward.

Gloria was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1981. Though her body continued to fail, she never gave up on doing as much as she could. She read with her grandchildren and even the neighbor's children, to help them get better at reading. She served as a visiting teaching supervisor, calling people and checking on them. Over the last several years, she got very serious about family history work. She managed to find so many names and kept sending these to her children and grandchildren so they could perform the temple ordinances for her ancestors. No doubt she will continue this work now she is on the other side.

Gloria was a wonderful wife and loving mother. She loved all of her 25 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson. She was a devoted sister and daughter, and a faithful friend and neighbor. Though we will all miss her, we are all better for having such a great lady to be a part of all our lives.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, April 17th at 11:00 am at the LDS Chapel at 11162 North Alpine Highway, Highland, Utah, where a Visitation will be held prior to services from 9:00 to 10:30 am. Interment will be at the Highland Cemetery, 6200 West 11000 North, Highland, Utah.

Funeral Directors: Utah Valley Mortuary

Cemetery

Highland City Cemetery

6200 West 11000 North
Highland, UT, 84003

Events

APR **Visitation** 09:00AM - 10:30AM

17

Highland LDS Chapel
11162 North Alpine Highway, Highland, UT, US

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

17

Highland LDS Chapel
11162 North Alpine Highway, Highland, UT, US

Comments



“ Derek Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Gloria Ann Graff



Derek Johnson - July 19, 2018 at 01:31 PM



“ Derek Johnson lit a candle in memory of Gloria Ann Graff



Derek Johnson - July 19, 2018 at 01:26 PM



“ Derek Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Gloria Ann Graff



Derek Johnson - July 19, 2018 at 02:23 AM



“ We will miss you Aunt Gloria. You are a great ant and will be greatly missed in my heart. What a great person.



Dereck Johnson - July 19, 2018 at 02:20 AM



“ I will really miss our visits to such a fun lady. We could talk for 2 hours non stop. I am so sorry she is gone, but so thankful for her friendship. I have been out of state and apologize for not being at the services. However she has been in my thoughts and her family in my prayers.

Sherry Duncan - April 18, 2018 at 08:14 AM



“ Gloria was an example of bearing trials and adversity with courage, dignity and endurance. Also an inspiration of service as she used her diminishing physical abilities to do extensive family history research. Though he was already saintly, Gloria sanctified Jon even further with her need for care.
Condolences, thoughts, prayers to the Graff family

Lloyd Brimhall - April 17, 2018 at 08:51 PM



“ We are saddened at Gloria's passing, but now she is free from her mortal limitations that she handled so well! We wish we could be at the funeral and celebrate the life of an angel. Condolences to Jon and the family.
Ruby and Joel Zabriskie

Joel Zabriskie - April 16, 2018 at 09:48 PM



“ Dear Jon and Family,
So many memories of your family came flooding back upon hearing about Gloria's passing. What an amazing woman Gloria is, who served others and taught her children the important things of life. She remained faithful through her trials to the very end. We are so sorry for you and your family as we know that you will miss her terribly. But we're so happy for Gloria's graduation day knowing she is home with all the promised blessings of eternity, able to walk, run, and dance again! May your warm memories together fill the empty space in your hearts until we all meet again.
With love,
Linda and Dale Ottley
Highland, Utah

Linda Ottley - April 16, 2018 at 10:57 AM



“ Gloria has always been a happy, cheerful example of service. What a great reunion that will be taking place, here at her service with family and friends, and on the other side of the veil for one as great and faithful as Gloria. Can you just imagine what Gloria may be experiencing without physical limitations.... Such a tribute for one who lived a life well lived, and one who loved all. Condolences to the family, and especially John, who has devoted himself to Gloria. Such a kind and gentle saint, former Bishop and friend.

Steve & Donna Sorenson

Steven Sorenson - April 16, 2018 at 10:55 AM



“ My heart is with all of the Graff family. My aunt Gloria was always so kind and down to earth. She was one of the aunts I knew best as a small child always loved those days we would stay in her home on our visits to Utah. I always thought it was cool how well my mother and her sister in law Gloria got along. I learned a lot about love and commitment from watching Johnathan and Gloria as I've grown older and always thought they seemed more in love with each other than most people I knew. She will be missed. It may have been some time since I've seen my cousins but I love you all and hope this time is a celebration of how amazing your mom is.
-David Brimhall

David Brimhall - April 14, 2018 at 10:58 PM



“ Today I say goodbye to a dear friend, and heaven becomes a little sweeter. I am a better person for knowing Gloria and her family. My love and thoughts are with each of you. Whenever I think of Gloria, I think of patients. I miss you already my sweet friend.

Sandy - April 14, 2018 at 10:52 PM



“ I am so sorry I cannot be there with you all. My thoughts and prayers are with you. My first memories of Gloria are as a child. I was so happy to have her as my sister in law. I remember seeing her the first time and thinking she was so beautiful. She was sweet and kind. I will miss her!



Lily Ann Graff Nichols - April 14, 2018 at 04:52 PM



“ Onalee and I have only casually met Gloria at Stake events since moving to Highland. But Steve works with Jonathon at the Mt. Timpanogos Temple and has enjoyed the association. We express our love to the whole family and Gloria's dear friends. We moved into the third ward after the Graffs were in the ward, and know we would have loved a closer association. We know the Comforter is real when dealing with the separation of death. We pray you will all feel and enjoy the Spirit as you meet and celebrate the life of this dear daughter of God.

Steve and Onalee Wood - April 17, 2018 at 01:20 AM



“ My heartfelt condolences to the Graff family. I know Gloria was an incredible lady because her daughter, Elaina, is. Thank you for sharing your gift with us, Gloria. Peace be with you.



Nancy Ott - April 14, 2018 at 04:50 PM



“ How we love Gloria--the example she was for us and the sincere attention she always showed to us, making us feel that we were important to her. The Prophet Joseph, while in the Liberty Jail, said that there is a great reward for those who endure tribulation well. We have known no one who has endured as well as Gloria has. And Jon--you have been there all along--lock step with her. Nianne shares that her visits with Gloria left her uplifted and inspired. We love you and your family. We rejoice with you in the promises of the resurrection and look forward to seeing Gloria in the not too distant future. We're old! Jon, thank you for being the only friend I have. Clyn and Nianne

Clyn and Nianne - April 16, 2018 at 11:16 AM



“ IT IS wonderful Gloria stayed to rear all her children. My love and prayers go to you and JONATHAN this day. I taught piano to some of the children and enjoyed your family so much. We moved so I have followed through my sister Linda Ottley the progress of the 4th ward. Vicki Ann S. Clayton, St. George, Ut. 84770

Vicki Ann S Clayton - April 17, 2018 at 05:10 PM