



Hugo Gaylon Jorgensen

July 2, 1929 - November 14, 2020

Hugo Gaylon Jorgensen of American Fork Utah slipped peacefully away Saturday November 14, 2020 at the age of 91. Gaylon, (known as Jorgie when piloting an airplane), was born in Rigby Idaho July 2, 1929 to Hugo D. and Nita Jorgensen the second of two sisters and two brothers.

A projectionist in his father's theaters at a young age, his father taught him to fly at age 15 and his feet have rarely touched the ground since.

Gaylon married his college sweetheart Ada Joyce Millward in the Idaho Falls LDS temple July 12, 1949 then two weeks later left for Denmark on a 2 1/2-year mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Upon Gaylon's return from Denmark he joined the Army in 1952. After basic training he went to officer candidate school, applied for Army flight school, then graduated as a US Army pilot. Gaylon and Joyce and their two small sons then spent two years on the island of Okinawa.

After his tour in Okinawa, he joined Capital Airlines which then merged into United Airlines – flying more than three decades as a professional pilot. During his career Gaylon and his family made a home in Washington DC, Chicago Illinois, San Clemente California, Highland Utah, Las Vegas Nevada and American Fork Utah. Having expertly and safely flown nearly 20 types of aircraft during his career, Gaylon retired as a captain in 1989 without ever having "put a dent in an airplane."

Gaylon loved to have fun with family and friends. He was a friend, uncle, and grandfather to many. Horses, snakes, pigeons, rabbits and other pets were always part of the fun as well as water skiing, ice skating (on the small backyard rink), fishing, motorcycles, flying small aircraft, and RV camping all over the country.

As a second career in the early 1970's Gaylon started jogging on the beaches of Southern California and everywhere a flight took him. With a passionate love for the sport, and the means to run in every marathon from Boston to Hawaii, he eventually became the fastest

in the nation for his 50-59 age group (see St. George Marathon men's legend No.42)
<https://www.stgeorgemarathon.com/legends/mens>

After over three decades of races, countless medals, plaques, ribbons and trophies, Gaylon gave his knees and feet a break and took up cycling, typically riding 30 miles several days each week until 2018 at the age of 89.

Gaylon was a devout member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He served in various Church callings throughout his life including a second mission with his wife Joyce to Atlanta Georgia and as an ordinance worker in the Las Vegas Temple.

Throughout his life Gaylon radiated love, service to others and happiness. He was also acquainted with grief and sorrow over the untimely deaths of a granddaughter and two sons. Dad cared for our mother in an exemplary way. After Alzheimer's disease robbed mom of both memory and physical strength, he proudly and gladly pushed her around in a wheelchair everywhere he went for several years. He treated her with tenderness and devotion - he was a true gentleman and a valiant servant.

Gaylon and Joyce were married for 59 years. After her passing, he married Pat Ward whose family loved him dearly. Gaylon enjoyed giving and receiving the love of Pat, her 8 children, 40 grandchildren and 40 great-grandchildren.

Gaylon is survived by three of his five children, Djalmar (Hiru) Jorgensen, Gayelynn (Joel) Richards, Renee Wells, 8 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister Nola Jensen, brothers Arlo Jorgensen and Norman Jorgensen, plus many nieces and nephews.

Gaylon is preceded in death by his first wife Joyce Jorgensen, his second wife Pat Ward, his oldest son Stuart, his youngest son Scott (Brenda), his first granddaughter Shannon, his sister Marjean Harris and his parents Hugo D. and Nita Jorgensen.

R.I.P. Captain Jorgensen! You've been cleared for take-off, enjoy your new cruising altitude well above 30,000 feet!

Thank you to the staff at Highland Glen AL and I Care Hospice staff Marianne and Chelsea for their tender care of our father.

Due to Covid the viewing and funeral will be private. Interment with Military Honors will be held Saturday, November 21st at noon, at the Chesterfield Cemetery, 3000 Chesterfield

Cemetery Road, Bancroft, Idaho. The graveside services will be available for virtual viewing through Zoom....

Funeral link – viewers should fast forward to about 21:30 in this recording for the beginning of the service.

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10221561705405416&id=1035901903

Graveside link– Viewers should fast forward to 28:45 in the recording for the actual beginning of the service.

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10221561784007381&id=1035901903

Funeral Home: Utah Valley Mortuary.

Cemetery

Chesterfield Cemetery

3000 Chesterfield Cemetery
Road
Bancroft, ID, 83217

Events

NOV **Graveside Service** 12:00PM

21

Chesterfield Cemetery
3000 Chesterfield Cemetery Road, Bancroft, ID, US,
83217

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



Utah Valley Mortuary - November 23, 2020 at 08:48 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album

Utah Valley Mortuary - November 23, 2020 at 07:00 PM



“ 24 files added to the album Memories Album



Utah Valley Mortuary - November 23, 2020 at 03:20 PM



“ 25 files added to the album Memories Album



Utah Valley Mortuary - November 23, 2020 at 03:16 PM



“ 24 files added to the album Memories Album



Utah Valley Mortuary - November 23, 2020 at 03:11 PM



“ 20 files added to the album Memories Album



Utah Valley Mortuary - November 23, 2020 at 03:01 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Utah Valley Mortuary - November 23, 2020 at 03:01 PM



“ I want to pay tribute to my old friend Gaylon. We grew up in our childhood in Rigby, Idaho. Gaylon and I made model airplanes and Gaylon would fly his gasoline model air plane in the football field. Gaylon and I helped his father clean the movie theater owned by his parents, after it closed each day. We graduated from Rigby Idaho high school in 1947. In March 1948, I served a mission in Texas Louisa mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and returned from my mission in March 1950. In September 1950, I was drafted into the US Army. In January 1952, I met Gaylon in Frankfurt Germany for a short visit at the train station as he returned home from his mission in Denmark. Gaylon and his family went to his career as an airline pilot and me and my family to my career as an US Air Force vehicle maintenance supervisor. We kept in touch with each other by meeting each other at airports, our 1928 high school reunion and telephone. Gaylon was a wonderful friend and I enjoyed his friendship when we ever got the opportunity to get together. I would appreciate it if some of Gaylon's brothers and sisters could call me to talk to me. If no answer please leave a message. My home phone number is (253) 854-4559.

Grant Evans - November 23, 2020 at 02:06 PM



“ Sheridan Grant Evans - Phone # is (253) 854-4559 (If no answer please leave a message.)

Grant Evans - November 23, 2020 at 02:11 PM



“ Thank you for sharing your memories of my dad. He loved planning and getting together with his high school graduation class.

Gayelynn Richards - November 24, 2020 at 01:45 PM



“ I am so grateful for Gaylon. I will never forget the first time we went out with him and mom even before they were married. He opened the car door for mom like a gentleman and after she was seated he grabbed the seat belt and reached across her and buckled her in so she would be safe and also I'm sure so she knew he loved her. From what I remember he always did that after they were married. It brought me great peace that I knew Gaylon would take good care of my mother. Sometimes I now do this for my wife as it seems to say so much. He has taught me in many ways and I'm so grateful for him and what he brought into our family. He is a man that had such a deep sense of honor and righteousness. I loved him and will truly miss him.

Rick Ward - November 22, 2020 at 10:33 PM



“ Thank you Rick for your sweet memories of my dad. He was a true gentleman, he loved your mom and loved being part of your family. Thank you for loving him!

Gayelynn Richards - November 24, 2020 at 01:59 PM



“ Gaylon became a hero to be looked up to in our family even before he married my sister. He flew his family's airplane from Rigby down to our farm and landed it on the hill east of the farm house. It was quite a thing for all of Joyce's younger brothers because he took us all for our first airplane ride. He was a person who was always interested in what was taking place in your life when he would talk to you. I loved him so much more for the way he was so dedicated to caring for my sister in the last years of her life. It was her duty to call my brother and I on our birthday and after she passed away, he took on that task to call us on our birthday. I will miss his calls in the future but find joy to know that he and my sister are now together again along with his family members that have gone on before him.

Michael Millward



Michael Millward - November 22, 2020 at 12:14 PM



“ Thank you uncle Michael for your sweet words and memories about my dad. I love this picture! He was my hero and bigger than life. Always up for an adventure!

Gayelynn Richards - November 24, 2020 at 01:56 PM



“ When I had just got my drivers license Uncle Gaylon was visiting and true to form he was up before the sun and had ran miles before I was even awake for breakfast. He invited me to drive his truck with a stick and went with me and we talked. Another time in Utah he took Jen and I for a plane ride over Utah County taking off from Spanish Fork and getting to see the whole valley flying up toward Heber and back along Timpanogus and Y Mountain. Love you Uncle Gaylon

Eric Jorgensen - November 21, 2020 at 01:56 AM



“ Thanks Eric for your memories of dad! He loved to have fun and was always up for an adventure!

Gayelynn Richards - November 24, 2020 at 01:53 PM



“ The life Gaylon lived was such an example of integrity. His life influenced and blessed so many people. Our family has benefited from the tremendous impact of his “life well lived” with so many fond memories of our family times together. Love you for eternity...
(K's favorite saying) Shanna Millward

Shanna Millward - November 20, 2020 at 05:46 PM



“ Thank you aunt Shauna for your kind words about dad. He was a great example of love and service to many!

Gayelynn Richards - November 24, 2020 at 01:52 PM



“ From Michelle "Shelly" Millward

Thinking of all my Jorgensen Cousins.

So sad to hear of the passing of your Dad.

But WOW!! What a guy he was! What a full life he lived!

He inspired me (and so many more), whether it was flying jets or running marathons & biking for decades, but especially his unwavering devotion and TLC to Aunt Joyce all throughout their lives together, but especially those last years.

If ever I need an illustration of a loving bond between a couple, I look no further than your Dad's dedication to your Mom. It was a beautiful display of love, commitment and faith.

I always enjoyed his kindness, interest, concern and involvement with the Millward Gang, and am especially thankful for his support and love for my Dad and family.

Spending a bit of time to chat with Uncle Gaylon was always amongst my favorite parts of any family gathering. And I cherish those handful of Bancroft 24th of July races I got to help The Boys (your Dad and mine) out with!

His smile brightened the room, and his kindness, care and devotion to faith and family went on to fill that room with even more warmth and light.

As with all those from our family that we've loved, and now lost, they'll live on forever as memories in our hearts and minds.

Love, peace & comfort to you all.

xoxo,

Michelle aka Shelly

Gayelynn Richards - November 20, 2020 at 12:55 PM



“As a teen, I was reminded of Uncle Gaylon each time the United Airlines commercial, with Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue, came on the television. Later, when I started running-seriously running, he was the quintessential example of the “perfect” marathon run; efficient, cool, and fast!

In the mid-1980s, Uncle Gaylon invited me to on a run around Provo-Orem area. And, while I was able to barley finish the nine miles at, what was for me, a blistering 6:15 mpm pace, Uncle Gaylon casually mentioned he was just going to run another 9 miles. That day, I became aware of what sheer effort and pure talent can accomplish.

Then, two decades later while living in southern Utah, I was running with a new running partner and happen to mention my uncle Gaylon Jorgensen; my new running partner stopped dead and stated that “he had tried for years to catch uncle Gaylon, in numerous races and over many the years. And even though he was two age brackets down-he never could beat him.

So today, I will dedicate my run to Uncle Gaylon- a little dirt, a little pavement, and a little Gershwin.”

DM

D ANN MILLWARD - November 19, 2020 at 05:48 PM



“ DAnn what a sweet memory for all of us to share with you! I love your dedication to dad at the end

Gayelynn Richards - November 20, 2020 at 08:27 AM



“ Gaylon was an amazing man. It was such a great privilege to have known him and Joyce. you will be missed.

Cheryl Harrison - November 18, 2020 at 03:09 PM



“ Thank you Cheryl for your kind words. You have been a great support to our family foe a long time.

Gayelynn Richards - November 20, 2020 at 08:29 AM



“ To my cousins, aunt and uncles: I am so sorry about Uncle Gaylon passing away, and the loss and grief that you all must feel. All my memories of Uncle Gaylon are filled with his kindness and patience with me. My mother, MarJean, could never speak his name or memory without saying “he was such a nice boy”. He received the gift of Grandma Jorgensen’s wonderful laugh and I cannot think of Gaylon without hearing that laugh. All my love to you all and what a great and loving man to be related to. Love you all, Deb Harris Heywood

Deb Heywood - November 17, 2020 at 10:50 PM



“ Deb thank you for your kind words and sweet memories of my dad. He will be greatly missed. I take comfort in the knowledge of his sweet reunion with your mother. He mentioned her a lot this last year and the memories he had of her.

Gayelynn Richards - November 20, 2020 at 08:34 AM



“ Gaylon was a powerful of mature and humble Latter-Day saint. He was a great example for me when I joined the church in the early 1960's. We were members of the Chain O'Lakes Ward in Libertyville, Illinois. Thanks Gaylon.
Nick and Mary Ryan

Nick and Mary Ryan - November 17, 2020 at 08:25 PM



“ Thank you for reaching out with your thoughts of my dad. He was a great example to all of us

Gayelynn Richards - November 24, 2020 at 01:50 PM



“ We have so many wonderful memories with Grandpa Gaylon. Eating ice cream, enjoying Pizza Pie Cafe, hiking to Timpanogos caves, playing the piano, playing games, listening to his airplane and war stories, going on a cruise and enjoying an 18-course zipline at 80 something years old, and many more! We were able to enjoy having him at the Eagle court of honors for several of our sons, weddings of two of our sons, mission farewells & homecoming gatherings, and he even helped us after the last addition of Blake to our family 8 years ago. We are grateful to him for loving our mom tenderly and always treating her with dignity and respect. He had a wonderful thirst for life and represented being Christlike and compassionate to all who knew him. We will dearly miss him



Dana Fowler - November 17, 2020 at 06:44 PM



“ Dana thank you for these sweet memories of dad. He did have a zest for life and all things fun! Thank you for loving him when he came apart of your clan. He loved your family

Gayelynn Richards - November 20, 2020 at 08:38 AM



“ I am so grateful for Gaylon. I will never forget the first time we went out with him and mom even before they were married. He opened the car door for mom like a gentleman and after she was seated he grabbed the seat belt and reached across her and buckled her in so she would be safe and also I'm sure so she knew he loved her. From what I remember he always did that after they were married. It brought me great peace that I knew Gaylon would take good care of my mother. Sometimes I now do this for my wife as it seems to say so much. He has taught me in many ways and I'm so grateful for him and what he brought into our family. He is a man that had such a deep sense of honor and righteousness. I loved him and will truly miss him.

Rick Ward - November 22, 2020 at 10:00 PM