



LaDeane Jonsson

June 26, 1930 - November 10, 2020

Blanche LaDeane Bailey Jonsson passed away of natural causes in Lindon, Utah, on Tuesday, November 10, 2020. She was 90 years old.

She was born to William R. Bailey and Blanche Gilgen at her Gilgen grandparents' remote homestead in Daniels, Idaho, on June 26, 1930. She had fond memories of her time there despite the lack of electricity and indoor plumbing, and the bitter cold winters.

At six years old, she moved with her family to the Salt Lake Valley after her father found work at Kennecott Copper Corporation. They at first shared a house with her uncle's family. Eventually her parents were able to put a down payment on 15 acres in what is now West Valley City, Utah where LaDeane and her 10 younger brothers and sisters were raised. They had all the food they could raise on the farm, but otherwise had little. Her mother, a great sewer, made most of their clothes, and LaDeane remembered getting her first store-bought dress in 9th grade. A special treat on Easter was a soda pop for each child. She helped with the younger kids and washing, ironing, cleaning, and gathering eggs. These early experiences, and later rationing during World War II, made her persistent, practical, fair, and frugal. That lasting frugality sometimes earned ribbing or rolled eyes from her children and grandchildren, but served her well in hard times over the years.

Her lifelong love of reading blossomed here. She and her friend would ride their bikes to the library, where each child could check out five books at a time. LaDeane claimed her five and her less scholarly friend would check out one for herself and four for LaDeane. LaDeane was rarely idle. Besides school and working on the farm, LaDeane babysat, and got a job at age 15 at a department store in downtown Salt Lake City by lying about her age. She was fired when they found out, but invited her to come back when she turned 16. Neither of her parents graduated from high school, and LaDeane thought she ought to do so as an example to her younger brothers and sisters. She did, and all 10 of her siblings did also.

She married Paul Fred Jonsson four days after her graduation in 1948, and moved into a repurposed old granary building in Highland, Utah. It was a sparsely populated area of gravel roads then. There she raised six children and uncountable turkeys and potatoes. She and Paul eventually put in modern conveniences including a furnace, a water heater,

a refrigerator, and an indoor bathroom. She ran the whole farm at times when Paul was ill. LaDeane's faith was important to her throughout her life. The LDS church was a big part of her social life as a youth. When she settled in Highland after getting married, she volunteered or was recruited for such varied positions as visiting teacher, primary secretary, Cub Scout leader, and sports director. After she somehow passed her driving test, she hauled her own children and various sports teams around in an old brown station wagon.

She began working at the Utah State Developmental Center in 1968, the beginning of nearly 25 years tending children with disabilities and teaching them basic life skills. She divorced in 1970 and continued raising her children in Highland before eventually moving to Pleasant Grove, Utah. She became a landlord and also worked several years as a school bus aide for disabled children. She loved to dig in her garden, host family gatherings at her home, and the hubbub of enormous Bailey family reunions.

In her retirement, she enjoyed travel, including to the Holy Land. She lived at Spring Gardens Senior Living at the time of her death. She remained sharp of mind and spent her time reading during Covid restrictions that kept most of her family away in her final months. She remained in good spirits, saying she had made it through tougher times, but worried about those less fortunate than her.

She is survived by her children, LaMont Jonsson, LaMar (Susan) Jonsson, Connie (Harry) Thomas, Keith Jonsson, Teresa (Jack) Davis, and Jody (Dottie) Jonsson; 23 grandchildren; and 30 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by siblings Conley Bailey, Floyd Bailey, Daryle Warby, Gloria Richards, Gerald Bailey, Kenneth Bailey, Gordon Bailey, and Shauna Nikolaus.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and sisters Shirley Richards and Marsha Bawden.

Interment will be at Valley View Memorial Park in West Valley City, Utah in a private family graveside service.

Cemetery

Valley View Memorial Park

4335 West 4100 South

West Valley City, UT, 84120

Comments



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Greg Jonsson - November 17, 2020 at 09:06 PM



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Greg Jonsson - November 17, 2020 at 09:05 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Greg Jonsson - November 17, 2020 at 09:04 PM



“ Every time I see a sunflower I will always think of you. I always enjoyed visiting with you. Rest in peace, my prayers goes out to your family.

Judy Freeland - November 15, 2020 at 11:15 AM