



Luane McDonald Larsen

May 12, 1937 - August 7, 2018

Luane McDonald Larsen passed away 7 August 2018 in Highland, Utah, surrounded by her loved ones.

Luane was born 12 May 1937 in Duchesne, Utah to David Lorenzo McDonald and Violet Ellen Jackson McDonald. She had a happy childhood in Duchesne, growing up the second of three girls. Her father passed away when she was 14 years old. His death left the family with many difficulties but Luane, her mother and sisters worked together to care for themselves. She loved her mother and sisters dearly.

She married the love of her life, Lawrence (Larry) Bernard Larsen, on 30 March 1954 in the Salt Lake Temple in Salt Lake City, Utah. Larry was in the Army and shortly after their marriage he was sent to Korea for two years near the end of the Korean War. While he was gone, Luane continued her education in Logan, Utah. Upon Larry's return to the United States, the couple lived in Logan while Larry completed his degree in accounting at Utah State University. While in Logan, their little family started to grow as two children were born. The couple eventually settled in Vernal Utah where Larry opened an accounting practice.

From a very young age, Luane loved music and specifically playing the piano. She had a natural gift for music and taught herself how to play the piano and later the organ. She was known for her musical abilities and shared those talents tirelessly as requested throughout the community including at church services, for church, community and school choirs as well as community and school plays. Luane also taught countless piano lessons to her children, and children and youth in the community.

More than anything, Luane loved being a mother and grandmother. She and Larry have nine children and two foster children (Louise (Francis) Bedoni Ambrose and Seymore Bedoni). Luane built a home of love and happiness which resulted in many young people staying with them over the years.

Luane was a faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She held numerous callings at ward and stake levels. She loved to teach the gospel and to support those whom she had the opportunity to serve. She especially enjoyed family history work and attending the temple. She and Larry served two full-time missions for the LDS Church as family history missionaries. They were assigned to the family history center located in the Joseph Smith Building in Salt Lake City. She loved serving as a missionary and helping those who would visit the center. After their second mission, Luane and Larry moved to Highland Utah.

Luane was preceded in death by her father on 15 January 1952, her mother on 24 December 1991 and older sister Emma Jean McDonald Wilcox on 30 January 2014. She is survived by her younger sister Hattie Lucinda (Wendell) McDonald Nyberg Gray of Pine Valley Utah; husband Larry of Highland Utah; daughter WoNae Meir of Riverton Utah; son David Bernard (Consuelo) Larsen of Highland Utah; son Jerry Dean (Ann) Larsen of Dry Fork Utah; daughter Ellen Luane (Carey) Christenson of American Fork Utah; son Keith Larry (Sheri) Larsen of Vernal Utah; son Mark Evan (Marianne) Larsen of Spanish Fork Utah, daughter Julie Kaye (Brent) Morrill of Highland Utah; daughter Teri Lyn (David) Andreasen of Brandon South Dakota; and daughter Elizabeth Ann (Adam) Larsen Nielson of Vernal Utah; forty grandchildren; forty great-grandchildren; an additional four great-grandchildren on the way; and 3 great-great grandchildren.

Funeral Services will be held Saturday August 18 at 11 am at the LDS Highland Utah Stake Center located at 5335 W 11200 N Highland Utah, where Viewings will be held Friday August 17 from 6 to 8pm and prior to services Saturday from 9:30-10:30am. Interment in Highland City Cemetery.

The family would like to express their love and appreciation to all those who have blessed Luane's life and helped her and the family over the past few years. A special thank you to the staff of Highland Glen Senior Living Center and First Choice Hospice with a personal thank you to Collette and Erin for their love and service.

Funeral Directors: Utah Valley Mortuary.

Cemetery

Highland City Cemetery

6200 West 11000 North
Highland, UT, 84003

Events

AUG **Viewing** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

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Highland 25th Ward

5335 West 11200 North, Highland, UT, US

AUG **Viewing** 09:30AM - 10:30AM

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Highland 25th Ward

5335 West 11200 North, Highland, UT, US

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

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Highland 25th Ward

5335 West 11200 North, Highland, UT, US

Comments



“ 1 file added to the album Memorial Video



Andrew Morrill - May 07, 2019 at 11:55 AM



“ My name is Kagan Breitenbach, and I took piano lessons from Luane Larsen from age 5 to age 18. I just attended her funeral, and I'm too much of a cry baby that I could barely even talk haha. I just wanted to say to the family what I couldn't today. Thank you so much for sharing your wonderful wife, mother, and grandmother with me. She changed my life forever.

One day when I was a young teenager, Luane gave me one of the most profound experiences of my life. She improvised something on the piano in front of me, which is something she rarely did with students. It was a beautiful piece of music she pulled out of thin air. I never knew that was possible for a pianist to do! For me, it was like watching magic unfold before my eyes. It was so breathtaking. She told me it was easy, and discounted her abilities. Through the years, I showed up week after week at her house begging her to teach me music theory instead of my assigned pieces so that I could one day improvise like her. She was patient and kind with me through the years, and did agree to teach me plenty of music theory! Though, she was strict with me to finish my Chopin and Debussy as well.

After I moved away from Vernal, I went to college at the University of Utah, got a degree in music composition, and have been working for the past 10 years full time as a composer for films, video games, and the concert hall. Luane shared her years of passion and experience of music with me. She wasn't only my first piano teacher, she also inspired me to live a lifetime in music. I'll never be able to thank her enough. She was my friend, and I loved her very much. Her impact on my life and career cannot be overstated.

I will always miss her, and remember her fondly when playing the piano. She will always be in my heart. Thank you for everything Luane. I love you.

Kagan Breitenbach - August 18, 2018 at 05:33 PM



“ Dana Price Gull lit a candle in memory of Luane McDonald Larsen



Dana Price Gull - August 16, 2018 at 12:06 AM



“ I was a CSM during Larry and Luane’s first Mission in Salt Lake. She was always playing for the Missionary Choir and I would swell with pride that I knew such an accomplished pianist. As we would leave our monthly devotionals I would hear comments about how professional the pianist was accompanying the choir. These were not easy pieces. She was always helping others as I can vouch for as I saw and learned from her in my growing up years too in Vernal. She was a wonderful person and mother.

Dana Price Gull - August 16, 2018 at 12:24 AM



“ Luane was an incredible lady. She will be greatly missed. She was my sons first piano teacher. We didn't have much money at the time so she taught my son piano and my husband taught her computer lessons. Her incredible talents blessed the lives of many.

Mindy - August 15, 2018 at 12:51 PM



“ Camie Price Hardy lit a candle in memory of Luane McDonald Larsen



Camie Price Hardy - August 12, 2018 at 11:03 PM



“ I spent many hours with Luane as a child, learning to play and love the piano. She was always so patient and kind. I will never forget her smile. She also taught some of my children. She was a great influence in my life. So sorry to hear about her passing, but what a blessing to know about Heavenly Father’s plan.

Robyn Williams Richins - August 12, 2018 at 07:28 AM



“ Luanne and I were best friends from when I moved to Duchesne in the 4th grade until she got married and moved away when we were seniors. We were both McDonalds, our Dad's were distant cousins. Music was a huge part of our school years and I have so many wonderful memories of times we participated in various events around the Uintah Basin, and of course, in school. Many memories, all wonderful!!!!

Dian McDonald Mahin - August 12, 2018 at 09:42 AM



“ Luanne was a good friend and a wonderful musician. I appreciated the many times she accompanied me. She also involved us in the Indian Placement Program. I have great memories of all your family ! I am sorry for your loss!

Kristy and Mike Sullivan

Kristy Sullivan - August 14, 2018 at 12:59 AM



“ I loved knowing Luane when we were in the Vernal 3rd Ward together. I can think of several specific, and important to me, things I learned from her - and they weren't about music. I did learn about music from her too, however. Luane was so lovable. and was always showed loving kindness to me, which I really appreciated. So sorry about her loss here - but what an incredible gain to heaven!

Linda Richards

Linda Richards - August 16, 2018 at 01:38 PM