



Michele Waite

April 23, 1958 - March 22, 2022

Michele Diane Waite, 63, of Spanish Fork, Utah, passed away March 22, 2022 after a painful battle with pancreatic cancer.

Michele was born on April 23, 1958 to Jesse and Janice Asay in Renton, Washington. She is the oldest of five children: Brent, Mark, Alan, and Cara Lee.

Throughout her childhood she moved several times within Washington, Texas, and Utah. Graduating from Orem High School in 1976 with high honors, she went on to study Elementary Education at Brigham Young University. While studying at BYU, she met Randy Waite and they were married in the Salt Lake temple in 1982.

After obtaining her degree, she taught 5th grade at Provost Elementary in the Provo City School District. She taught for one year and after finding out she was expecting her first child, decided to stay home. They had 4 children together: Jessica, Natalie, Jocelyn, and Greg.

After 13 years of marriage, she and Randy divorced. Michele raised all 4 children in her home. Soon after the divorce, she returned to teaching at Provost Elementary, where she taught 5th grade and then 6th grade. In 2007 she transferred to Nebo School District to teach 6th grade at Larsen Elementary. She earned a Masters in Education from Southern Utah University in 2011. She became a Literacy Coach in 2014 until she could no longer work in January 2022.

Being a mother and grandmother was a highlight of Michele's life. Known for good hugs and being quick to help, she was always a source of empathy and comfort. Throughout her life, she made many lasting friendships at work, church, and in her community. She was easy to love and those who were loved by her were blessed beyond measure.

Michele loved music, cooking, teaching, and spending time with family and friends. She learned to play the piano and sing. She accompanied, directed, and participated in

community and church choirs. A patron of the arts, she enjoyed attending performances, ballets, plays, and music concerts. Michele loved learning, reading, playing games, and most of all chatting. Her family remembers backyard dinners, singing around her piano, and her thoughtful love. Jewelry, flowers, bright colors, birds, gift giving, and animals made her happy. She left behind her sweet puppy dog Parker, aged 14.

Michele cherished being a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She willingly shared her testimony, time, and thoughtfulness with others. Some of her favorite callings were serving as Young Women President, Choir Director, Stake Chorister, Primary Teacher, and Visiting Teacher.

Michele was a natural teacher who always catered to her students. She prepared lessons and materials meticulously and thrived on the challenge of helping students improve. She completed many continuing education courses, including endorsements in math and reading.

Michele was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in January 2022. She battled pain and nausea. After a week in the hospital she returned home and spent her last few days with family.

Michele was predeceased by her parents Jesse and Janice Asay, and her nephew Braden Asay. She is survived by her children Jessica and Derek Roylance, Natalie and Rhett Hall, Jocelyn and Tyler Smith, and Greg and Bethanna Waite, 6 grandchildren and two on the way.

Funeral Services will be held Saturday, March 26th at 11:00 am, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Spanish Fork Stake Center, 1006 East 180 South, Spanish Fork, Utah, where a Viewing will be held prior to the service from 9:00 am to 10:30 am. Interment in Spanish Fork City Cemetery.

Please click on the following link to view a recording of the funeral services:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/ULhmAhrCnX15_DZK-_O54wturnv3VFVJWMPAgOljXVlu7bTni_3Xe_xukg301qzZ.pnAltPmjHQeN4uVg

Passcode: G4dJ#lrJ

Cemetery

Spanish Fork City Cemetery

420 South 400 East
Spanish Fork, UT,

Events

MAR **Viewing** 09:00AM - 10:30AM

26

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints-
Spanish Fork

1006 East 180 South, Spanish Fork, UT, US, 84660

MAR **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

26

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints-
Spanish Fork

1006 East 180 South, Spanish Fork, UT, US, 84660

Comments



“ What an amazing person, Michelle was. I am saddened to hear of her passing. I met Michelle through Nebo School District as she worked as an instructional coach. She was a dedicated educator who had a passion for learning and serving. She was a special person and I was so blessed to know her. Thank you for sharing your mom with so many. She will be missed.

Shawna Ekker - June 01 at 03:16 PM



“ What an exceptional person Michele Waite was. She was my exemplar in so many ways. I worked under her leadership in YW's and admired her many talents of organization and vision. She will be remembered and loved for her happy chuckle. I used many of her ideas and concepts for years to come as I worked with young women, often thinking about how Michele would have done things. She also organized a great pre-school group with a number of women from the ward and again I learned much from her skills as an educator. Michele was truly a master teacher and whatever calling or assignment she had, she went forth with great zeal and positivity. Please know of our love for each and every member of the great Waite family. We think so highly of you all!
Sending our condolences,
Stuart and Trina Smith

Trina Smith - April 19 at 10:49 PM



“ Michelle was an incredible YW President to our daughters. She set a high standard but with great love. We were sad when she moved from our ward. I remember when she proudly marched into church with her three adorable daughters dressed in matching dresses. She was a very accomplished accompanist and frequently called upon for her talent. She will be sorely missed in this world. We love her.

Laurel Ogden - March 28 at 12:31 PM



“ Michele Waite - a lovely person and a wonderful educator! Admired and loved by those who knew her. I was lucky to be on the same faculty at Larsen School with Michele. She was my daughter's 6th grade teacher. During that year Michele helped my daughter gain confidence in her math and writing skills. It was the best experience for my daughter. She was influential in my daughter wanted to teach older grades and become an English teacher. We will be ever grateful for her positive influence in both of our lives.

Sincerely,
Sandra Stokes

Sandra Stokes - March 25 at 03:20 PM



“ Mrs. Waite was my sixth grade teacher, and I remember her class being so fun. There's one habit that I picked up from her-- she was always winking. I can't even count the number of times she winked at me and my classmates. When we got to school in the morning, we got a smile and a wink. When we handed in our assignments, we got a smile and a wink. When she gave us assessments, we got a smile and wink. Ever since then, I always make sure to smile and wink at people. It always made me feel like we were sharing an inside joke, and I knew she had my back.

At last once a week, I think about the time she gave me a reading assessment, and at the end, she smiled, winked and said "I'm really glad to have you in my class." I always knew that I was valued in Mrs. Waite's class, and I try to make sure my own students feel just as loved and valued as she made us feel. Mrs. Waite will be very missed.

Paige Melton - March 25 at 10:33 AM



“ I was one of Michele's first students when she came to Larsen. During that year I truly came to understand the importance of truly listening and loving a person. Even though I was young and my troubles in the long run really weren't that big of an issue, she made it feel like it was. She truly wanted to help and I could feel her love and concern. I was privileged later in high school to become her "teacher assistant" for a semester. I was enthralled watching her teach and love her students. She will truly be missed and was very loved.

Hannah Betts - March 25 at 08:51 AM



“ Some of her greatest joys in life in one picture.



Gwen Sorensen - March 25 at 07:31 AM



“ I was able to visit with her on Saturday, and one of my "that's so Michele" moments was when she was sharing with me how they could improve the hospital experience. She was going to suggest a meditation channel, as well as a music channel with peaceful music. They needed to create a more relaxing environment. She also said they needed a heat lamp in the bathrooms, because she's 63 and not wanting to shower because of the cold. How would an 83 year old feel? She was also planning out how to write a script for a few of the doctors to follow when informing people of their options, so it would be clear and honest. This to me is the essence of Michele. Let's see what can be done, and work towards making those changes for the benefit of those to follow. Oh how I'm going to miss her!

Gwen Sorensen - March 25 at 07:28 AM



“ If you heard Michele laugh you knew you would be shortly too. Her laughter was infectious! She had so many fun things to do and invite you to too. When she started playing the piano everyone gathered around, she just drew you in. She always had a delicious new treat she found and wanted to share at every party or gathering. If you tried the beef log she made, or her chocolate covered oranges with sea salt sprinkled on top you were blessed! She loved music and always invited others to join her, Hale Center theater dates were her love language. She loved the Christmas sing-along her stake put on, and we decided that would be our new tradition. She loved Karen Carpenter too, I remember belting a few of those tunes out with her. She loved playing games of all kinds, but was even more fun when playing games with her family. They can make you laugh harder then you ever have in your life when they are rolling together. Her family was her everything! I include "her favorite son" Parker in this as well. Just kidding Greg. She was so proud of each one of them, and I loved hearing her update me on her wonderful people every time we got together. She loved the people they had grown into, and was grateful for the contributions they each made to their wonderful family. Her grandbabies were her greatest joy. She lit up everytime she shared about them, and it was contagious. She loved the little oasis she created in her back yard, and was always telling me about the cute little birds she saw enjoying her oasis too. Michele loved bold vibrant colors, if you have seen her beautiful red couches, you know what I mean. She had a fun scarf that coordinated every outfit beautifully. We would always laugh when we showed up to work wearing the same color skeam, because we were wearing bold colors dramatic red and black, bright bright blue... We attributed it to being on the same wavelength. She loved her fun jewelry too! When I chatted with her on Saturday and she told me, you can tell I don't feel good, because I haven't done my hair or makeup, and I'm not wearing any jewelry. A few of her favorite things. She listened and felt things unlike anyone I've ever met. She was so wise too! She'd generally shrug it off everytime I told her, but she truly gave me the best advice I have ever received, time and time again. A few of my favorite nuggets were, "Would you say that to your best friend? Be your own best friend!" and, "Weed the friendship garden." Rans would even joke when he gave me a solution to a problem that I wasn't able to recieve from him, to "go talk to Michele," because she'd say it in a way I accepted and believed right away. There are so many things I love about Michele, that I'll be adding to this random list all my life, until I see her again. We have laughed more and cried harder together, and I am truly grateful for every moment. Michele you truly were my soul sister and I will love you forever and always!

Gwen Sorensen - March 25 at 07:16 AM



“ I have so many wonderful memories of Michele! One that keeps popping in my head is the first time I met her. I was interviewing for a job at Larsen elementary in 2007 and Mike Johnson asked her to sit in on the interview, because she was the team lead. I remember him asking quite a few questions, and I would answer, not quite sure what he was asking, because I was so nervous. I was in the middle of answering a question and I looked behind Mike at Michele, and she was nodding enthusiastically and winking at me. It made me smile and gave me the confidence I needed. I did do better after that, but I totally felt like I flopped that one. Luckily, I had 2 more interviews that day so I figured it could only go up from there. Later Michele told me Mike asked her what she thought and she said, "If she can laugh about her house burning down, she can totally handle sixth grade." That was the beginning of an epic friendship. I will always cherish the time I was able to spend with Michele. She was the best of the best! She holds a very special place in my heart, and always will.

Gwen Sorensen - March 24 at 10:24 PM



“ When I was newly married and served as her YW secretary, Michelle taught me how to plan, be organized, seek the Spirit, and love those we served. She really provided a foundation for me in loving church service and doing it well. She always had such a twinkle in her eye, always smiling, always warm. Her daughters were beloved babysitters and it was a joy to be her neighbor. My condolences to her lovely, talented family.
--MaryJane Lasson

MaryJane Lasson - March 24 at 12:37 PM



“ Michelle with the most amazing lady she always was happy smiling laughing she was a greater example of Christ like love I loved being her visiting teacher friend and neighbor hugs thoughtful thoughts and prayers for those left behind cherries the memories that you had with her jot them down and share them frequently

Kathy Tibbs - March 23 at 10:53 PM