



## Patricia Nowell Tanner

July 20, 1933 - February 19, 2019

Patricia Nowell Tanner

Patricia Ann Nowell was born on July 20, 1933 in Minneapolis, Minnesota to Reynolds Irwin Nowell and Hannah Cannell Nowell. She died of natural causes on February 19, 2019 in Provo, Utah.

Pat was the second of Hannah and Ren's three children. Her father's career was in New York City, as Chief Economist at the Equitable Life Assurance Co. She had an idyllic childhood growing up in Maplewood and Mendham, New Jersey with the "best of both worlds." At home she could wander through the woods, play tennis, swim or ice skate on the pond, while also having close access to the city for Broadway plays, exciting department stores, and the annual Christmas show at Radio City Music Hall. The Nowells were active members of the New York Stake and the East Orange Ward, and Pat's early social life revolved around church friends and activities, including formal dances in the hardwood ballroom of the family home.

Pat received an outstanding secondary education at Kent Place School, an all-girls high school in Summit, New Jersey, graduating in 1951. She then attended Brigham Young University where she was very active in student government, serving as President of the Associated Women Students, and graduating in 1955 with a double degree in English and Psychology. More than 20 years later, as a busy mother of three children, she earned a master's degree in education from the University of Southern California overseas program. She was a lifelong avid reader.

After college graduation Pat moved to San Francisco where she taught ballroom dance at Arthur Murray Dance Studios and spent many enjoyable evenings with her fellow teachers tearing up the floor at various dance venues around the Bay. Eventually she moved to Berkeley and attended the LDS Institute where she met up again with Jordan Tanner, whom she had met on a blind date at a BYU / U of U basketball game. They were married by Elder Harold B. Lee in the Salt Lake Temple in 1960 and had three children, all born in

Korea: Eric Lee (adopted as a young orphan); Jeffrey Atkin and Timothy Nowell.

Following a brief stay with the bride's parents in New Jersey, the couple embarked on a life of adventure and service to country as Jordan began a 27-year career in the U.S. Foreign Service. After Jordan's junior officer training in Washington, D.C., they were posted to Seoul, Korea briefly for their first assignment, then on to longer assignments in Jakarta, Indonesia; back to Korea; Washington, D.C.; Karachi, Pakistan; Korea again; Provo, Utah; and Cape Town, South Africa where they enjoyed four delightful years. Their final transfer was to Canberra, Australia where they spent a year before Jordan retired. Their retirement years were spent in Provo, Utah where Jordan was born and raised.

Pat put her education to good use, finding employment wherever the couple moved around the world. She worked at the Ford Foundation, the America-Korea Foundation, USAID, taught English as a second language at Hyundai in Korea and at BYU's English Language Center, advised foreign students seeking to study in the U.S., and was hired by the University of Cape Town to develop English curriculum and teaching methodologies for use in black secondary schools in South Africa. Upon returning to the U.S., Pat's professionalism and strong work ethic turned a temporary assignment into a twelve-year career as a project manager at Dynix, where she implemented contracts for library systems automation. She found great satisfaction in finally being able to stay at the same job for an extended period, and Dynix became almost a second home--she was respected and loved by colleagues and clients alike.

Just about everyone who ever met Pat noted what a kind, gracious person she was and took an instant liking. She bore her trials--health and otherwise—with courage, humor, patience and great strength. She was a fountain of unconditional love to her family. She was a lifetime member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served in many positions throughout her life abroad and at home. In Karachi, Pakistan, there was no organized church but the small family held regular services in their home. She was a dedicated family historian.

Pat is survived and deeply mourned by her husband, Jordan; her children: Eric, Jeff (m. Janene Horrocks), and Tim (m. Sally Atkinson); her grandchildren: Trevor, Brittany, Daniel, Tricia (of Draper, Utah) and Oliver, Nicholas and Miriam (of New York, New York); her sister Dorothy; and many beloved nieces and nephews. Her younger brother Jim predeceased her last year.

Those wishing to pay their respects may attend a viewing on Saturday, February 23, 2019 from 10-10:45 a.m., to be followed by a memorial service at 11:00 a.m. at the Grandview

Stake Center, 1600 North 1880 West in Provo, Utah. Interment in Provo City Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the V Jordan and Patricia N. Tanner Endowment for Students Studying to Promote U.S. Diplomacy, at BYU's Kennedy Center for International Studies.

Funeral Directors: Utah Valley Mortuary

# Cemetery

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## Provo City Cemetery

610 South State Street

Provo, UT, 84606

# Events

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**FEB** **Viewing** 10:00AM - 10:45AM

**23**

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Grandview Stake Center

1600 North 1880 West, Provo, UT, US

**FEB** **Memorial Service** 11:00AM - 12:00PM

**23**

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Grandview Stake Center

1600 North 1880 West, Provo, UT, US

# Comments

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“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Utah Valley Mortuary - March 04, 2019 at 02:35 PM

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“ I was sad to hear of the amazingly sweet lady's passing. I was honored and humbled to be one of her caregivers for years. I have a lot of great memories about her, and always had great conversations with her! She will be greatly missed!

Lianna - February 27, 2019 at 11:12 AM

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“ Dear Jordan,  
Steve and I were so sad at the passing of your precious wife. We were so sad we were released before we could say good bye. We also wanted to hear of your trip to Rome. Pat was such a neat woman and we admired you as such a great couple. We looked for her obituary and were saddened again that we missed the funeral! We wanted to honor her life . We love you and are so grateful for the friendship we had with you and Pat.  
With love, Steve and Sue Robinson

susan Robinson - February 23, 2019 at 05:23 PM

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“ All of our 1950 Provo High School graduating class send our sympathy and love to you Jordan, and your family.....Pat was such a sweet loving woman.....reading her beautiful obituary .she accomplished so many things in her life....you will miss her so much but she will always look over you....with love, all of your school friends, Marilyn Daniels, Carole C, Hood, Vera B. Ivie, etc.....

marilyn daniels - February 23, 2019 at 04:00 PM

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“ Dear Jordan and Family,

Our condolences to you at the passing of your dear companion Pat. Though I (Karma Rae) did not know Pat as well, I have always had great admiration for you and your family. We go back a long way and you have had a wonderful life together with Pat at your side. We have known that more recent times have been more difficult for Pat. Yet you can reflect upon many fond memories to sustain you in the days ahead.

We are blessed to know of the Lord's plan for His children. May His blessings sustain you and all of your family at this time.

Our love and warmest wishes,  
Sherman and Karma Rae Sheffield

**Karma Rae Sheffield** - February 22, 2019 at 08:27 PM

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“ Dear Jordan and family, we so appreciated meeting Janene as she dropped by this afternoon to tell us of Pat's passing. I'm not sure I can take this: losing two BYU roommates within 4 months of each other.! Jannie, Pat and I drove out from Utah in Pat's car to the exciting adventure of San Francisco, its ocean view from our back porch, the fog that swirled in mystery, the having-to-get-used-to odors of Fisherman's Wharf, its fun crowd of Church young people. It was a wondrous time I will never forget. And to have shared it with Pat, my long time best friend. I wish I had called her this past week or two when she was strongly on my mind. I hope she knows how much I loved her. Thank you Jordan, for the adventure and love you brought into her life. And family, your mom was an exceptional woman. I will always remember her with love and joy. But darn! I will miss her.

**Darlene Johnson** - February 22, 2019 at 07:10 PM

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“ I'm so sorry to hear of Pats passing. My sincerest condolences to Jordan and the family. She was an incredible woman and has left a great legacy.  
Take care Jodan, my dear friend.  
Jack Rollins

**jack rollins** - February 22, 2019 at 06:14 PM

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“ To the Tanner Family, Our deepest sympathy for the passing of your wife, mother & grandmother Pat. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Love, The Cashin Family



**Julie A Cashin** - February 21, 2019 at 12:39 PM



“ Although I didn't know Pat, I so much enjoyed reading her obituary. What an extraordinary life she lived! It was like watching a movie!! Rest In Peace!  
Marilyn Barney

**marilyn Barney** - February 23, 2019 at 04:19 PM