



Rulon Dean Skinner

June 26, 1931 - March 19, 2019

Rulon Dean Skinner, 87, was born in Safford, Arizona June 26, 1931, and died March 19, 2019, at Utah Valley Hospital in Provo, Utah.

Rulon was the second of five children born to Rulon Moroni and Violet Whipple Skinner.

He graduated from Safford High School and later attended Gila Junior College in Arizona. He served a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Uruguay and Paraguay Mission from 1950-1953. After his mission, Rulon attended Brigham Young University and graduated in 1954. He went on to earn a Masters of Arts degree in 1971 from Brigham Young University. His professional life included working for the Boy Scouts of America for 24 years in a variety of positions that allowed him to interact with many people in the scouting program. Rulon was a professor at Brigham Young University for 27 years in the Youth Leadership and Recreation Management Department. During his career, he was the author of many books.

On February 23, 1956, Rulon married his “Sweetheart”, Ruth Walters in the Salt Lake City Temple. Rulon and Ruth spent 61 years together. Ruth passed away in 2018, and they are now finally reunited.

He was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and spent his life serving in a variety of callings and positions. His relationship with God was always felt when he shared his testimony. Side by side, Rulon and Ruth served two missions at the Missionary Training Center and one in the Grandview 20th Ward.

One of his greatest personal attributes was his ability to empathize, and to see the good in others while helping them to see the good in themselves. Through this strength, he used every opportunity he had to support and focus on the needs of the individual. Every camp he directed, every class he taught, every calling he fulfilled and every adventure he was a part of, was always focused on the individual. Through his numerous adventures, he created relationships and bonds that would last his lifetime and beyond.

Rulon is survived by his children, Kumen, Spanish Fork, Utah, Diane Holmes (Kenneth), Orem, Utah, Susan Johnson (Doug), Temecula, California, Maria Dunn (Patrick), Choctaw, Oklahoma, Cheryl Ann Edler (Blake), Provo, Utah; sister, Velda (Hans) Morrow; 14 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his "Sweetheart", Ruth; parents; two sisters and one brother.

Funeral Services will be held Monday, March 25th at 11:00 am, at the Grandview South Stake Center, 1122 Grand Avenue, Provo, Utah, where Viewings will be held Sunday, March 24th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm and prior to services on Monday from 9:30 to 10:30 am. Interment in Provo City Cemetery.

Funeral Directors: Utah Valley Mortuary.

Cemetery

Provo City Cemetery

610 South State Street

Provo, UT, 84606

Events

MAR 24 **Viewing** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

Grandview Stake Center

1122 Grand Avenue, Provo, UT, US

MAR 25 **Viewing** 09:30AM - 10:30AM

Grandview Stake Center

1122 Grand Avenue, Provo, UT, US

MAR 25 **Funeral Service** 11:00AM - 12:00PM

Grandview Stake Center

1122 Grand Avenue, Provo, UT, US

Comments



“ Rulon was my advisor in the youth leadership program at byu. This was back in the early seventies when the department was getting going. He allowed me to talk a variety of classes from coaching to survival to law enforcement to scouting to drama etc. to complete my major of a b.s. in youth leadership. I really enjoyed college and my association with brother Skinner . he taught a religion class oriented toward youth. He show us that we needed to make the class interesting so they would remember the lesson. He jumped on top the desk and really got into the lesson. I have used his examples many times teaching youth. He is and was a great teacher.

thomas hudspeth - March 28, 2019 at 04:11 PM



“ I remember my dad, Fred Erickson, talking about Rulon Skinner many, many times about there adventures and misadventures in Scouting!! I'll bet there's a big Scouters reunion going on up there right now!!!!

Douglas Erickson - March 27, 2019 at 07:24 PM



“ To Rulon D. Skinner's Family, Enjoyed Rulon as a Scout executive in Springville, Utah many years ago. He was kind and patient, willing to help, to teach, to be available, to be a friend. Appreciate his influence on my life and my years of the Scouting experience. Sorry to hear of his passing. He fulfilled his work here. He touched and enriched many lives during his time here on earth. May your choice memories and the Lord's spirit help to bring comfort and peace to you now and in the time to come. My appreciation and sympathy, Roberta Smith, former Scouter, Springville, Utah

Roberta Smith - March 25, 2019 at 02:07 PM



“ Dear Skinner Family,

I love Brother Skinner. I am heartbroken to learn of his passing. He was my Scoutmaster during the 2001 National Jamboree. He loved all the members of our troop. I will always remember his kind heart, and the love of God he had within Him, which he shared with all of us. He was a man of great love and honor, and he set a marvelous example for many young boys to follow. He even ran the 5k at the Jamboree in his advanced years. He was very driven!

I am thankful for his selfless service and devotion to God and family. He lived a great life of which you all may treasure in your memory.

I wish you my very best!

Thomas Jacob Coleman



Thomas Coleman - March 24, 2019 at 10:38 PM



“ Sorry to hear of Rulon's passing. We here in Lehi remember him as a wonderfully excellent scouter who influenced the success we had in our scouting programs. May you continue to have memories of his life which can still influence our lives today. Sincerely Lynn Nielsen... Glad I got to see him again in the Timpanogos temple a few weeks ago.

Lynn Nielsen - March 23, 2019 at 12:38 PM



“ Dear Rulon's family,

In August of 1965 I was called to be the Cubmaster in the Edgemont Fourth Ward of Provo. I had not been a Cub Scout, although I had been a Boy Scout but didn't do much with it. In that August I had barely been a Cub Scout Committee member for two weeks, but I participated in a hike with the boys and the previous Cubmaster at Aspen Grove, where I was familiar with some of the plants. When he was called to be a bishop on the BYU campus, he recommended me for his replacement.

Two things then happened to change my life and that of my family. One is that a Den Mother took us to a Roundtable at Maple Dell, where we learned about Philmont. We decided to go and did so next summer. When we returned, my wife Janyce and I were immediately asked to be on the Provo District Cub Scout Roundtable Committee, with Barney and Relva McGarry, Paul and Carol Bramwell, Wilma and Russ Hicken, and others.

The other thing was that Rulon asked me to come to the Scout Office at 7 a.m. one morning. He sat down with me and in an hour sketched out for me the basics of the Cub Scout program, with notes on a single sheet of paper. That got me off and running in a way that nothing else could have done.

I served as Cubmaster in two different packs. Janyce was a Den Mother in three different packs and assisted other den mothers in their meetings. At one time she was having four den meetings a week. We served on the Roundtable Committee and enjoyed every minute of it. Later we were called to be Cub Scout Directors for our stake. We were awarded the Provo Peak Award--the same year that Rulon was--and later we both received the Silver Beaver Award. We served on the Provo Peak Association Board from this time until the present; Janyce and I both served as president, and I have served as secretary-treasurer since 2001. In 1987 I was one of the staff of the very first Akela's Council for Cub Scouts, held at Maple Dell. Michael Kelsch was the leader for that. We participated in University of Scouting and Den Chief training sessions, and in 1968 we helped present the revised National Cub Scout program, in which the Webelos Program was extended to a year, to the Provo District Scout Leaders.

Being in Scouting changed our lives. And Rulon got me started with an hour spent in an early morning at the Scout Office. He and Ruth were lifelong friends. We will miss him.

Kent Harrison

Kent Harrison - March 22, 2019 at 01:20 PM



“ I remember Bro Skinner from when I was a Boy Scout from Spanish Fork and have fond memories of him from the Maple Dale scout camp. He was always helpful and interested in helping us boys with their merit badges and outdoor skills. I offer my sincere condolences to his family. What a great blessing to have the knowledge of gospel in our lives.

D Warren- Dallas TX

D Warren - March 22, 2019 at 12:59 PM