



Ruth Luke

April 8, 1949 - March 10, 2019

Ruth Ann Black Luke returned to our Heavenly Father on Sunday, March 10, 2019. She was 69 years old. Ruth was born in Arlington, Virginia, on April 8, 1949. She grew up in McLean, Virginia. She attended the University of Arizona in Tucson while living with her sister, Bonnie. She then served an 18-month mission in the Argentina North Mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She returned to Tucson and met her love, David, in February of 1972. They were engaged in May and married in August in the Mesa Arizona Temple. The couple and their family have lived in Tucson Arizona, Mississippi, Alabama, Oklahoma, and Utah.

Ruth's many jobs allowed her to show off her organizational skills, including as a secretary for Prudential Securities, the executive secretary for philanthropist, Mr. Atkinson, as well as the office administrator at the Detention Officer Training Center for the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office. She loved her family fiercely and spent many family gatherings playing cards and other games. Ruth was often found reading or cheering on her Washington Redskins and Oklahoma Sooners (football) and the OKC Thunder (basketball) teams.

She served her community through such things as the PTO president for her children's elementary school, as chairwoman of the City of Choctaw Founders Celebration Day Committee and as mayor of Choctaw, OK, for 8 years. She served within her church through various callings, including Cub Scout leader, Young Women president, Sunday School teacher, Stake Relief Society President, and Primary teacher. She served for 2 ½ years in the Oklahoma Oklahoma City Mission and at the time of her death she was serving her 3rd year as a BYU Worldwide Pathway Connect missionary. Ruth was loved by many. She wanted others to feel welcome and always looked for someone she didn't know or someone sitting alone and often introduced them to others as her "sister" or "daughter" - everyone became family to her.

Ruth touched so many lives for good. She joined her parents, Maxwell Frank and Goldie Booke Black, her brother, Maxwell Frank "Frankie" Black Jr., her sister, Cleopatra

McNamee, nephew, Scott McNamee, and 4 angel-baby grandchildren, in heaven. She is survived by her husband, David Melvin Luke, Annette (Joel), Michael (Nicole), Brent, Stephanie, Matthew, and Emily (Stephen) and grandchildren Lauren, Kayley, Evan, Spencer, Luke, Evelyn, Gavin, Garrett, Keeli, Jaxson and Maxwell, her sister Bonita Edwards and her brother, Rick Black.

Funeral Services will be held Saturday, March 16th, at 11:00 am, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints meetinghouse, 353 East 400 North, Spanish Fork, Utah where a Visitation will be held prior to services from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Interment in Spanish Fork City Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to your favorite charity in Ruth's honor or do an act of service for others in need.

Our wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, Ruth, will be remembered for many things, but we know the one that will stand out in our minds and hearts forever will be her favorite phrase - "Love you more" - and she did.

Cemetery

Events

Spanish Fork City Cemetery

420 South 400 East
Spanish Fork, UT,

MAR

16

Visitation

09:30AM - 10:30AM

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
353 East 400 North, Spanish Fork, UT, US, 84660

MAR

16

Funeral Service

11:00AM - 12:00PM

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
353 East 400 North, Spanish Fork, UT, US, 84660

Comments



“ One of my memories of Ruth is when I was visiting Oklahoma with my two small kids and my mom’s house was hit by a tornado. There were so many trees and debris everywhere and the thought of the clean up just overwhelmed my poor mom. That Sunday they announced that the ox was in the mire and they were cutting church early so that anyone who wanted to go and help my mom (a widow) clean up would be greatly appreciated. We had no idea! The thing was is that it was Mother’s Day and I specifically remember your mom there and how deeply it touched me that here was this mother sacrificing her time where she should be at home getting pampered or resting and Ruth was there with a big smile on her face with her sleeves rolled up ready to work. I’m getting teary-eyed just thinking about it. That was her, a selfless, kind-hearted, great sense of humor, hard-working gal. She was a true follower of Christ to her church family, her community, friends, family and strangers. There’s no doubt in my mind that our Heavenly Father is proud of this good and faithful servant. I’m sure there is one special Choctaw Ward Family reunion happening. Till we all meet again...

Jennifer (Whitlow) Taylor - March 13, 2019 at 11:00 PM



“ My family and I moved into the Choctaw ward in October of 1999. It just so happened that the Ward choir was starting their practices for Christmas. I had always been in choir at church so it was only natural that I joined. I hadn't been formerly introduced to Ruth so I didn't really know who she was. That particular day I sat in the row and seat directly in front of her. As we were singing I felt a hard thump on the back of my head. I turned around to see what the heck was going on and Ruth was looking at me with a sarcastic grin and she said " You're singing off key." It was at that point that our friendship began. I like people who aren't fake. Ruth was anything but. Throughout the years Ruth called me a mean woman and I lovingly called her "meaner than me". Ruth always knew that I walk outside of the box. Case in point, when we served in young women's together we had a lesson on traditions. She left me to my own devices for the lesson which resulted in me dressing as a turkey and walking through the hallway to wait for my cue to enter the classroom. Ruth wasn't given a heads up on my surprise and when I entered the room she couldn't contain her laughter. The lesson was a hit with the young women and an irritant to the then presiding bishop. I will always love her sense of humor, her sense of compassion for others and her absolute love and dedication to her Heavenly Father. I will love you forever "meaner than me."

Yvonna Claridge - March 13, 2019 at 09:38 PM



“ I worked with Ruth for many years. She helped me so much not only in my work but she taught me so much about humanity. With tears flowing I write this. She always had time for you. Always ready to help and always there for you. She loved God so very much, as well as her family. She was and will always be an inspiration in my life. She also loved the more than 2,000 cadets she helped me train at the Oklahoma County Sheriffs Office in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. A golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands at rest. God broke our hearts to prove to us He only takes the best... We love and miss you Rutsy!

Charles E. Grubbs - March 13, 2019 at 11:24 AM



“ While serving in the Choctaw ward as a missionary, I came to know and love Ruth. We called each other "sis". Ruth asked me to help move a friend to a new home. I rode to Enid with her and the kids. We stopped for gas and Ruth and I got out to clean the windows. The devil got in me and I squeegee her face. The van was rocking as the kids had so much fun watching us fight with the squeeeges. We drove up to the window to pay for the gas and the little old man was laughing so hard he couldn't talk. Ruth even laughed when I put that nasty squeeeges in her face. I knew I loved her then and now.
Laura "woo woo" Woolston

Laura Woolston - March 12, 2019 at 07:49 PM



“ We send love and prayers to all the family. I have so many fun and tender memories of Ruth. We had such similar lives in many way. We were very close in age, had both served Spanish speaking missions, both had big families with kids who were also close in ages. We had different struggles but she was an incredible friend and a wonderful support. Even if we hadn't visited in several years, seeing her again was just like resuming where we left off.
The only time in my life that I ditched Sunday School, was a morning in Choctaw when I must have been distraught about some problem and Ruth said, "let's go sit in the car and talk". I don't even remember what was wrong but I do remember that spending an hour with Ruth was just what I needed.
Hasta que nos reunimos de nuevo, hermana!

Diana Demke - March 12, 2019 at 06:08 PM



“ Ruth and David were a huge part of our family and church members. They served their fellow man and woman with happiness and love. I'm sorry for your loss of an amazing woman. Strong, faithful and compassionate to all. Loved her spunky personality and great example. Such a huge loss for all that knew her. Love all you kids and Dave. Sincerely Cruze family

Mike Cruze - March 12, 2019 at 06:06 PM



“ I am so very sorry to hear of the passing of your wife (Dave). My prayers are with you and your family. God Bless!

Butch McGee

Butch McGee - March 12, 2019 at 04:13 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Wendy Turner - March 12, 2019 at 04:04 PM



“ 4 files added to the album Ruthie



Emily - March 12, 2019 at 02:23 PM