



Vivian Marie Ostler

November 3, 1935 - December 3, 2020

Vivian Marie (Stupeck) Ostler was born on November 3, 1935 in Michigan City, Indiana, to Ida Leona Scott and Earl Joseph Stupeck. She was born at home, in the house her father built by converting an old Chinese laundry located near her grandparents' house. The doctor charged \$25 for his services; he was assisted in the delivery by the proud papa.

Sometime in her first few days, Vivian stopped breathing, and her Grandma Bessie Scott got her started again.

As a baby, Vivian was remarkably self-sufficient. She didn't suck her thumb, use a pacifier, nor have a comfort blanket. She never had a bottle.

When she was two years old, her brother Donnie was born in the same house. She remembered they grew up feeling close to each other. At times when her brother was crying, she would put her arms around him to comfort him, and he would do the same for her.

In 1946, when Vivian was 10 years old, the family moved to Riverside, California, to start a new life far from extended family. Vivian learned later that her parents were trying give their own marital relationship a fresh start.

Her dad soon took on several jobs to support the family, and her mother also took a job. Before too long, however, their problems resurfaced. When Vivian was 11 years old, her parents separated, and her dad quit his five jobs and took her and Donnie by train back to Michigan City, Indiana, to live with their Grandpa Stupeck, Aunt Lucille, and Uncle Bud. He took a job there, and after about six months, he began feeling better, so he returned to California alone to prepare a place to bring his children to live.

They set up housekeeping in a 21' foot trailer in Huntington Park, California, and at the age of 12, Vivian became the lady of the house. Her job was to cook, clean, iron, and help with laundry and grocery shopping. She was also an excellent student, won many awards,

and was active in student government.

The following summer Reda Bingham moved with her mother into the trailer park. Reda was also ready start 8th grade, and she and Vivian instantly became inseparable friends. Reda had recently been baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and she was convinced that her church was “the only true church on the face of the earth.” She was open and earnest and not afraid to share her testimony. Vivian was soon attending church with Reda, and her own testimony of the gospel was growing.

Then her dad decided to move their trailer to Culver City, which meant Vivian would attend a different high school and attend church in a different chapel. Reda came with Vivian to help her get comfortable in her new ward. The first Sunday, they were introduced in Sunday School class, and as they were walking home, they were offered a ride by two young men from their class. One was Gary Peterson and the other was their Sunday School Class President, Don Ostler. Vivian soon enjoyed a warm circle of friends, two of whom gave her name to the full-time missionaries.

By this time, Vivian had been attending church for three years. She had felt God’s spirit, gained a testimony of Joseph Smith’s first vision of God the Father and his son, Jesus Christ. She was already converted, but the missionaries gave her the lessons to be certain she understood the principles of the gospel. Her dad gave permission, and Vivian was baptized and confirmed on December 6, 1952, when she was 17 years old. In retrospect she said, “I shall never forget the purity and goodness I felt when I came up out of the water.” As part of the service, they sang, “The Spirit of God Like a Fire is Burning,” and she felt like she wanted to shout as she sang that song. It remained her favorite hymn for the rest of her life.

The following June, she was asked at the last minute to substitute for someone who was to speak on the Sacrament Meeting program. Her topic was “What the Church Means to Me as a Convert.” Don Ostler, who had enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve and was now on active duty, spoke on the same program. His topic was, “What the Church Means to Me as a Serviceman.” After the meeting he asked Vivian if he could write to her because he was being deployed overseas. Vivian agreed but vowed to herself she would not write first.

They exchanged letters for his nine months of deployment, and Vivian was eager to see him when he returned home. As he hitchhiked home from Virginia to California, he took the opportunity to stop at church history sites and to visit his birth mother in Spokane, Washington. Instead of being at home when he arrived, Vivian had traveled with her

church group to Mesa, Arizona to do temple work.

Don and Vivian had both hoped to attend BYU. She had a full-tuition academic scholarship. He was also considering serving a mission. But before school started, they fell in love and their plans changed. Both Don and Vivian were determined to do what was right, they consulted their bishop, who told Don that marriage was a mission itself and advised him and Vivian to get married.

Their marriage took place on October 30, 1954 in the Saint George Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, attended by only the four friends who travelled with them from Los Angeles. No family members were able to attend. Vivian was four days shy of turning 19 years old.

Thrilled to be married, Vivian gave up her BYU scholarship, and Don enrolled for his second year at Santa Monica City College. They gave their hearts to each other and to their shared commitment to God.

For the next 66 years, Vivian devoted herself to family, home, and church.

She welcomed six children, including Linda Marie, Creg Donald, Lora Lynn, Janet Earleen, Steven John, and Kathleen Elizabeth. Because she had so little memory of her childhood and lacked a motherly role model, she applied herself to learning how to be a good wife and mother. She worked at it constantly.

The theme of her life, which she displayed prominently in her home, is taken from the scripture 3 John 1:4, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth."

She and Don believed in accepting church callings, and they counted on God to help them become adequate to do whatever He asked of them. She took her callings seriously, planned carefully, and served diligently whether teaching Relief Society, providing leadership in auxiliary presidencies, or serving in various music callings.

The first time she was called to serve as Primary pianist, she could play only a few of songs and those with just one hand. She practiced and practiced and gradually improved. When she was called as ward organist, she and Don bought a used, full-sized church organ, so she could practice at home. She served for decades in a variety of music callings, including leading a ward choir that is still appreciated for being a wonderful spiritual experience. She was ward chorister until at age 83, her declining health prevented her service.

This week, on December 3, 2020, at age 85 and one month, our beautiful, kind, generous, and loving wife, mother, grandmother, and friend slipped the bonds of mortality and returned to her Heavenly Father. We are as certain as we can be that our Father and her Savior embraced her ... with words to the effect, "Well done, my good and faithful daughter. Welcome home."

A viewing will be held on Saturday, December 5th at Utah Valley Mortuary, 1966 West 700 North, Lindon, Utah, from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. Funeral services will be available to view live at 1:00 pm at the following link: Vivian Ostler's Funeral Service.(<https://my.gather.app/remember/vivian-ostler>>)

Interment will take place in the Orem City Cemetery.

Funeral Directors: Utah Valley Mortuary.

Cemetery

Events

Orem City Cemetery

1520 North 800 East

Orem, UT, 84097

DEC

5

Viewing

11:00AM - 12:00PM

Utah Valley Mortuary

1966 West 700 North, Lindon, UT, US, 84042

DEC

5

Live Funeral Service Broadcast 01:00PM - 02:00PM

Live Funeral Service Broadcast

UT, US

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Utah Valley Mortuary - December 03, 2020 at 07:50 PM



“ Vivian was my American Grandma here in the states. I lived in her home in Orem while I went to School. Don and Vivienne were always so kind to me. She will be missed.

Olga Clark - December 04, 2020 at 05:24 PM



“ Dear Don and family,
I have so many fun memories of you and Vivian. It started when you two moved into our ward and I was Vivian's visiting teacher. We use to spend so much time talking and sharing. Then as we grew older we shared empty nesters. I loved her moments of thought she would share with us, the games we played and the Christmas parties at your home. In the last couple of years it has been my pleasure to occasionally go to your home where Vivian was your companion and you were my Ministering Brother. Thank you Don for being a great example to me of a person who is loving, caring and always serving. Vivian will be greatly missed. And she is waiting for you. You and your family are in my prayers.

Pat Tucker - December 04, 2020 at 10:56 PM



“ Don, it meant a great deal for me to be able to talk briefly with you this morning. Gayanne and I love you and your family deeply. It was wonderful to see your children again and to talk with them. They are such wonderful folks! I was amazed at how long it's been since I have seen some of them. I remember the times we met with Vivian when we visited her in the long-term care facility and I will always treasure the memory of her love and kindness and optimism.

What meant the most to me this morning was what you said to me. You and Vivian were such close friends to Sharon and to me. In fact, you both were the greatest help to us and to our family in the anguished months before she died. I truly owe you both a debt of gratitude and love. Thank you for being our friends.

When you told me today that you had been thinking of me a great deal during the past few weeks, I understood you completely. I know what you are now going through and what you are now facing, I could readily say, "Been there. Done that." I now realize that you understand completely how I felt then. I appreciate your love and empathy.

I'm not always sure why we have to go through what we do in this life. However, I do know this: We can get through it. And if we turn to the Lord with all our might, He will help us through it and we will be stronger and better for it. As I told you today, you never really get "over it". However, you do get "out from under it".

I would like to share with you the advice that my son-in-law Michael Belnap shared with me when Sharon died. He told me, "Dad, if you are still on this earth, there's a reason. There's

good you have to do, ways to bless people lives, good things you can learn from. Find that good and do it." You are a master at doing good Don. Keep it up!

Gayanne & I love you deeply. Here's looking toward our future together!

George - December 05, 2020 at 02:44 PM



“ I wholeheartedly agree with what you said, George!

Lisa Deason Whitehead

Lisa Deason Whitehead - December 07, 2020 at 10:53 PM



“ My deepest consonances to Don and your family. We lost Tormod in May, I know how hard it is losing a spouse after all these wonderful years together. We have fond memories of our time together in Redondo 3rd Ward. Sending my love and prayers to you and you family.
Jennie Sue Andersen

Jennie Andersen - December 22, 2020 at 09:27 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Funeral Video's



Utah Valley Mortuary - December 12, 2020 at 04:10 PM



“ Brother Ostler, word didn't travel fast for this one. I was on the phone with Cindy King Merryweather on Saturday asking her to send me the obituary information, only to have her check and see that the memorial service was happening right then. I wish I would have known sooner.

Every time I am in the area I always drive through the neighborhood, right past your house, of course. The 10 years spent as your neighbor were my kids' happiest. You and Sister Ostler were always so friendly and kind. You were helpful to Mike and I in so many ways. I remember Sister Ostler would let the boys climb up to the loft in your house. That was wonderfully exciting for them. I also remember learning various cooking tips from her, and discussing genealogy. The photo of you two posted here is just how I remember you both. I appreciated you both for your strong testimonies of the gospel that were not just spoken, but lived!

Thank you for your love and kindness to us. Wishing you peace and comfort in the coming days.

Lisa Deason Whitehead
American Fork, UT

Lisa Deason Whitehead - December 07, 2020 at 11:09 PM



“ In life we have people that teach us valuable lessons. My sweet Grandmother was one of my greatest teachers.

One of the things she taught me was about love. Love your family. Love your friends. Love your community.

She had these incredible friends for YEARS!! When I was young I remember asking how she could be friends for so long - she said it's not hard. Write letters, call, spend time with them and let them know you are there for them. I took her advice and I've kept friendships for years... actually decades.

As I got older and wanted to know what my favorite fellas (my two uncles) were up to. She would give me a run down on them and their families. I loved it because it felt like I was close to them.

In recent years, I would call and talk with her for an hour or two a few times a month. She would update me on the whole family. She was always so happy to share information on family. One of things she told me recently was to love my family and check in on them and make sure they knew that I loved them. Last month I had the feeling I needed to write a letter to each of my aunts and uncles. I did. (And It wasn't even Valentine's Day.) My heart was so full of love and joy. I have such a special relationship with each of them and know they are just a phone call away. There is truly something magical about making sure your loved ones know you love them.

I hate having to say goodbye to my Grandma. But my precious Aunties and Uncles shared a lot of wisdom today for her funeral so It doesn't seem quite so hard.

I took this picture about 10 years ago. Everyone loves It because It is my Grandpa in true form singing to his sweetheart. I love It because It is the first 8 loves of life.



Melissa Leonhard - December 07, 2020 at 07:12 PM



“ Aunt Vivian always created a space where I felt loved and accepted unconditionally. Hers was a safe home where I felt the warmth of the Savior's love. I saw the way they lived the gospel of Jesus Christ sincerely in their home. This showed me what a family could be like and I knew in my heart that was what I wanted my own home to feel like one day. It was a gift given that she never knew she was giving. She was just being herself. Because of she and Uncle Don I had six more amazing cousins to love as well. Mortality shifted for me on Dec 3rd knowing she had passed. Yet I felt comfort in the impression that so many welcomed her warmly as they received her. What a healing and rejoicing time for them. Uncle Don, Linda and Eric, Creg and Sondra, Lorie and Harry, Janet and Greg, Stephen and Marlys, Kathy and Rick, grandchildren and great grandchildren, we are praying and fasting for you. God bless each one of you for all the good you have done and continue to do.
with much love and appreciation,
cousin Chris and Richard

Christianne Jacobsen - December 06, 2020 at 01:46 PM



“ I have known Vivian since 1973. She was always the kindest woman I knew. She had a way of making you feel welcome in her presence and putting you at ease no matter what the situation. She was gracious and always a lady, even when we were camping in the dirtiest of locations. She was always genuinely interested in what you were doing. Waffle nights were special to us all. I loved spending time in her home and with her family. My prayers are with you all at this time.

Shannon Steinbeigle - December 05, 2020 at 03:19 PM



“ Dear Don and family,

Sending healing prayers and comforting hugs. We are so sorry for your loss. Wishing your family comfort and strength for the days ahead.

We have tender and respectful memories of Vivian!! She was a great game player. We remember Vivian and Bonnie Scadlock playing weekly games! What a sweet friendship they had and maybe with both of them going so close together they may have plans in Heaven to continue that sweet "game" friendship!

We so appreciate Vivian's talent of leading the music in Sacrament meeting. She was always so well prepared and was thoughtful in the selection of hymns.

Our sincere love and condolences. Don, we love you and you are in our prayers. Heartfelt sympathy for you and your family.

Love,
Wade and Karen Peterson

Wade and Karen Peterson - December 04, 2020 at 09:01 PM



“ Dear Don & Family,

We are so sorry with the passing of our Dear Friend Vivian. We were so surprised with her passing, but then, we hadn't seen her for some time.....but it was such a surprise!

We so loved Vivian and all the great times we shared together at socials, church, and dinner at Chuck 'o Rama!!! How we loved our times together....how we miss her!!! Dear Don, our love to you and your family...and our thoughts and prayers are with you.

As we remember all our times together, our hearts are full with love for your and Vivian.

Than k you for being our friends.....we love you!

Gary & Carolyn Spencer

Carolyn Spencer - December 04, 2020 at 08:06 PM



“ We will always remember Vivian from our time in Redondo Beach. What a special kind Lady with a heart as big as Heaven. We loved her and her family. The Lord has welcomed her home. Ellen and Jerry Decker

Ellen Decker - December 04, 2020 at 01:07 PM



“ I visit taught Vivian for several years and she was always fun and happy! She taught me that it doesn't matter what the difference in our age was, we could be friends. I love her. My love to Don and her family. You will be in my prayers and thoughts.

Becky Melville - December 03, 2020 at 10:41 PM



“ We have so many wonderful memories of our time spent in Utah with my mom, the Spencers, you and Vivian! We will forever treasure those memories and the friendships made. We love you Don, and we send you our most heartfelt condolences during this time and the days ahead. We are so grateful to know that my mom was able to welcome one of her dearest friends in a loving embrace.

Peri Scadlock Hammons - December 04, 2020 at 05:51 PM



“ Aunt Vivian was always a source of light to me. She knew the right thing to say, and sometimes just the right look to give when I was out of line. She never scolded me, just that look and now, thinking of it, it makes me smile. She told me one time about marriage, "Never expect your husband to know what you are thinking." I thought that was good advice. She has been there for me throughout my life. I am so heartbroken that we cannot be with you today. We will come down later, when the grandkids are back with their parents, and spend time with you and talk and reminisce. Know that my heart is with you today even though we cannot be. We love you all so very much. You are all in our prayers.

Cathy - December 05, 2020 at 10:08 AM



“ Today's service was so beautiful and touching. It is amazing to see what a legacy my Aunt has created out of her loving, caring and selfless acts.

Uncle Don, you and Aunt Vivian shared a special love that was truly a blessing from our Heavenly Father. I pray that your heart is filled with peace and God's continued grace.

To my cousins, your loving tributes to your mother speaks volumes to what an amazing woman she was and how she has beautifully influenced not only your lives, but the lives of your children and beyond.

Please know that our heart hurts with all of you yet we are so thankful to have been blessed by knowing Aunt Vivian.

We love you all,

Mark, Marie, Moriah and Megan Stupeck

Mark Stupeck - December 05, 2020 at 06:10 PM



“ Don,

We loved Vivian so much. I have many fond memories of her as my visiting teacher and also visiting her! She was a wonderful choir director and sacrament meeting chorister. I especially enjoyed seeing what her latest eye catching outfit would be each Sunday. She was so good at putting colors together. We had a lot of fun together playing chicken dice at empty nesters and we still always play it with "Vivian's rules."

You have both been great examples to us throughout the last many years of being wonderful disciples of Jesus Christ. We feel fortunate to have you as our neighbor and friend. We pray for the Lord's blessings of comfort and joy to you now.

Love,

Dennis and Margaret Black

Dennis and Margaret Black - December 06, 2020 at 10:38 PM