



## Wendy Jo Jaimeson

January 28, 1963 - January 14, 2019

Wendy Jo Wakefield Jaimeson slipped cautiously through the birth we call death on January 14, 2019 at home with her loving family by her side. Wendy, to her family, Jo to her friends, was named after a beauty pageant queen by her parents Paul and Bonnie Stark Wakefield on January 28, 1963 in Redwood City, California. She was the leader, teacher, and strongest supporter for her younger siblings Dan, Todd (Elizabeth), Joey (Alisa), Amy Draper, and Andy Wakefield.

Wendy Jo lived an idyllic childhood in California before moving with her parents, brother, and dog to Orem at age five. Soon after, she was diagnosed with dermatomyositis, a rare form of muscular dystrophy, and she almost did not live past young childhood. Instead of a premature death, she lived two weeks less than fifty-six years—a life not absent of pain and suffering, but also one full of perseverance and joy and happiness.

Wendy Jo loved to learn and was an amazing student. She particularly loved literature, art, drama, and orchestra as a cellist. She won a scholarship to attend BYU to become a teacher and later graduated from Weber State University in Education, with an emphasis in Special Education. She first had a twenty-two-year career at American Express where she developed life-long friends. Returning to education, she had a second career working with students, particularly special needs students.

Wendy Jo accepted everyone and was particularly close with children and people with physical and mental disabilities. Although she never had children, Wendy Jo was the ULTIMATE AUNT to her 15 nieces and nephews, treating each like her own child. In addition, she cared for, mentored, and bonded with countless neighborhood children. She shared joy with children through games, make-up, nail painting, activities, games, crafts, art, reading, and learning.

She will always be considered an angel on earth as she went through life with a smile and zest to connect with and help other people despite facing hardships in life that few people can comprehend. All those who opened themselves to know Wendy Jo will live fuller and

deeper lives in what she taught us: patience, acceptance, empathy, love, joy, and strength. In these truths she will live on forever. Goodbye for now our sweetest “Jo.”

Memorial Services will be held Saturday, January 19th, at 11:00 am, at the LDS Chapel located at 1100 West 600 South in Orem, Utah, where family will receive friends and acquaintances prior to the services from 9:45 to 10:45 am.

Funeral Directors: Utah Valley Mortuary.

# Events

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**JAN**   **Visitation**   09:45AM - 10:45AM

**19**

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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
1100 West 600 South, Orem, UT, US

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

**19**

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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
1100 West 600 South, Orem, UT, US

# Comments

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“ So sorry and saddened to hear we have lost Jo. I worked with Jo at Lakeridge, where she mentored students in my science classes. Jo was a ray of sunshine! She cared so much for her students, was their biggest advocate, and many owe their success to her.

She always had a great attitude and sense of humor- she even used to laugh at my lame jokes! Like you, I will miss her dearly and think of her often.

Thank you Jo for making my life a little better.

**Al Hrynyshyn** - January 18 at 01:27 PM

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“ Collette Kikuchi lit a candle in memory of Wendy Jo Jaimeson



**Collette Kikuchi** - January 18 at 11:02 AM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Andy** - January 18 at 10:24 AM

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“ I'm so sorry for your loss. Most of my memories of Jo are of discussions at book group-she was so much fun! Jo was so kind and helped me to feel welcome in the neighborhood while I lived there. She had a special talent for reaching out to others and always treating those around her with love and kindness.

**Cheree Daley** - January 17 at 07:09 PM

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“ Wendy was such an example of perseverance and unconditional love. She was as much of a fan of my hiking adventures as myself. I will think of Jo every time I'm on an adventure enjoying Gods beautiful creations. Till we meet again my friend



**Michelle Boyack Turner** - January 17 at 05:47 PM