



## Alesi (Sovasova) Taylor

June 11, 1974 - November 30, 2016

ALESI (SOVASOVA) TAYLOR  
(1974 to 2016)

Adi Alesi Waqanivavalagi (Sovasova) Taylor, age 42, passed away on November 30, 2016, surrounded by her loving husband and their four beautiful children at their home in South Jordan, Utah.

She was born June 11, 1974, in Lautoka, Fiji to Jone and Seini Sovasova.

She married Todd Michael Taylor in the St. George, UT LDS Temple on December 17, 1994.

Alesi was blessed to be raised in the beautiful Fijian Islands by goodly parents who were true pioneers for the LDS Church in Fiji and positive contributors to the communities in which they lived. Alesi attended various elementary schools throughout Fiji, as her father fulfilled work assignments for the Fiji Sugar Corporation and her mother worked as a registered nurse in various hospitals. Alesi completed her high school education at Fiji LDS Church College, where she was selected as Head Girl of the school for 1991. After graduating from high school, Alesi was given the opportunity to participate in the LDS Church's work experience and tertiary education program through the Polynesian Cultural Center and Brigham Young University-Hawaii in Laie, Hawaii. She and Todd were both working at the Polynesian Cultural Center and attending BYU-H when they met and married in 1994. They lived in many different places throughout the world, as indicated by the birth places of their four children: Oklahoma, Hawaii, Fiji and New Zealand. They also lived in Arizona and Utah. She made each place her home, with her only requirement being that her husband and children be there.

Alesi was loved and respected by all who met her, every place she lived, worked and played. She had an infectious smile and showed genuine love toward and interest in others. She developed lifelong relationships with many and had a gift for remembering names and details of her acquaintances.

Most important to Alesi, she endeavored to be a true disciple of Jesus Christ and to serve Him and others throughout her life, especially her family. She served in many different Church callings, including Primary, Young Women, Relief Society and Seminary Instructor. She was a “Bishop’s wife” in both Fiji and again in New Zealand, all the while fulfilling her most cherished role as “Mom” and supporting Todd through his career and law school years. She loved their children very much and took great joy in all they did. To her, they were her greatest accomplishments.

Alesi developed a real love for fitness and running later in life. She taught Zumba and completed numerous marathons, half-marathons and relay races. Through the training and running of these races, she learned many valuable lessons about hard work, struggling, enduring pain and persevering to the very end to finish the race.

All these lessons prepared her to face the cancer diagnosis she received in April 2014, which would prove to be the most challenging race of her life. She underwent various forms of treatment over the subsequent 2.5 years. She rarely complained to anyone about the many days of nausea, weakness and discomfort caused by the varying forms of treatment she received and by the cancer itself.

To all who knew Alesi, this is how they would describe her: She was a true angel, with a wonderful gift to see the good in all whom she came in contact with. Her love was felt by all. Because of this, she made many life-long and eternal friendships.

Even though we know that she will continue to watch over us, her absence here on earth will be felt by so many.

Alesi is survived by her mother; her husband and their children, Keikikalani (19), Lavenia (18), Talmage (15) and Lomani (13); her siblings, Josua Sovasova (Lusiana), Adi Ceva Dunn (William), Viliame Sovasova, Mereoni Vuidreketi (Peni) and Kristina Ravudi (Aisake); and many nieces and nephews in Fiji and Utah.

Alesi was wholeheartedly accepted into and loved deeply by Todd’s family: Parents, Terry and Randee Taylor; and siblings, Shelly Ence (Robert), Jeff, Travis, Sean (Sarah), Jennifer Miller (Troy) and Tenille Kaufusi (Jason).

Alesi is preceded in death by all her grandparents; her father; her father-in-law; her sister-in-law, Sarah (Reed) Taylor; and her nephew, Jake T Ence.

Services for Alesi will be as follows:

Viewings: Friday (December 09, 2016) from 6:00 - 8:00pm and Saturday (December 10, 2016) from 9:00 - 10:30am at the LDS Chapel located at 11420 South 700 West, Draper, Utah.

Funeral service: Saturday (December 10, 2016) at 11:00am at the same Chapel.

Interment: Monday (December 12, 2016) at 11:00am in Gunlock, Utah—her adopted hometown outside of Fiji.

Family members wish to thank the kind and skilled professionals of St. Mark's Hospital (Salt Lake City, UT); Intermountain Medical Center (Murray, UT) and Intermountain Homecare & Hospice. As well as the countless meals, well wishes, prayers and many other acts of kindness and service from family and friends.

Arrangements are under the direction of Peni Malohifo'ou of Serenity Funeral Home, Draper, UT (801) 255-2801.

Family and friends are invited to share memories and condolences at [www.serenityfhs.com](http://www.serenityfhs.com) and through social media.

# Events

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**DEC** **Viewing** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

**9**

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River View 9th Ward

11420 South 700 West, Draper, UT, US

**DEC** **Viewing** 09:00AM - 10:30AM

**10**

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Riverview LDS 9th Ward

11400 South 700 West, South Jordan, UT, US

**DEC** **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

**10**

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Riverview LDS 9th Ward

11400 South 700 West, South Jordan, UT, US

# Comments

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“ Dear Alesi.. I am more than just thankful to have been blessed to call you mom since I moved into your house and become a part of your family from my senior year in highschool. I can never forget your great care not only about me, but my family, always willing to show your love and tenderness toward this Korean kid. I was really delighted when you wrote a comment on my instagram the other day, and that day, I fully realized how much sincere and generous you have been to me in thinking of me and keeping me in your warm embrace. Even though I often gave you a little weird or fresh air of difference as I did something so Korean, you gave me a big smile and full of complements even for very tiny things that I did. You have helped me carry on and take courage that I could press forward toward my goals. And you lifted me up when I achieved things that seemed a bit difficult to me, and you shouted out, "Well done, Henry!!" You were one of the greatest sources of my confidence and all the attainments. Now, I am in the military, serving to my nation for 2 years, beginning from Nov. 29th, 2016 which was the day before you returned heavenly home in peace. I haven't been able to get any news until today, and just saw the serenity service link on your timeline.. which shocked me so terribly. I have always put you in my prayers wishing your physical and spiritual well-being and happiness that your family members, friends, and the Lord present for you. So sad to accept this sadness, but I will keep doing the same praying for you and your family and hoping the blessings that the Lord has prepared throughout the pathway of your strong, great loved ones.

Thank you mom. Thank you for your incomparable love and understanding about me.

I miss your jokes, smile, and everything. I miss you saying, "Good, Good!"

Love you, my dear American Mom.

Hyungseok Cho - February 18, 2017 at 11:33 PM

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“ Wow .....what a remarkable woman.... in your short time here on earth you touched so many lives for the better including my life....and along with your beautiful family... my boys will never forget the love and kindness you showed us way, way, before moving to St George....you so often shared loving thoughtfulness in your own gentle way and I have delicious memories of many heartfelt, tearful discussions agonising over family and friends....you simply personified such a Christ like love and encouraged me with that beautiful cheesy saintly smile..... when I was at rock bottom, you helped me to look to heaven.....you kneeled with me... and prayed with me and for me when I felt I couldn't....I will never forget how loved I felt in your presence....Arohanui dear Alesi

Kym Tipene - December 13, 2016 at 01:32 AM



“ My dear sister...you were always the one who said hello to me first. haha. You came to my table as I sat alone during a RS event. That was the first time you had introduced yourself to me as my sister. From there, the YW events that we've attended together and all outdoor activities, you have always been and continue to inspire me. You've always made everyone feel welcome and you would always give a radiant smile. We will meet once again. Love you always sister.

**Rae Matalolo (Heritage Park Branch)** - December 12, 2016 at 03:48 PM

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“ Jasmin lit a candle in memory of Alesi (Sovasova) Taylor



**Jasmin** - December 12, 2016 at 02:11 AM

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“ My Fijian workout buddy...  
Every morning for about 2 yrs I would wake up at 4:45 and come rain, snow, or sleet I arrived at 5 am at her door to pick her up and we would workout together. some mornings felt impossible... impossible because of the ungodly hour...impossible because of the -19 below....impossible because one us might be sick....impossible because of life struggles that evaporated motivation to exist.... whatever our "impossible" we kept this little ritual.... I'll never forget on one rather "impossible morning" I just wanted to walk... can we just walk today Alesi? I say whilst huffing and puffing.... she says to me (in the way only Alesi can....short and sweet but layered ) next lamp post ...let's make it to the next lamp post... so I made it to the next lamp post.... and another ....and another....until we accomplished our hour together.  
Our friendship spanned years...years of impossible...and when ever things would get to a point of breaking there she would be helping ME to the next lamp post... i will forever be indebted and grateful for my amazing friend who despite her "impossible". Kept forging on to the next lamp post...  
I know she has "made it" I know her earthly "impossible" is 2 lamp posts behind her now. I know I'm a better person because I was blessed to walk with such a soul...

**Rebecca AhQuin** - December 09, 2016 at 04:33 PM



“ Ena yalo vosota sara, keitou via vakaraitaki neitou loloma kei vei kemuni na matavuvale Taylor. me na turaga solia na Yalo Tabu mo ni vakila na cecequ ena qauna dredgeo. Vinaka valevu ena nomuni digidigi ena Serenity Funeral Home. Kerekere mo ni ka kua ni madau mo ni kereia e dua ka mai vei au kei iratou noqu Staff.....Au lomani kemdrau Peni T. Malohifo'ou (Kilailakeba)Ratu Umu- Tubou, Lau Fiji.....



**Peni, Shelly & Tu'iniua Malohifo'ou** - December 09, 2016 at 12:53 PM

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“ Alesi my Friend...Your passing seems so surreal. The only anecdote I have for the utter sadness and loss I feel, are the beautiful memories we share. Making strawberry jam whilst our kids watched High School Musical...our long talks about family, life and God's plan for us. I love to remember our families camping together at Whakaipo Bay...Todd was so prepared like the Boy Scout he is and he made us yummy camp oven dinners - even in torrential rain! Haha. I remember your runs up the big hills...you were always really good with running and keeping on running up those hills - much like you did in life. Never giving up. Always looking forward. You are such an amazing woman Alesi. You leave behind a legacy of love and strength and faith. Thank you and arohanui, until we meet again.

**Marion** - December 07, 2016 at 09:38 PM

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“ Adi Waqanivavalagi.....Isa Alisi.... Words really cannot describe the pain of ur departure from my life and the many others that you have left behind... I've known you since your family moved to Suva and lived in Nasese. We were both in the Suva 1st ward and went to the same high school. I remember mostly when I use to hang out at ur house or have a sleep over and those are the memories that I treasured the most. We met again at BYUH and u had Keiki at that time. I also remembered the last time I came to visit you and you thought that I wasn't coming but actually was just running late and minutes from your house. We sat and reminisce about our high school years and about our families. So grateful for Todd and ur children and the wonderful example that you have set in being the best friend and sister in Christ that I have ever encountered. Memories are what we have left to carry us through. You were indeed one of a kind and one of Heavenly Father's kindred spirit that has taught us to become a better person in life. I LOVE YOU FOREVER... n GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN...

KITI BUKARAU

KITI B - December 07, 2016 at 09:11 PM

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“ Alesi was my very first young women's president when I was a little behive. She brought so much happiness and joy into our activities and lessons, I honestly don't know how she did it. I remember one time I was talking to her and I can't exactly remember what I said, but she started to laugh, which got me laughing! And there we were in the hallway of the church just laughing, she made me feel like I was the funniest person alive. I absolutely loved her beautiful smile :)

ashlyn smith - December 07, 2016 at 03:33 PM

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“ I remember my beautiful cousin Adi Alesi when we were brought up together in our beautiful village in Vitogo Lautoka..Adi Alesi is my first cousin from my mum's side and been older than her she always have that love & respect for us..her beauty and personality is beyond compare and that smile you just have to meet her and you know she's got a heart of gold..we always make sure we spend good times together when they visit over at the village because her father my uncle is had a post as FDC officer that made them travel and moved to different places all the time..so when she comes over we always make the most of it..the rain bath the jokes the laughter are just some of those unforgettable memories I will cherish about her..and all that she will say to me cuz will see you again next time we will have more fun..and that's that..we both went our different ways I came to Sydney Aust she went to Hawaii..our hello and goodbyes was through social media and we always promise each other that one day will meet again..and in her words she will say all in God's good time cuz..until now so many things I wanted to say but to my beautiful cuz you in a better place now where there's no more pain and you can do what you do best and smile..I love you I miss you so much as we won't be able to accomplish our promise to meet again in this world but will never miss your smile when I meet you up there that's for sure..heavens gain an angel but we miss our's..till that day cuz Rest Easy keep smiling & Fly high RIP Adi Alesi.. you will be forever in our hearts...

**Seruwaia Sivo** - December 07, 2016 at 11:28 AM

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“ I met Alesi as a 9 year back in a small town of Labasa...so vividly is that memory. .I loved joining them for family home evenings and this was a turning point for me.I decided to be baptised into the gospel. I was baptised in their backyard pool....Lisi was always encouraging me to attend and she was like the big sister for all the little ones..... ....will never forget that big smile...we met again in Hawaii and amazingly..she would bring keiki for us to babysit....all the gals would rushed out to babysit keiki. ..good memories. ..I thank my Heavenly Father for her beautiful life...for touching my life... ..sleep well my sister. ..I will miss you and your smile.....till that glorious morning. .

**Masilina** - December 07, 2016 at 03:38 AM

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“ Isa Lisi we are grateful as a family for the blessing of knowing and learning from you Taciqu! Thank you for teaching us to Live Life, securing our Joy and contentment in the Gospel of Jesus Christ! We shed bitter sweet tears for you knowing that you are no longer in pain and putting a marathon group together right now! We will see you soon my Beautiful Sister but till then Go with all our Love

**Maria Tamanalevu** - December 07, 2016 at 01:37 AM

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“ I got to spend a few Thanksgivings with Alesi and family in Gunlock...I remember her beauty and kindness, how she always remembered details about my little family, and how she would hand wash all the dishes with a smile on her face. I've continued getting to know her through from her amazing family and photos and sharing on Facebook. She hugged at my sister Sarah's funeral. I can't help but imagine how happy Sarah is to see her beautiful face now and get to talk with her again. We are praying for her family, especially her beautiful children, as they miss their mom being here on this earth.

**Clare Reed Rossetto** - December 06, 2016 at 10:48 PM

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“ We. Were friends in the church in fiji. Attending the church, learning the gospel and attending young woman wadva blessing together. Alesi i cant believe you are gone. I still remember hoe loud you used to laugh when we were silly  
Love u always my sister

**rosylin kumar singh** - December 06, 2016 at 09:32 PM

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“ I remember when I first met Alesi and thought she was so quiet...lol ..than I got to know her, soooo funny and so Beautiful! so grateful to know about the Plan of Happiness. Condolences to your family!! xox

**Maiona Fata** - December 06, 2016 at 07:21 PM

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“ My thoughts and prayers go out to your family.

**Jeffrey Wang** - December 06, 2016 at 06:33 PM

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“ Alesi is my Queen. I am her servant. Until we meet again my Queen. Fly high!



**Maggie Qovu** - December 06, 2016 at 06:04 PM



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**Kenai** - December 06, 2016 at 10:54 PM



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Thanks Alesi for such great love and a caring heart to those who come seeking for refuge under your motherly arms. Your smiles speaks thousand of words that is beyond measure to compare. Your sincerity brings hope to those who are challenged in any form. You're one who stood against trialing moments with ease and peace, having faith and trust in Heavenly Father's at every pain that comes your way. I admired and envy that inner ability of such spirit that makes you strong in every way. I love you my sister, until we meet again-Families are Forever! Loloma Lisi vei ira mai cake.

**Meisi Salaba** - December 07, 2016 at 03:19 AM



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Isa..Lisi..Moce ro sis.

**Liz Gittens** - December 07, 2016 at 03:52 AM



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isa alesi.....that beautiful smile always on your face...how quickly and young you are taken away to a better place....so grateful for your family your dad a super humble guy....your mum ...you have her smile....and so many of your brothers and sisters....God be with you ...and your family...Rest in Peace...but there is so much work....loves and lolomas

**kamal kishore shankaran** - December 07, 2016 at 05:47 AM