



# Leslie Jane McNeil

September 3, 1949 - December 27, 2020

Leslie McNeil - Graveside Service

Time: Dec 31, 2020 01:00 PM to 1:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89408967215?pwd=bllzYytneiWZnZtUkhqUzBiMkx3dz09>

Meeting ID: 894 0896 7215

Passcode: 189619

On the afternoon of December 27, 2020, Leslie Jane Squires McNeil passed away due to complications arising originally from a Covid-19 infection. Her family was with her towards the end, and she was not alone at the time of her passing. Everyone that knew Leslie loved her, she touched the lives of many people. She was outgoing, positive, happy, & always full of love. Anyone who spent time with Leslie felt like they were part of the family.

She and her husband Mike loved to travel; aside from being with family, that was their favorite pastime that brought them even closer together. Seldom did they finish a trip before they had ideas on the next one. They visited many countries and continents, including multiple trips to Europe, a cooking trip to Italy, visits to Vietnam, Africa & China, among many others. Leslie was a loving person and always interested in learning about other cultures and people. She loved to travel and every family member has a special memory of a trip with Grandma Leslie.

Leslie loved to stay busy. She had various hobbies, one of which was cooking where she had a reputation for being creative and was able to wing it in the kitchen creating new recipes from anything she could find in the fridge. She enjoyed making meals with Mike and loved feeding her family. They took many cooking classes together. Sunday meals with children and grandchildren have been a staple in their home for many years. Leslie was an amazing seamstress. She was very creative and loved sewing and quilting with her friends. She made scores of quilts, numerous needlepoints and Christmas stockings for all her grandchildren.

Leslie was someone who always wanted to give and serve others. She was always willing to give to those in need and give her time willingly. She never said no to a service opportunity including the chance to serve as a humanitarian, not only locally, but also in Africa and Puerto Rico.

Leslie had a great love for animals and had many cats over the years. She was always willing to help care for animals, she had a huge heart.

Leslie is survived by her husband Michael McNeil, they were married for 55 years: Her son Peter Gordon McNeil (Nickie) and her daughter Nancy Jane Coccimiglio (Jeremy). She was preceded in death by her daughter Jody Lynn McNeil, mother Margaret Belnap Squires, father Gordon Leslie Squires, and brother Michael Squires. She is also survived by her sister Christine Mills, and by eight grandchildren; McKenzie McNeil, Braylen McNeil, Abigail Stewart (Devin), Zachary Coccimiglio, Seth Coccimiglio, Ruth Berehe (Dakota), Jackson McNeil, and Nicholas McNeil. She is also survived by one great granddaughter Chloe Kate Stewart. More than anything, Leslie loved her family and grandchildren.

Leslie knew how to live and she knew how to love. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Graveside Services will be held on Thursday December 31st 2020 at 1:00 at Wasatch Lawn Cemetery 3401 South Highland Drive in Salt Lake City. In lieu of flowers, given Leslie's love of animals we encourage donations to the Humane Society of Utah at [www.uthumane.org](http://www.uthumane.org) or to [www.bestfriends.org](http://www.bestfriends.org)

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

DEC 31. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (MT)

Wasatch Lawn Memorial Park  
3401 S Highland Drive  
Salt Lake City, UT 84106

# Tribute Wall

SB

“ Leslie was a beloved member of our Meals on Wheels volunteer team and she is deeply missed. - shauna brock

Shauna Brock - January 08, 2021 at 11:53 PM



“ Leslie was a beautiful soul that has left us to soon. We will miss her infectious smile and laughter her love and kindness.

Love to the family.

Jeff and Tamara Bruehl



Tamara N Jeff Bruehl - December 31, 2020 at 07:33 PM

KR

“ I shared a memory the other day but don't see it so I will try again. I have known Leslie since primary, and became friends in Junior High. We had such good times those three years. I moved and went to a different high school so we lost contact for a while. Our friend Ruth tried to keep us all together for a time and she moved. Then about six years ago Ruth showed up at my door. She was battling cancer and said I need you and Leslie. What a gift this was for me. We had great times, once we just walked the old neighborhood together. Ruth left us a couple of years ago.

Les and I had lunch in October to celebrate our two birthdays and had plans on meeting in January. Missing both of you Leslie. Love you, Kathy

The service was beautiful. What a legacy. Prayers your way Mike and family.

Kathy Booth Richins - December 31, 2020 at 03:52 PM

MA

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Marsha - December 29, 2020 at 03:55 PM

BR

Nancy, you look like your mom in this picture ❤️

Becky Roner - December 29, 2020 at 06:54 PM

MA

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Marsha** - December 29, 2020 at 03:49 PM

MA

“ I am so blessed to have been reconnected to Leslie in the past 2 years. We were very close as children growing up on Bryan avenue in Salt Lake. Jobs, marriages and moves to other locations separated us for way too many years. I am grateful to Highland High School for bringing us back together. We have enjoyed lunches, dinners, Zoom calls and just catching up since then. I thank each of you in the family for sharing Leslie with us again, at this age, when we truly enjoy the relationships that last over the years. Leslie was always a delight and continued to be throughout her life. I am so glad we had an opportunity to have lunch this December in Salt Lake and I will cherish that time with her forever. My sincere sympathy and condolences to all of you and to those of us who also loved her.

*Marsha Rushmer Stanton*

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**Marsha** - December 29, 2020 at 03:47 PM

JQ

“ If there was a worldwide contest for who gives the best hug, Les would win, no doubt about it. I will always remember the way she hugged and did not let go. So kind, so comforting, so reassuring.

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**Jo-EI Quinlan** - December 29, 2020 at 03:11 PM



“ Leslie Lou, the best mother in law you could ever ask for!!!! I won the lottery when I met your son and became part of your family. Watching you and Mike as a couple made me realize what true love was and I am forever grateful for how you raised your kids. If I can be even a little bit like you, I will have been the best I can be. Your talents and skills adorn our home and I will cherish every gem you made for us! Serving others was just part of your DNA! You had the ability to immediately forgive when someone wronged you, one of your most Christlike attributes. You ALWAYS saw the good in everyone and encouraged me to do the same! Mike protected you so fiercely, you did the same for him! You were a force to be reckoned with and I am grateful you always had my back. I love you Leslie, please help us find a way to bring Mike peace in this unbearable time for him. Please help us move on without you here on earth. You will NEVER leave our hearts!

Nickie McNeil - December 29, 2020 at 03:03 PM

DA

“ Leslie always had a smile on her face that lit up the room and made you feel full. Just by talking to her you felt like you were the most important thing to her in that moment. She always took the time to make everyone feel special and loved. She will be so dearly missed. ❤️

danielle archer - December 29, 2020 at 02:00 PM

KR

I have always loved Leslie. We could just laugh and have a wonderful time anywhere. Our friend Ruth kept us in touch for years, then she moved and we all lost touch. One day about six years ago Ruth showed up at my house. She was battling cancer and told me she needed her friends and asked me to contact Leslie. We had such great times together. We even went back to the old neighborhood and walked and talked. We lost Ruth and now Leslie. We met for lunch in October between our birthday's and planned on a January lunch. I will miss you sweet Leslie until I see you again ❤️❤️❤️ Give Ruth a hug from me. Love you, Kathy Booth Richins

Kathy Booth Richins - December 30, 2020 at 10:17 AM

CW

Dear Mike and family, my heart breaks for your loss of this truly bright light in the world. I have such great memories of the times we spent together, and the ready smile, welcome hugs and laughter always offered by Les. I know how much she loves her family, and hope you will always feel her spirit with you. I pray for strength and comfort for all of you, and please know that she is waiting for you with open arms on the other side.

Cheryl Mandarin Whipple - December 31, 2020 at 11:17 AM

CJ

“ We are fortunate to be recipients of Leslie's beautiful talents and her family's friendship. Her tribute was so beautiful, touching and "so her!" The family did an awesome job telling her story and portraying who she was and the love she had for life, for pets and for everyone she knew. Our family met Leslie and Mike when our daughter Nickie met their son Pete and the rest is history. We have enjoyed many years of sharing family events, holidays, dinners, time at the cabin, (anything families do together) and have many special memories. Leslie was always so full of energy, cheerful to be around, willing to help, served delicious meals, so artistic and decorated a beautiful home. She was also very tender and supportive during sad times. We loved Leslie with all our hearts and are so sorry for her loss. May all of her loved ones be blessed with peace and comfort during this difficult time. May they experience happiness and joy from her memories and from all the beautiful things she made.

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**Carolyn Johnson** - December 29, 2020 at 01:25 PM

MK

“ I have a jigsaw puzzle Leslie shared with me, we both loved puzzles. So many Sunday afternoons the cousins spent roaming 9th Ave while all the grownups sat around and talked at Grandma Belnap's house. We'd play at the elementary school, walk to Lindsay Gardens on M Street, hike down to Memory Grove on the trail at the end of 9th Ave and A Street. We made card table and blanket forts in Grandma's backyard, played with the toys on her corner shelf in the hallway. For years after Grandma died, my family went to Mike and Leslie's on Christmas Day. We had many sleepovers at Margaret's when Sylvia and I were little. So many memories have flooded my mind. Your mother was a caretaker for many many many. She laughed and loved. I'm sure she misses you all so much.

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**Mardi Knudsen** - December 29, 2020 at 10:43 AM

SG

“ As long as I can remember, after Christmas morning gifts, we would dress, and head to Leslie and Mikes, bringing our most favorite treasure from the morning. Walking into the McNeils home with the aroma of baked Christmas morning casseroles, sausage, and goodies still brings nostalgia to this day. We were immediately greeted with a warm hug and enthusiasm, as we shared with Leslie our favorite present from the morning. She would ooo and ahhh at what was usually a doll. Asking it's name, talking about it's outfit and lovely hair. She truly cared and took the time to share in the simple joy of the excitement of our new gift. There were a lot of us Knudsen kids, lol, six to be exact, but she knew what was going on in our lives, and wanted an update from each of us. Even though her house was filled with guests, she had a way of making you feel and know that you mattered and she was so happy to have you there! As I grew, she continued to share that love with the happenings of my own family and children through contact on social media, and at the auto shop. Although she was my Moms cousin, as a child, I always though she was my aunt, because her love and kindness reflected so. When I grew up and was “corrected” of my error, I still saw her as, and called her my Aunt Leslie. Love you forever, Aunt Leslie ❤️❤️❤️  
 Sending all my love and His peace to the McNeil family❤️ We LOVE you!! Sylvia Knudsen Greer



Sylvia Knudsen Greer - December 29, 2020 at 10:32 AM

AK

“ Leslie is my mom's cousin. She is a lovely person. She made everyone feel at home. She made everyone feel Loved. She was always a giver. We routinely saw Leslie when we would take our vanagon to get fixed in the shop. She would hear us talking to mike and come running out from the back to say hello.

More fun though, every year we would go down to their house to have Christmas breakfast. I always looked forward to eating the patty sausage. I remember being excited about that even as a little boy. It was always so good at their house.

After breakfast she would always ask us about our toys and what was going on in our lives. Then she would help set me and my sisters up with the Nintendo to play T&C surf and skate in the back room before all the adults went back to talking.

I was impressed then and I am grateful now for what a positive influence she had on our family and everyone she came in contact with. Truly a light that will be missed. Thank you Leslie.

Alex Knudsen

Alex Knudsen - December 29, 2020 at 10:26 AM



“ I always remember going to Leslie and Mike’s home for Christmas brunch. We were always welcomed with open arms. There was always so much love in their home. She always checked in on Facebook and loved seeing my babies through photos and videos there. Whenever I would run into at the auto shop it was like no time had passed at all. Leslie loved her family deeply and my heart and prayers are with them during this time.



Ali Linthorst - December 29, 2020 at 10:03 AM

RU

“ One of my favorite memories with my sweet grandma❤️! We did some service activities on Christmas Eve and it was the best. She was so happy to help others and she was always for there for the people around her. She was a great example and angel in disguise❤️



Ruth - December 29, 2020 at 02:21 AM



“ So glad we travelled to Puerto Rico together, there’s a picture of my grandma and sweetest Leslie who since I met her always made me feel like one of her own so here is to grandma Leslie who loved everyone and made us all feel special through her service and kindness❤️❤️



Marin Ward - December 29, 2020 at 12:08 AM



“ Cannon beach will forever be our place ❤️ Miss you grandma.



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**Abby Stewart** - December 28, 2020 at 11:34 PM