



## Wesley Howard Johnston

June 19, 1936 - August 10, 2014

Our beloved father, grandfather, brother, uncle, friend, and husband passed away in St. George, Utah from a courageous battle with cancer on August 10, 2014 in his home surrounded by loved ones. Wes was born on June 19, 1936 in Ogden, Kansas to Howard John and Anne Lorraine Steere Johnston. The family moved to Provo, Utah where he graduated from Lincoln High School.

After high school, along with a few great friends, Wes enlisted in the Navy and spent 3 years serving his country on a troop transport ship. While in the Navy, he was stationed in several places and got to sail out overseas to Hawaii, Alaska, Guam, the South Pacific, and the Philippines. After which, he used his G.I. benefits to enroll in college at Brigham Young University where he majored in P.E. and Health and minored in Business and Drivers Education. Later in life he continued his education and attended both BYU for his Masters Degree and the University of Utah for an Administration Specialist Degree.

While at BYU, he met his wife of 50 years, Kathryn Vera Hallman. They were married in the Salt Lake Temple on September 16, 1959. He lovingly cared for her until she passed away in 2010, also from cancer. During their life together here on earth, they raised 4 wonderful children who blessed them with 11 beautiful grandchildren. Wes enjoyed spending time with his family, helping coach little league, taking everyone camping, fishing and hunting, and attending many of their extracurricular activities, like football, volleyball, swimming, softball, and dance.

Wes worked as an Educator for 35 years. During which, he had the opportunity to work in several schools in Enterprise, Utah and Salt Lake City, Utah and in many different areas; teaching, coaching, and administration. He taught P.E., Health, Science, Business Management, Accounting, and Drivers Ed. He also coached football, basketball, track, baseball and wrestling. Later he went into Administration where he enjoyed 18 years working as a Vice Principal at Kearns High, Taylorsville High, and Skyline High Schools. Other than education, Wes owned his own construction company for 30 years which led him to build their first family home in West Valley City, and also the family cabin in Bear

Lake.

Wes was blessed with many interests and talents. He loved to hunt, fish, doing cement work, going out to eat, watching sports on TV (especially BYU), singing, hanging out at his cabin and traveling. He traveled all over the United States and also visited Canada, Mexico, Europe, China, Antarctica, South America, and Israel.

Most of all, Wes loved being a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He was a very Christ-like person and had great faith. He held many positions in the church and served the Lord with great love and without waiver, including serving as a High Priest Group Leader, High Councilman, Bishop and a missionary for Substance Abuse Recovery.

In 2010, Wes met Judith Ferrer and they were married July 10th in the Jordan River Temple. Together they loved to sing, travel and spend time with friends and family.

Wes is survived by his wife Judy, children Mike (Tammy), David (Jan), Jennifer Bergquist (Stephen) and Jill, grandchildren Colby, Nic, Cassie, Andrew, Taylor Ann, Vanessa, Cory, Jordan, Sammie, and Adam, siblings Ken (Barbara), Ron (Cesear) and Zoetta Paxman (Dennis) along with many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by both his parents, wife (Kathy) and one grandson (Dustin).

A viewing will be held in St George, Utah on Thursday, August 14th from 6:00-8:00 pm at the Sunset 8th ward chapel (82 N. Dixie Dr.) Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, August 16th at 11:00 am in the Union Fort 5th Ward Chapel, 6770 South 500 East, Midvale, Utah. Viewings will also be held there on Friday, August 15th from 6:00-8:00 pm and from 9:30-10:30 am prior to the funeral services. Interment will be at the Redwood Memorial Estates Cemetery.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Hunstman Cancer Institute, 2000 Circle of Hope Drive, Salt Lake City, Utah 84112.

# Cemetery Details

## Redwood Memorial Estates

6500 S Redwood Road  
Salt Lake City, UT 84123

# Previous Events

## Family Viewing

AUG **14.** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

Sunset 8th Ward  
82 N. Dixie Drive  
St George, UT 84770

## Family Viewing

AUG **15.** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

Union Fort 5th Ward  
6770 South 500 East  
Midvale, UT 84047

## Family Viewing

AUG **16.** 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (MT)

Union Fort 5th Ward  
6770 South 500 East  
Midvale, UT 84047

## Funeral Service

AUG **16.** 11:00 AM (MT)

Union Fort 5th Ward  
6770 South 500 East  
Midvale, UT 84047

# Tribute Wall

CC

“ *Johnston Family,*

*We are so very sad to hear the news of your Father's passing. Wes was my other father since I grew up next door. There are many great and happy memories we share together. Thank you Wes for the great memories. Our love and prayers are with the family at this time.*

*Love,  
Cal and Carrie Condie*

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**Cal and Carrie** - August 15, 2014 at 05:29 PM

DN

“ *I was saddened to hear that Wes passed away with Cancer. I have been friends with Wes and Kathy since our college days and Kathy and I were roommates at BYU. Wes and Kathy got married a month after David and I. We moved to Cedar City and Wes and Kathy moved to Enterprise. We got together on weekends and ate and played and enjoyed each other.*

*Wes and Kathy moved to Salt Lake and we followed years later with David's job. We enjoyed going out to eat and catching up on our families.*

*I'm sure that they are having a grand reunion with each other and their families.*

*Just remember the happy times and memories you have with them.*

*May the Lord wrap you in the cocoon of his arms and bless you with peace and joy*

*Much love, Deanna Norton*

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**Deanna Norton** - August 15, 2014 at 03:07 PM

RC

“ *I was very saddened to hear about Wes Johnston. I worked with Wes for many years at Taylorsville High School. He was a great Vice-Principal but more than that he was always a good friend. Teachers and students always knew where they stood with Wes but he was always compassionate as well as stern. I will always be grateful that I knew him.*

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**Robert Crane** - August 13, 2014 at 08:19 PM

JE

“ *I was saddened to hear that Wes had passed away. My heartfelt sympathy to his family.*

*Joy Eves*

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**Joy Eves** - August 13, 2014 at 06:14 PM

KB

“ I love this family so much. I lived by them for 10 years. During this time Wes and Kathy helped me through a very difficult time in my life. Their unconditional love and compation showed me who real Christlike people are. I am so grateful Wes and Kathy are now together in Heaven forever.

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**Karen and Jeff Bradford** - August 13, 2014 at 06:03 PM

MW

“ We remember very well liking Wes from the very moment we met him as a young man. We were saddened upon hearing of the passing of Wes and express our sincere sympathies to all of his family. May the Lord be with you at this time of remembering and honoring a great man. Maxine and Grant Weight and family

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**Maxine & Grant Weight** - August 13, 2014 at 03:37 PM

GG

“ Oh how saddened we are to hear of Wes's passing. He was our neighbor, friend, bishop, and boss at the school for many, many years. We had no idea he was battling cancer. We love all the children. Watching Mike, "Tuna", Jenn, and Jill grow up was a pleasure. Their parents taught them well. We appreciated every kindness he and Kathy gave to our family through the years. We had only one time met his 2nd wife and were impressed by her. To the entire family, we send our deepest sympathies in his passing.  
We are blessed by the gospel truths and rejoice he is free from pain and suffering and with Kathy again. May you all be comforted in the warmth of memories.

*Jerry & Glo Greenhagen family - Kami & Matt Jones, Mindee and Ethan Meyer and Holly and Darrell Carver.*

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**Glo Greenhagen** - August 13, 2014 at 08:40 AM