



Gary Keith Hatfield

March 14, 1937 - July 7, 2020

Our family Patriarch, Gary Keith Hatfield, passed away on July 9, 2020 as a result of long time complications of diabetes and ultimately COVID-19.

He was born at home in Mapleton Utah on March 14, 1937 to Keith Winston and Thelma Watkins Hatfield.

He was reared in Springville and Orem until he and his father purchase a large ranch near Ephraim, known as Pigeon Hollow. Gary bought his own 80 acres and worked it to provide for his education, learning how to work hard and appreciate everything he had been given and earned. He graduated from Snow College where he was active in athletics, participated in drama, campus publications and played violin both the College Orchestra and String Quartet. He married his college sweetheart (and High School debate opponent) Janet Benson, on September 21, 1957 in the Manti LDS temple. The young couple attended BYU where Gary graduated in Chemical Engineering. He was President of the Chemical Engineering Society and Chairman of Engineering Week in 1960. Gary became Chief Chemist for the U.S. Dept. of Reclamation in the S.L. Lab and operated the first laboratory computer of its kind in the region and received a commendation for his accurate “hand” titrations. After retirement with the government, he did pharmaceutical research for the U of U and also DataChem.

Always active in community and church work, he was PTA President at Granite Park Jr. H.S., worked in the Sunday school and with Cub Scouts. He and Janet served a full time mission in Nauvoo, IL. and for five years as

docents at the Church History Museum of Art & History. They also served in the baptisteries of the Salt Lake and Jordan River temples for several years. He loved watching his children in all of their activities and spent countless hours supporting them in the bleachers at little league, H.S. and college games. He was extremely proud that all five children served as missionaries and each had earned at least a B.S. degree.

Gary is survived by his wife Janet and children: Karen Nowling (Scott), Gregory Keith (Susan), John Golden (Patty), N. Benson (Anne), and 15 Grandchildren and two Great Grandchildren and Noriko Doi (Narita, Japan) who is loved as a daughter and sister.

Gary is preceded in death by two children: Kelly McCarthy (James) and Gary Benson Hatfield, one Granddaughter Diane Hatfield and by his parents and two brothers R.G. and Dale.

There will be a viewing Saturday, July 18, 2020 at the LDS Chapel 1208 W. 12400 So., from 9:00-10:30 a.m., followed by a service for the family following COVID protocol and internment at the Springville Evergreen Cemetery. Please share memories and condolences at www.serenityfhs.com.

Cemetery Details

Springville Evergreen Cemetery

1997 South 400 East
Springville, UT

Previous Events

Viewing

JUL 18. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (MT)

LDS Chapel-Riverton
1208 W 12400 S
Riverton, UT

Memorial Service

JUL 18. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (MT)

LDS Chapel-Riverton
1208 W 12400 S
Riverton, UT

Graveside Service

JUL 18. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (MT)

Springville Evergreen Cemetery
1997 South 400 East
Springville, UT

Tribute Wall



“ Gary Keith Hatfield

October 05, 2023 at 07:49 PM



“ I worked with Gary at the Bureau of Reclamation where our Water Quality Group studied soils and water for decades. Our biggest assignment was to reduce the salinity of the entire Colorado River, a task that had never been accomplished before. We collected many thousands of water and soil samples which were sent to Upper Colorado Regional Laboratory where Gary worked. Using all that data we wrote a report to Congress and the Colorado River 7 basin States Salinity Forum every 2 years. Salinity Control Projects were proposed and theoretical methods tested and proven with a continual flow of samples to the laboratory. After another 3 decades of constructing salinity control projects we reduced the salinity by near 65 % for current day water use and extended 20 year drought. Without that the winter time fruits and vegetables enjoyed by around 60 million Americans would not be available to only the very wealthy. Gary's decades of work was not high profile where he got the recognition he deserved. Together we accomplished what many called impossible. Today millions benefit in the sustainable agricultural, municipal, and industrial water only possible by our decades of work. I want Gary's family to be proud of this legacy in which Gary played a significant role. Most will soon forget us, but Gary family should maintain this legacy in their family history. Gary a man of faith, rest in peace, your mission accomplished. Jerry Miller

Jerry Miller - July 20, 2020 at 03:07 AM

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“ Gary was a wonderful neighbor and friend to our family in Millcreek for many years. We loved him and will forever treasure our fond memories of him. He taught us many important things by his faithful example for which we are grateful. We send all our love and deepest sympathy to his beloved Janet and your entire family. May heaven's peace comfort each of you at this sad time. You are in our thoughts and our prayers. Sincerely, Albert & Ellen Urquidi

Ellen Urquidi - July 17, 2020 at 07:11 PM

SA

“ Sincere condolences to the Hatfield Family, I am fortunate to have known you.
Sam Arishita, former Granite High Teacher and Coach

Sam Arishita - July 16, 2020 at 12:52 PM