



Luana Vernetta Philipoom

January 19, 1951 - June 28, 2024

On June 28th, 2024, around 4:45 am, our “mum”, grandmother, sister and aunty, returned home to be with her heavenly family.

Mum was born January 19th, 1951 to Louis and Aso Philipoom in Auckland, New Zealand. Luana was the oldest of 6 children. Around her freshman year, she and her family migrated to Salt Lake City, Utah to be near the headquarters of their faith, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Mum was a proud member of the Church and worked in various callings her entire life.

Mum and her family eventually found a home in the Holladay area where she attended Olympus High School. She then attended BYU where she graduated with a Bachelor’s in English.

After attending BYU, mum eventually found her way to Laie, Hawaii to follow her passion: dancing and her Polynesian heritage. Mum performed as a dancer at the Polynesian Cultural Center (PCC). She continued her dancing after the PCC by joining a polynesian performing group that took her all over the US and Canada.

During her time performing between 1980 and 1983, she gave birth to 3 “little fatsos”. After her youngest was born, mum ended her time on the road with

her group and headed to Salt Lake to be near family to take on being a single mother of 3.

Upon her return to Utah, mum eventually found a home with O.C. Tanner as an administrative assistant. She spent the next 35 years at O.C. Tanner until she retired with innumerable memories and life long friends. While working at O.C. Tanner, Mum joined groups like The Utah Polynesian Choir and also Ngati Hiona. Mum never stopped dancing (even after retirement) As well as passing on her talents and knowledge to her kids, grandkids and other family - blood, adopted, and any in between.

Mum was eventually diagnosed with Renal Carcinoma Cancer in 2019. While the cancer treatment slowed the growth, it also caused mum to become a type 1 diabetic. She battled courageously for 5 years against tremendous odds. She recently decided that she was at peace with her fight and ready to rest while waiting for her family on the other side of the veil.

Mum was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her 3 kids: Rena (Meagan), Sita (Shalie), Tanya, her 7 grandchildren: Terina, Oliveti, Losepeli (Jay), Shane, Kalia, Viliamu, Tavita and her great grandbaby, Analina. Her 5 siblings: Glenn (Cameron), Dwight (Nada), Spencer (Dixie), Jeanette Tamowski (David) and Gaelene Hunsaker (Lon) and 18 nieces and nephews.

Family Wake

Saturday Jul 6, 2024

Aunty Jeanettes, 8525 S 1000 E, Sandy, Utah. (Park at the church)

12:00pm to 7:00pm

Viewing the night before

Sunday, Jul 7, 2024

Birchbrook Ward, 6710 S 1300 E, Cottonwood Heights, Utah.

5:00pm to 10:00pm

Viewing & Funeral Services

Monday, Jul 8, 2024

Birchbrook Ward, 6710 S 1300 E, Cottonwood Heights, Utah.

9:00am to 10:00am- Family Viewing

10:00am-11:30am-Public Viewing

11:30-12:00pm-Family Prayer

12:00pm to 1:30pm - Bishops Services

Burial

Monday Jul 8, 2024

Wasatch Lawn Mortuary

1:30pm to 2:30pm

3401 South Highland Dr

Millcreek Ut, 84106

Celebration of Mum

Monday, July 8, 2024

Venue (Next to In the Zone), 4151 S Redwood Rd, Taylorsville, Utah.

6:00pm to 10:00pm

Previous Events

Wake

JUL 6. 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM (MT)

Aunty Jeanettes
8525 S 1000 E,
Sandy, UT

Viewing the night before

JUL 7. 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM (MT)

Birchbrook Ward
6710 S 1300 E,
Cottonwood Heights, UT

Viewing

JUL 8. 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (MT)

Birchbrook Ward
6710 S 1300 E,
Cottonwood Heights, UT

Bishops Service

JUL 8. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (MT)

Birchbrook Ward
6710 S 1300 E,
Cottonwood Heights, UT

Burial

JUL 8. 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM (MT)

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

Celebration of Life

JUL 8. 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM (MT)

Venue (Next to In the Zone)
4151 S Redwood Rd,
Taylorsville, UT 84129

Tribute Wall

TT

“ Aloha Luana! Just saw this news about your passing. Condolences to your family. We have such great memories of you when living in Torrance and especially when we were next door neighbors in Lawndale with you and Lucy and the little ones. So nice to see pictures of you and the other dancers that Virginia posted. Until we meet again at “the big luau” in heaven 💕💕💕💕💕

Tupou Thompson - November 13, 2024 at 02:05 PM

TW

“ Luana, my sweet friend. It was such a pleasure working with you at the O.C. Tanner Co. I'm so grateful for everything you taught me. You were so kind to do the flowers for my youngest daughter's wedding. You will be missed my dear friend. Thanks for just being you! My deepest condolences, Tammy Wollam

Tammy Wollam - July 09, 2024 at 01:41 PM

VA

“ Luana , my dear friend and sister. Our parents have been friends for many years, in Samoa and New Zealand. We would visit when it was conference, your mum made the best meal for us, always felt like family. When you finished church college of Hawaii you came to live with us. Thank you for being my sister, teacher and a awesome friend. You will be remembered for your big smile , your soft words and your big heart. Thank you for being in my life. God bless you till we meet again❤️



Virginia Danielson Auelua - July 07, 2024 at 10:51 PM

LM

“ Thank you sis Luana Philipoom for the memories we have shared
♥ We've been more than besties for almost 50yrs! We are sisters
& my family! We have raised our children together over those years
♥ Through best times & bad! Prayed over our babies! Taken trips &
enjoying the journey God gave! A woman of Faith & love for all that
May need refuge or just a sweet smile ♥ Single Mother who
worked hard take care of her 3. Than when her twin granddaughters
came continued caring and over to 2 more grandsons Losipeli &
Shane! Her babies were her heart & soul. Almost a year ago baby
Analina her 1st great grandchild & Luana couldn't stop smiling ♥.
Her little sunshine ☀
Luana was Christlike, in every way! Loved unconditionally & would
help anyone who needed help!
I love you forever sis & until that Glorious morning!



leta mapu - July 03, 2024 at 08:08 AM