

Peni Tonga Malohifo'ou

October 18, 1955 - January 13, 2019

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On January 13, 2019, our beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend, Peni Tonga Malohifo'ou passed away unexpectedly in Riverton, Utah surrounded by his loving family. Peni was born in Neiafu, Vava'u, Tonga on October 18, 1955 as the youngest son of 'Ana Tamutamu Toki & Tonga Poteki Malohifo'ou. He graduated from Liahona High School in 1973 and served an LDS mission in the Fijian Islands where he opened up the Vanuatu Mission. He continued his education at BYU-Hawai'i and later at BYU-Provo.

On February 04, 1988, he married the love of his life, Shelly Dee Nickle and were later sealed in the LDS Salt Lake temple.

Throughout his life, Peni found ways to always be of service to others and his community, whether it was serving as a musician and dancer at the Polynesian Culture Center or working for companies like Mountain Bell, Quest Communication, Delta airlines and most recently as a funeral Director at the Serenity funeral home. He lived a life full of love and charity for all he came in contact with. He loved to learn about different cultures and spoke five different languages fluently. He was well respected by his family, community members and strangers who benefited from his kindness.

Peni, your whole life was dedicated to serving others and showing love to everyone you came in contact with. Today and forever, we will always love and cherish you.

Preceded in death by his parents, Tonga and Ana Malohifo'ou, his twin brother, Ratu, his brother, Kuli Ha'apai, his mother-in-law, Janet Nickle and his sister-in-law, Jody Timpson

He is survived by his loving wife, Shelly; and his children: Tupouniua (Fane), Kuli (Keili), Lupe Bloomfield (Jerry), Tonga (Vina), Hailey McDonnell (Sam), Logan Ratu (Ana), Tu'iniua Morgan (Arianna), Cory, Clint and nineteen beautiful grandchildren. Tonga, Ema, Luke, Alexia, Sofaia, Mele, Jerry, CC, Kona'i, Lea, Hika, Janet (Lewa), Dominique, Samantha, Peni si'i, Camden, Elly, Nora, Isaac; 4 sisters, Lakalaka, Ngaluafe, Fatafehi, Ivoni and brother Simione.

No words can express the amount of gratitude we feel for all who continue to show love and support for our family. Thank you for your kind words, thoughtful messages, and for lifting us up during this difficult time. We would like to extend a special thank you to Serenity Funeral Home and our Sandy 4th Ward.

Friends and families can visit the Malohifo'ou residence on Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 15086 Rosslyn Cove, Bluffdale, Utah.

Funeral Services will be held at 1050 E. Galena Dr. Sandy, Utah. The funeral viewing will be on Friday, January 18, 2019 7:00pm-10:00pm, the funeral service program will be on Saturday, January 19, 2019 11:00am-1:00pm, followed by the interment at the Crescent View Cemetery 11105 State St, Sandy, Utah.

We would love for you to share your tribute and memories of Peni at: <https://www.serenityfhs.com/obituaries/Peni-Malohifo-Ou/>

Previous Events

Viewing

JAN 18. 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM (MT)

Tongan Sandy 4th Ward
1050 E Galena Dr
Sandy, UT

Bishops Service

JAN 19. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (MT)

Tongan Sandy 4th Ward
1050 E Galena Dr
Sandy, UT

Graveside Service

JAN 19. 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM (MT)

Crescent Cemetery
11170 S State St.
Sandy, UT

Tribute Wall

KR

“ I just found out about Peni's death and don't know if the family will see this, but I am going to write it anyway. We lost touch after graduation as I moved away from Utah and was also out of the country for awhile. I moved back to Utah about 4 months after Peni passed away. I met someone from Tonga recently and I asked if he knew Peni. He did and he told me of Peni's passing. That was a real shock because in my mind Peni was invincible. Peni and I were in the same ward at BYU. We had so many crazy times together! My favorite was when he would play his ukelele with his teeth. That always was a crowd pleaser. I remember so many times walking down the street back to my apartment, when all of a sudden I would hear rapid footsteps behind me and big hands would clamp onto my shoulders and Peni would leap-frog over me while I was standing up! I've never known anyone who could do that! He loved to embarrass me, probably because I would laugh as hard as he did. One day, we were walking down from campus and some girls were walking up on the other side of the street. Peni put his hand on my shoulder and shouted to the girls, "This Kent Rappleye. He love you full-speed! How fast is that? 99 miles per hour!" Then he laughed and laughed and thought it was the funniest thing ever. Oh how that man could make me laugh and smile. I am sure all y'all miss him a great deal. My love goes out to all of Peni's family and friends. What a wonderful light he was in an ever-darkening world!

Kent Rappleye - October 11, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ Peni Tonga Malohifo'ou

October 05, 2023 at 07:49 PM



“ Thinking about you and your family today.. I will always remember him at the basketball games shouting. And coming over to play the uke with a smile on his face and always making us laugh. Please say hi to my mom in heaven and continue to look after your amazing family.



Tiffany Hughes - May 21, 2020 at 11:17 AM



“ Even though I met Peni under unfortunate circumstances and knew him for a short period of time, I have come to love and appreciate him and consider him part of my ohana. He truly is a representative of Jesus Christ with his calm and fun demeanor. I will always remember him.

Peni: Say hello to my son in heaven, Adam Michael Kim and give him a big hug for me! I will tell him to look for you.

'Til we meet again, 'Ofa atu, a hui ho!

Ben Kim - January 21, 2019 at 07:48 AM



“ Farewell Peni. I miss you Brother. You were the best neighbor ever. Truly.
DC

D C - January 20, 2019 at 09:55 PM

KC

“ Dear Peni, we are going to miss you! We did many, many Dove Releases for you at Serenity. Shelly you had a great man, our love and deep condolences to you and your wonderful family. From all of us at White Dove Release Utah. We love you!

Ken & Karen Card - January 19, 2019 at 11:29 AM

KP

“ Peni was such a beloved kind man. I'll always think of him that way.

Kristine Proulx - January 19, 2019 at 10:14 AM

MR

“ We are so sad to hear of your passing Peni, and still in shock. I remember the first time we moved into Sandy 4th Ward, every one told us that we had to meet you as you had family ties in Fiji. I was so glad that we did because you made us feel at home, and I always felt genuine love radiating from you. Thank you for your example to my family and I. I will always remember you, until we meet again xo

Ni qai gole e na vakacegu Ratu Peni Malohifo'ou. Vinaka vakalevu na qaravi tavi i vuravura, vei iratou na nomu matavuvale lomani, vaka talega kina vei ira na lewe vuqa ko ni sa vakalougata taka e na nomu yalo mamarau, yalo dau veikauwaitaki, kei na yalo vaka Turaga. Ofa lahi atu...

Loloma levu mai na Lautiki/Rumble Family. Moce mada vakalailai Peni! ❤️

Mavis Rumble - January 18, 2019 at 10:26 PM

LL

“ Farewell, Peni. The Polynesian community will miss you tremendously. You were always the first to respond and take the burdens concerning their funeral needs. You cared and helped them as if they were your own family. RIP, till we meet again, ‘ofa atu.

Lotu Latu - January 18, 2019 at 06:58 PM

AT

Nothing is more heartbreaking than a loved one leaving you..what hurts more is that you don't know why he's leaving you..BY THE WAY God bless everyone whose mourning the loss of this GREAT COUSIN. And To be taken in such a cruel way, to lose someone so quickly, just devastating. PLS SEND MY LOVE 😍 TO MY DARLING MONTE!! MISSED HIM SO MUCH RIP

Alilia Tukumoeatu - January 23, 2019 at 07:57 AM

SH

“ We were blessed to have met him when Morgan married my best friend. What a funny man! He noticed us one day sitting alone at a birthday party. He sat in front of my husband and I and made our day! Filled it with nothing but laughter! His spirit shined and drew us close to him. We did not want to be away from him. Morgan gets his humor from his father. And what a blessing that is. So blessed to have met him a couple times. He is loved by so many! I am sure he is making the heavens have a good time with jokes and music!

Besos from the Holmes Family 💋💋💋

sheina holmes - January 17, 2019 at 11:10 PM

TM

“ I remember first meeting Peni in clinic years ago. He had that sparkle in his eye and that energy. He told me about being called to serve a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Papau New Guinea and teaching people from cannibal tribes the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He cracked all kinds of jokes about that and just had a happy spirit about him. We had all kinds of discussions over the years, but family was the most common, as well as BYU Football, the Church, and our employments. Peni was such a kind person and I feel honored to consider him my friend forever. My heart goes out to Shelli and the boys and all his family and friends! We lost a special one this week...

Toran MacArthur - January 17, 2019 at 07:32 PM

TW

“ Si'i tuongaane Ofeina Peni Tonga
Malohifo'ou, 'alu aa moho kau Fononga koe
kau Angelo!

Inu a lo'imata manatu atu kiho kii ulungaanga,
neke Ala i Sia Ala I Kolonga! Teke si'i ngalo nai afe? Love for all in
Paradise, Peni hug 'Ali for me Peni! Widow paea I California TFW



Tupou Wolfgramm - January 17, 2019 at 07:05 PM



“ I will never forget the day you invited me to come inside Serenity funeral home as I was waiting outside the parking lot for the rest of my family to arrive & go over the final preparation for our Dad's funeral. Peni took me into the room where my father was & talked for a little bit & expressed his sadness for us. I know the hilarious & showman Peni as we have dealt numerous times with Polynesian entertainment here in UT but never in a time of sorrow & sadness where he truly cares about you. Our Samoan Wards & community will forever miss your Christlike & loving heart. You took care of a lot of people I know & including us. "Ia tu leova i lo ta Va" Uso....Manuia le folauga atu ile maota paia a Le Ali'i.

Oliver Schwenke - January 17, 2019 at 06:59 PM

AM

“ You will be missed so much Peni!!! Love you and your family!❤️ Always put a smile on my face and would make me laugh with his jokes he touched everyone who knew him RIP PENI



Amber - January 17, 2019 at 03:46 PM



“ Meliame Mohi Vaikeli lit a candle in memory of Peni Tonga Malohifo'ou



Meliame Mohi Vaikeli - January 17, 2019 at 12:36 PM



“ *Peni left us with countless memories.... His many talents (dancing, singing, joking, laughing, and daring type too.) made me smile. Especially, when he posted on FB and had to be deleted 'cause a Sister scolded him. lol*



Toka a Tokoua 'ihe nonga moe fiemalie he 'aofinima hotau Tamai Mafimafi. Ofa atu kihe kupu kotoa he Famili Malohifo'ou... Ko Kalaisi Sisu pe te ne 'oatu 'ae loto nonga moe fiemalie 'ihe taimi faingata'a ni. 'Oua na'a tau hanu ka tau lau pe koe fakakoloa manatu ko 'etau 'i heni koe nunu mo vete pe. God Be With You All.

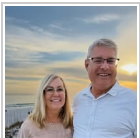
Maika Tukuafu - January 17, 2019 at 11:41 AM



“ *Tupou Neiafu Otutaha lit a candle in memory of Peni Tonga Malohifo'ou*



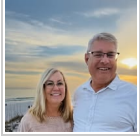
Tupou Neiafu Otutaha - January 17, 2019 at 10:24 AM



“ *Larry Hansen lit a candle in memory of Peni Tonga Malohifo'ou*



Larry Hansen - January 16, 2019 at 07:51 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Larry Hansen - January 16, 2019 at 07:03 PM