



Ponaivao Filiaga Soi

November 2, 1950 - August 24, 2014

Ponaivao Filiaga Soi returned to our Heavenly Father on August 24, 2014 in Provo, Utah, at the age of 63.

Pona entered this life on November 2, 1950 in the village Amaua, American Samoa. Growing up in the villages of Amaua and Auto, Pona, learned to nurture all of the great talents and characteristics that would guide her life, among those, she learned to fear God, cherish family, and treat everyone with respectful kindness.

As she entered womanhood those great lessons learned while in her youth shaped her future career. Graduating with high honors from Mapusaga High School and then continuing her education at the Church College of Hawaii, Pona eventually arrived at Kaimuki High School, working both as a counselor and teacher.

Amidst her career Pona found her soul mate and was soon married to Motusaga Soi Jr. Pona and Motu established their family, bringing four wonderful children into the world, Patrick Muagututi'a Isaaka So'i, Joanne Fofoaivaoese Manaiana Soi-Toa, Motusaga Brian Soi IV, and Justin Shane Lotolelei So'i. Pona found her true calling in life as a mother and later as a grandmother.

Many memories are shared of Pona's motherly love as it extended to nieces,

nephews, and even ward youth. Her stern, heartfelt counsel was often received by any and all youth that Pona came into contact with. Pona was well known for her great enthusiasm as a cheerleader at sports games, trademarking the cheer, "One, Two, Three, Kick The Referee!" and her enthusiasm could be heard from one side of a stadium to the other.

Pona remained God fearing down to her last moments spent here in this life. Serving faithfully in many various callings within the church, Pona's unwavering testimony could be felt by all. One of her favorite pastimes was to sing the hymns of the church, which she did wherever she went. Her strong alto completed the harmony in all choir settings.

Pona's physical presence will be greatly missed but her phenomenal legacy will continue on.

Pona is survived by: Motusaga So'i Jr. – Husband

Children:

Patrick Muagututi'a Isaaka So'i (Margaret)

Joanne Fofoaivaoese Manaiana So'i-To'a (Jimmy)

Motusaga Brian So'i IV (Suliana)

Justin Shane Lotolelei So'i (Kathreen)

Siblings:

Sister - Logotaeao Filiaga Atuaia (Fatu)

Brother - Manaia Jr. Filiaga (Elizabeth)

Sister - Helen Filiaga

Sister - Elaine Luane Filiaga-Gray

Brother - Carl William Filiaga (Alisi)

Sister - May Leonia Filiaga.

Joanne Ah Fook Filiaga (Step-Mother)

Preceded in death by:

Father: Manaia William Filiaga

Mother: Misileti Taupo

Brother: Chuck Norman Filiaga

Funeral services celebrating Pona's life will be held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints located at 80 South 280 East Orem Utah 84058 on Tuesday, September 9th 2014. Family Services 830am-1130am / Funeral Services will begin at noon.

Pona's Body will be laid to rest in the Orem City Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Orem City Cemetery

1520 N 800 E
Orem, UT

Previous Events

Family Viewing

SEP 9. 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM (MT)

Orem 9th Samoan Ward
80 South 280 East
Orem, UT 84058

Funeral Service

SEP 9. 12:00 PM (MT)

Orem 9th Samoan Ward
80 South 280 East
Orem, UT 84058

Tribute Wall



“ *Ponaivao Filiaga Soi*

October 05, 2023 at 07:49 PM



“ *Even though we really have not kept in touch, I remember Pona especially when I lived in Samoa when I was a kid.....she was special to me, and I looked up to her.*

William Filiaga

William Filiaga - September 18, 2014 at 12:03 AM



“ *Omg..I didn't know she passed away..but she was a sweet lady..she was on the same hospital floor with my dad and dialysis..I would visit with her and laugh with her.. I will miss her sweet smile RIL Sister Soi you will be truly missed! Love Charlene Tuinei Fuimaono*

Charlene Fuimaono - August 31, 2014 at 06:24 PM



“ *The last time I saw Aunty Pona, I went to visit her at Jojo's and she just got out of the hospital. I took 2 boxes of donuts and we sat there and ate donuts and reminisced on the crazy adventures of Will (my crazy brother in the army) and Jojo and all the boys growing up! We laughed and had a fun visit.....I'm still in shock that she is gone. She was one of the strongest people I know! I will miss her and I pray for peace and comfort to all her family and loved ones mourning her death. I especially pray for my cousins, Pat, Jojo, Brian and Skinny...mom is in a much better place and she is finally at peace and without pain. She's now able to be with each of you in all that you do and wherever you go in this life. I love you all and I love you Aunty Pona! You will be missed but I know I will see you again.*

Omai Crichton - August 31, 2014 at 01:30 PM