



Ray Humpherys

September 12, 1951 - July 24, 2018

Ray was born in Afton, Wyoming on September 12th, 1951 and grew up in Etna which are both in the beautiful Star Valley. He was the seventh of nine living children of Dean and Neva Clark Humpherys. He became lost on a family backpacking trip and was found July 24, 2018 after a massive search of the Hidden Lake area in the Uinta Mountains.

Ray was raised on a farm learning the value of hard work. From this, Ray could fix anything in the most ingenious ways and he would never give up until it was fixed.

His family, backpacking, family reunions, teaching P.E. to his elementary students, the Utah Jazz, BYU sports and serving in his church were his passions.

Ray married Becky Jones on August 22, 1975 and they became the parents of five children and grandparents of soon to be seventeen adorable grandchildren. He loved holding them and being playful with him. They loved playing the same games over and over again. On their swing set he would let them play "kick grandpa in the bum-be-do." After they kicked him he would stagger forward like they had given him a swift kick in the pants. He would moan like it hurt and they would laugh and laugh but he enjoyed it so much that he'd let the next child do it. When it was time for them to go home and

they were in their cars they couldn't leave without being able to blow him back away from the car. He would stagger backwards like it was a big whirl wind. He would let them do this several times and then they could pull away from the house as happy grandchildren.

Ray and his brothers-in-law, Mike and Scott, started the annual family backpacking trip in 1989. He never missed one for all thirty years. He's shared his passion with his daughters, son and grandchildren.

There was rarely a week that went by when he didn't call his brothers and sisters to get an update on their lives. He was always looking forward to seeing them for their annual family reunions.

Ray worked as an elementary and P.E. teacher for over forty years. He enjoyed his co-workers who quickly became life-long friends. He loved his students. They loved him back because he made them feel important which gave them self-confidence. He even has kept in touch with many of his former students throughout the years.

Ray was a faithful member of the LDS Church and shared his love of the Gospel with everyone through his friendliness and willingness to serve them. He served an LDS mission to Pennsylvania and diligently fulfilled callings in the church throughout his life. He was a Scout Master many times over many years and was able to share his knowledge and love for the outdoors with the scouts. He enjoyed serving as a temple worker at the Jordan River Temple.

He is survived by his wife, Becky, and children Lisa, Michelle (Ben), Stephanie (Drew), Melanie (Elliot) and Ryan (Natalie) and their children along with his siblings Nadean, Sharon, Ken (Myrna), Florence (Larry), Gerald (Tena) and Newell (Sally), their children and grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers; Gordon, John (Jan), and Robert (Marisela).

His family would like to thank all those who searched for him and all the service others have given. They have felt the immense love that they have for Ray and his family.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be given on the "Pray for Ray" Facebook page Go Fund Me account to support the Garret Bardsley Foundation.

Viewings will be held Sunday, July 29 from 6:00-8:00 PM and Monday, July 30 from 10:30-11:30 AM. Funeral services will be on Monday, July 30 at 12:00 PM. All services will be at the LDS stake center 2450 West 10400 South.

Cemetery Details

South Jordan City Cemetery

10630 S 1055 W
South Jordan, UT 84095

Previous Events

Viewing

JUL **29**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

South Jordan Stake Center
2450 W 10400 S
South Jordan, UT 84095

Viewing #2

JUL **30**. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (MT)

South Jordan Stake Center
2450 W 10400 S
South Jordan, UT 84095

Funeral Service

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

South Jordan Stake Center
2450 W 10400 S
South Jordan, UT 84095

Tribute Wall



“ *Ray Humpherys*

October 05, 2023 at 07:49 PM



“ *My children were all lucky enough to have Mr Humphreys as their PE teacher at Eaglecrest, and they all have many good memories of his class.*

As parents, we knew he cared and wanted to give the kids a chance to feel great about themselves when they were in his class. He taught them to challenge themselves too, which built a lot of confidence. My kids always smiled when talking about the day's activities in PE. Often PE was the bright spot in a tough day.

We hope you know what a special teacher he was to our kids and how greatly we value his service to our children.

We have prayed for you and for him, and feel so sad about losing him, and for what we are sure is a tremendous loss to your family.

We pray that you will find comfort and peace at this difficult time.

We thank you so much for allowing him to be a part of our kids' day.

~Chad and Shelley Radmall

Shelley And Chad Radmall - July 30, 2018 at 05:51 PM

BS

“ To my dear Humphreys family! I hardly know what to say! When I first heard of Ray's disappearance I thought of my Humphreys family from Star Valley, Wyoming, and I said to myself there are probably lots of people with that name. However, because I was curious, I followed the news media to find out information as the days rolled by. Then NaDean called my sister, Colleen, in Rexburg when he was found and Colleen called me, and I called NaDean. My heart goes out to the family and I know that my Dad, Walter Clark, is watching from heaven. He always loved the Humphreys and had a couple of the siblings work for him in Squirrel, Idaho as they matured, and even supported one on his mission to Australia. His Star Valley families were always in his heart and I know his spirit will touch some during the funeral today. As I write this today, my heart is full! I really want to be there with you physically but my health isn't good. I am there in spirit. I love you all!

Beth Clark Sibbett & husband Lyman Clyde Sibbett

Beth Sibbett - July 30, 2018 at 12:16 PM

LI

“ I'll never forget the kind words Michelle and Lisa sent to me when they realized that my brother, Mel Heaps, had been missing in the same area since July 31, 2017. I have never met the Humphreys family, but they have a special place in my heart. We will share the sadness along with the happy times remembering our loved ones every July from now on. I doubt we will ever find my brother, but there are years of wonderful memories I shared with him

Sincerely,

Linda Brunner Gilbert-Irons



Linda Irons - July 30, 2018 at 12:11 PM

 Shera
Wright

“ 2 of my children had Mr Humpherys for their PE teacher at Eagle Crest. He was one of my daughter’s favorite teachers ever! She would come home from PE and be so happy and talk about how she did this and that- things she didn’t think she could do! He confidence grew and grew thanks to Mr Humpherys believing and encouraging her. My other child as autism and he was having a very difficult year! I had to walk him into class everyday! His class had specialties first thing in the morning. Many mornings, I would walk down the hall with my son (with his infant brother in my arms). My son would not go into PE. I was frustrated, confused and near the edge of tears many days. Mr Humphreys would always give me a smile, tell me it was okay and my son would be well taken care of, then help carefully pry my son off of me and take him into class. Many days, I would leave the school in tears thankful for this man, who with a smile and kind words, could help a frazzled mom and help her autistic son feel welcome, needed and special just they way he is! He didn’t care that my son wore his coat everyday through PE! He knew it helped him and just wanted my little boy to feel good about being there! Thank you, Mr. Humpherys, for helping an upset mom, loving the children, and teaching us all how to be better people—inside and out! We love you, Mr Humpherys!

Shera Wright - July 30, 2018 at 11:38 AM

MC

“ I had the opportunity and privilege to work with Ray teaching square dancing and line dancing at South Kearns Elementary. What a pleasure it was to work with him. Always had a smile on his face, willing to help the kids learn the dance and as we all know elementary students are not the easiest to get to dance together, but Ray had a way with the students that they would dance together and they did several performances in assemblies and did very well he was a great teacher and a great man. An example to us all of how we should live our lives. My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, and children, and grandchildren.

Marjorie Craig - July 29, 2018 at 08:58 PM

 Katie Shelley

“ 4 of my 5 children enjoyed Mr. Humphreys as a PE teacher. A few years ago we moved our children to a charter school. My daughter's desire and love for school fell and she became depressed. She would often talk of missing her teacher, naming Mr. humphreys. We returned to eaglecrest the next year. When she saw him in the hall she ran to him me gave him a big hug. He knew her by name and told her he had missed her last year. It meant everything to her that she was wanted and missed. He was an important part of my children's lives. We were camping just over the ridge on Thursday when he went missing. Our children immediately began praying for him to be found and the adults in our group went looking. Their prayers continue today for you peace and comfort. Thank you so much for sharing such a wonderful man with us. We are deeply sorry for your loss and pray for the comforting arms of our Savior to be with you.

Katie Shelley - July 29, 2018 at 08:24 PM

“ First of all I would like to express my profound sorrow to Ray’s wife Becky, his children and grandchildren. I have watched the events of the last week and a half unfold and like many others hoped and prayed this would have a better ending. I am simply heartbroken as are so many who have known and loved Ray over the years.



As a group Title 1 came to South Kearns in the fall of 1989. I was in that group. One of my first memories of Ray was seeing a banner over the door of his classroom announcing “It’s A Boy!!” Everyone was so excited for him and what a great way to meet someone. From that point I worked with Ray for over 20 years, many of them in his classroom. It was a favorite assignment for anyone who was chosen to work along side him. He was such a wonderful teacher and loved by the hundreds and hundreds of students that were lucky enough to end up being taught by him.

The memory I would like to share with you is one that will put a smile on any Title 1 aide’s face. We are all retired now but I have been in contact with them this past week. Several times during the year we would have a pot luck lunch in the Title 1 room. It always seem to get back to Ray from one of us that he should come down and join us. You could pretty much figure he would appear at the door with a look of guilty pleasure on his face. He’d come to get the goodies! It happened time and time again and we just loved having him join us. He especially loved the sweets. And he never seemed to put on a pound!

I’m not alone when I express what a privilege it was to have known him and worked with him. Ray will always be thought of with love and respect and will always leave a smile on my face thinking of the many memories we shared and to be so lucky as to have known him.

MF

“ *Mr. Humpherys was my 5th grade teacher at South Kearns Elementary 94-95. He was one of my all time favorite teachers! He was always so kind and patient even when I teased him and gave him a hard time. He was so nice and honestly one of the best people I've ever known! I loved going back to visit him for years after I moved on from elementary. I've shed many tears since the news of his missing broke and even more after he was found. I am grateful that he was found though so we all (especially his family) can have some closure. He will never be forgotten and will always be sorely missed! We love you Mr. Humpherys!!!*

Monica Fletcher - July 28, 2018 at 11:15 PM

BH

“ *Our sincere sympathy to the family of outstanding cousins. Though our association was limited to the missionary experiences with our son Richard Charles Humpherys and Ray, the extended family, Uncle Ray, Aunt Eliza, Dean & Neva, June and Ron and a host of Star Valley folk, always were on our must visit relative list. Yes a vacancy now exists, we have difficulty in understanding how and why. Although we may be separated by a few miles, we extend our love as part of a great family, a feeling that will accompany us into the eternities. Your country Cousins from Cache Valley. Boyd & Joan Humpherys, Uncle Charley's bunch, spread out extensively.*

boyd v humpherys - July 28, 2018 at 03:20 PM

BK

“ All three of my kids had Mr. Humpherys for a PE teacher. He was always kind and they loved when they had PE. My middle son has seizures and during one of his most difficult years he had several seizures during PE. I will always be grateful for the kindness and compassion Mr. Humpherys showed to him and how he calmly took care of him and watched out for him until I could get to the school. Mr. Humphreys was always kind and friendly to our family and I never saw him without a smile. Your family has been in our prayers and we hope you find peace at this difficult time.

Barbara Kohler - July 28, 2018 at 01:50 PM

AH

“ Mr. Humphreys taught 3 of my children at Eaglecrest Elementary. Both of my older girls spent many, many recesses voluntarily in helping Mr. Humphreys set up and put away things for class. They loved just being around him. They were driven to get their Presidential Fitness Awards FOR Mr Humphreys, not out of requirement since it was optional, but to be more or do more FOR him. This most recent year, Mr. Humphreys chose my daughter Olivia for the PE Outstanding Student Award and it was such an honor to her to be chosen by him. He taught the kids so much more than physical education. He had a profound effect like that on so many students he taught and they were thrilled to have him year after year for PE Specialty. His presence will be truly missed at our school.

Ashleigh Hatch - July 28, 2018 at 01:14 PM



“ 7 files added to the album Memories Album



Serenity Funeral Home - July 28, 2018 at 09:36 AM

 Lesli
Taylor
Morris

“ *I am in the South Jordan stake and I've never met the Humphrey family. I've have been following the story daily hoping and praying he would be found alive. I am sorry for your loss. May God bless and comfort the Humphrey family.*

*Lesli Morris
South Jordan 7th Ward*

Lesli Taylor Morris - July 27, 2018 at 11:30 AM

RS

“ I am deeply saddened by the departure of a great friend and great man. Ray and I taught together in Granite School District, played basketball together with a group of teachers, went to Mill Hollow together, and worked together at the Jordan River Temple. When we could, we would sit and chat in the temple about life, and the opportunities given to us here on earth. I am sure that he will be very busy...and happy...in his new location.

Sincerely,

Richard Summers

Richard Summers - July 27, 2018 at 11:15 AM

DW

“ Ray was one of the best friends I have ever had. We met in college and took many classes together. Our families did a lot together for quite a few years. Becky and Madalon would shake their heads at our crazy kind of fun. He was always kind and happy. He had a great sense of humor and laughed a lot. We enjoyed fishing, hiking, and hunting together. We enjoyed sports together. We enjoyed our young families together. They are such good memories. On cold wintery days at BYU we would always go and get a bowl of corn chowder. He always said, "this is so good on a cold day". I'll really miss Ray.

Dave Wilson

Dave Wilson - July 27, 2018 at 12:02 AM

JB

“ I had the opportunity to teach with Ray at Eaglecrest Elementary. My students were always excited to have PE Soocialty. He was very kind to the students and me. I could always use the PE equipment. His classes were so fun I would sometimes do the PE warm up with my students. He always had a smile. I'm thankful I got to know him & be a better person by knowing him. He will be missed. I pray that you feel peace through the Plan of Happiness & feel the Savior's arms around you as you experience this great void in your life.

Sincerely,

Jenny Bailey

Jenny Bailey - July 26, 2018 at 07:29 PM