



Tafilele M. Fesagaiga Matagi

April 22, 1943 - November 1, 2023

On November 1, 2023 Our father passed away peacefully at 11:37 p.m. surrounded by his loving children, family, and friends. Tafilele Fesagaiga Fatu Matagi, whose life was a testament to love, devotion, and the enduring power of family. Born on April 22, 1943, in Tula, American Samoa. Tafi was the oldest child of Fatu Fesagaiga Nafaileasoilemalo Matagi and Puapuaga Lepelea Salanoa. Tafi's siblings are: (oldest to youngest) Matagi Matagi (deceased), Molonae Matagi, Eliu Matagi, Galu Matagi, Malepe Matagi, Konefesi Matagi Petelo (deceased), Randy Matagi, Aveolemalamalamaola Matagi Johnson, Eletise Matagi Wolman, Samuelu Matagi (deceased), Heli Matagi, Mose Matagi, Ieremia Matagi, Faiaoleasolemalo Matagi (deceased), and Maata Matagi (deceased). His journey was a beautiful tapestry woven with the threads of love, commitment, and the blessings of two significant chapters in his family life, each with its unique joys and challenges.

In his initial union with Tua Leitu Taeoalii, Tafi and Tua started on a journey in Salt Lake City, Utah that brought forth seven children. Their children are from the oldest, Feleti Fatu Matagi, Cecilia Matagi (deceased), Tafilele Klay Matagi, Rachel Matagi, Mate Matagi (deceased), Sinautuloa Matagi, and Anita Matagi.

In a heartfelt ceremony on December 11, 1982, Tafi united in matrimony with his eternal companion, Apaula Peala Matagi. Their union was a blessed one, and together, they welcomed into their loving embrace five remarkable

children: Zion Joe Matagi, Loimataoapaula Area Matagi, Puapuaga Region Matagi, Ezra T. Matagi (deceased), and Nephi Paaniani Matagi. Tafi's heart knew no bounds, and he wholeheartedly embraced this new chapter in his life in Samoa with the same unwavering love and dedication that defined him.

Together with his beloved Apaula, they built a home in Pago Pago, this was not an easy task as they had to carry bags of cement and sand up an unpaved road up the mountain. This was a testament of Tafi's hard work and steadfast dedication to his family. This home stood as a symbol of his commitment to providing for and nurturing his loved ones. In this loving environment, his children learned the values of hard work, dedication, and family unity, which he held dear.

Tafi was not only a devoted husband and father but also a devout member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. His faith was a cornerstone of his life, guiding his actions and decisions and inspiring those around him. He found great comfort and solace in the teachings and principles of his faith. Tafi was known as a jokester, always ready to bring a smile to the faces of those around him with his humor and wit. He is a "Tama ole Pago Pago Aeto." He could be stubborn at times, but it was always in the service of what he believed was best for his family. He consistently put his family's well-being before all else, and his love and dedication were unwavering.

Today, as we remember Tafi, let us also celebrate the rich family life he enjoyed. His family was his greatest treasure, and he leaves behind a legacy of love, unity, and enduring bonds. May his memory continue to inspire us to cherish and strengthen the ties that bind our own families, just as Tafi did throughout his life.

In conclusion, we say farewell to our dear great grandfather, grandfather, father, uncle, and brother, Tafilele Fesagaiga Matagi. May you rest in peace,

knowing that your love, humor, and unwavering dedication to family and faith will forever be a guiding light for all of us. We take comfort in the thought that Tafi is now reunited with his eternal love, Apaula, in a place of eternal joy and love.

Tafilele's Living Children/Grandchildren/ Great Grandchildren

- Feleti and Ilaise Matagi's Children: Sulia Leitu, Fatu'I Saione, & Ilaise Leatapo
- Tafilele Klay Matagi's Children: Scia, Tasi, & Tea
- Rachel and Shem Johnson's Children: Koki Leilani & Rachel Salote
- o Koki Leilani & Nik Garcia's Children: Mika Garcia, James Garcia, and Margarita Garcia
- Sinautulua's Children: Jared Seminale Matagi, Naituveta Siliala Haskins, Waylend Koliata Haskins, Sivamaia Edith Lorraine Haskins
- Anita's Children: Morgan Jace Benson & Mariah Lee Benson
- Zion and Sherilyn's Children: Cianna Wilma, Maliah Aveolela, Jabari Tafilele, Zion Jr. Maez
- Loimataoapaula Matagi
- Puapuaga Matagi
- Nephi Matagi

Previous Events

Family Service

NOV 7. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (MT)

Highland East Stake Center
4679 West 11000 North
State Road 92
Highland, UT

Viewing

NOV 7. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (MT)

Highland East Stake Center
4679 West 11000 North
State Road 92
Highland, UT

Bishops Service

NOV 7. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (MT)

Highland East Stake Center
4679 West 11000 North
State Road 92
Highland, UT

Burial

NOV 7. 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM (MT)

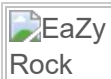
Highland City Cemetery
6200 W 11000 N,
Highland, UT

Tribute Wall



“ I remember when I was coming to go to BYU my freshman year. Your dad always made me feel welcomed every time. What I will always hold dear to my heart is the fact that he and your mom have always had my fathers back more than anyone m. Cant express enough my gratitude to you guys! ❤️

Travis Tuiloma - November 07, 2023 at 09:18 PM



“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



EaZy Rock - November 04, 2023 at 06:48 PM

ZM

❤️ ¹⁰⁰thank you.

ZION MATAGI - November 04, 2023 at 08:12 PM

KJ

I'll always remember visiting Tafi at his home in Hunter and seeing his umu pit in the floor of the garage. And then being served fishhead soup for dinner. Boy, did Tafi laugh when I almost lost my lunch looking at that soup. I'll always remember how happy he was and how much he loved being around family.

Kimball Johnson - November 06, 2023 at 01:14 PM

AJ

hi everyone, to my brother Tafilele he baptized me in my one and only favorite place homeland American Samoa. And i always looked up to him as a protector. I miss you very much. I'm so glad we had some time to spend together when kimball and i got the news you had a stroke. Till we meet again my brother. I'm so grateful dad and mom had our family sealed with all the sacrifices they made to make it happen. I love you.

Aveolemalamalamaola Matagi Johnson - November 06, 2023 at 01:30 PM

MM

“Tafi helped me (Malepe) when I was a young boy and showed me how to fish. And showed me how to fight a dog by giving the dog my fish. He showed me how to hunt birds with a 12 gauge shot gun. And shoot and catch the bird at the same time. And also a wild boar by digging a skinny hole under ground so the boar would fall in the hole and put sticks on top of the hole and put banana leaves on top of the sticks and put a chicken on top of the sticks. No bullets were wasted. We wish the family well and our condolences. Malepe and Marlana Matagi



Malepe Matagi - November 04, 2023 at 03:53 PM

ZM

Thank you uncle & auntie...alofa atu ❤️ 100.

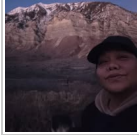
ZION MATAGI - November 04, 2023 at 05:33 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Funeral Service Program



Freddy Poi - November 04, 2023 at 02:06 PM



“ 14 files added to the tribute wall



Puapuaga Matagi - November 04, 2023 at 11:23 AM

AM

Pua, I love all of these! You all did so well taking great care and the love shines thru so beautifully 💕💕💕

Anita Matagi - November 04, 2023 at 01:21 PM

AM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Anita Matagi - November 04, 2023 at 11:20 AM

AM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Anita Matagi - November 04, 2023 at 11:19 AM

EaZy
Rock

“ 23 files added to the album Fred's Pictures



EaZy Rock - November 03, 2023 at 07:51 PM