LaVerne Frances Pia Bellamy

October 22, 1922 ~ March 2, 2019

LaVerne Frances Pia Bellamy passed away peacefully March 2, 2019 after a short illness. She was born in Salt Lake City, Utah on October 2, 1922 to Frank Xavier and Kathryn de Jong Pia. She was raised in a loving family with three sisters, Ruth (Joseph) Shool, Julia (Edward) Lacey, Louise (Van) Welch; and three brothers: Alfonso (Allie), Leroy (Zeze), Maurice (Carol). In this home she was taught the lessons needed to be a strong faithful daughter of God, be productive and busy, and love life.

After graduating from South High School LaVerne joined the work force \"slinging hash\" at Woolworths on Main St. When World War II broke out, she supported the war effort working at the Small Arms Factory inspecting ammunition sent to defend freedom. It was during this time that she met her eternal companion Sidney John Bellamy. SJ was a GI in the Army Air Corps training with the 509th Composite Group at Wendover Field. Their relationship grew through their daily letters (with stamps attached upside down) into a lasting love. They were married on July 27, 1946. Their marriage was later solemnized in the Salt Lake Temple.

Mom then turned her focus on creating a family and raising seven children, Pamela (George) Armstrong, Valerie (Terry) Hoecherl, William (Patricia), Brian (Claudia), Corinne Anderson, Jeffrey (Rita), and Marisa Wilson; losing a son, Kevin at birth. She drew strength from motherhood and became a gifted seamstress, a fantastic cook, focused housekeeper and groundskeeper passing these skills on to her children.

Through this season of her life she was an active member of the Mountain View II Ward serving in many different callings in the Primary and Relief Society and at 60 she began 20 years of dedicated service to her Savior in the Salt Lake Temple. Her love of the Savior and His gospel was instilled in the hearts of her children.

Mom always taught us by example to her last day. There are many stories that typify the life of this dedicated matriarch. At 96 we would find her tending her garden, adding colorful touches each spring, or sweeping her driveway in the fall, and finally exercising on the cycle during rehab. Her hands and mind were always busy, even while relaxing, with puzzle books and knitting projects. Her drive to make each day valuable and positive was a motivating force in her life. She lived as she was taught, and she taught her posterity these values.

LaVerne lost her sweetheart on February 4, 1982 and others along life\s path but is survived by her beloved children, 32 grandchildren, 82 great grandchildren, her brother Maurice Pia and sister-in-law Maria (Zeze) and many nieces and nephews.

To our Mom, we love you! Pam, Val, Bill, Brian, Cory, Jeff, and Marisa.

From your 32 grandchildren, Nanny you are unique and special.

From your 82 great grandchildren you are a living legend! We will miss you.

Family and friends are invited to a gathering which will be held at Larkin Mortuary, 260 E South Temple, Thursday, March 7, 6:00 , 8:00 p.m.

Graveside services at Wasatch Lawn Memorial Park, 3401 Highland Drive, Friday, March 8, 11:00 a.m.