

Barbara Jo Geertsen

April 2, 1949 ~ December 19, 2021

Barbara Jo Bateman Geertsen died Sunday, December 19,2021 in Costa Rica while on vacation. Born April 2, 1949 in Ogden, Utah, the daughter of Joseph Eldon Bateman and Dorothy Ovena Jorgensen Bateman. Married Leonard Ray (Lenny) Geertsen for eternity July 12,1968 in the Salt Lake Temple.

Barbara loved the Lord and was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She frequently shared her testimony with her family, friends, and others she had just met.

As an adolescent, she loved horses and rode her own horse Sugar, in the 24th of July parade with her Midvale Equestrian Club. She also loved the many boating, camping, fishing and hunting trips she shared with her family. After her marriage, Lenny shared those trips with her family. On one such trip, her father, Joe, suggested that it was about time for him to buy the Starcraft aluminum boat and make it a fun activity for their growing family. As Barbara's kids grew, water-skiing trips to Flaming Gorge and Lake Powell were added to the mix. The week-long Morris family reunion at Bear Lake became a favorite for her family, and this past Summer her family enjoyed their 51st annual trip.

Barbara loved high school and her many friends at Hillcrest where she led the Huskies in cheers. She graduated from Hillcrest in June, 1967 and later that summer was honored by being selected "Miss Midvale". She was headed to the "Miss Utah" pageant, but those plans were interrupted when Lenny proposed to her on Christmas Eve. She gave up her "Miss Midvale" crown to marry her sweetheart.

Barbara first met Lenny on a blind date set up by her Alpha Chi Omega sorority sister, Marlene Geertsen. It was Halloween Night, and when he came to pick her up, he was met at the door by Barbara's mom, who proceeded to apply Elmer's glue to his upper lip and chin. Soon he was wearing a moustache and a goatee. That was her first glimpse of him. They had a memorable first date as the "Two Musketeers''. Lenny moved quickly after that and was deeply in love in a very short time. After only 8 weeks, on Christmas eve he proposed to her.

Her family came quickly. She had 5 children, giving birth to her last child 2 days after her 29th birthday. She wanted an even larger family but endometriosis stopped that dream. She loved her family that has now grown by 19 grandchildren.

At age 22, with 2 kids in tow, Barbara wrote and directed her first roadshow for the Parley's 5th Ward. She loved music and played the flute in the Mountain West Symphony Orchestra. She also taught flute lessons to many students.

Barbara and Lenny loved to dance and especially enjoyed escorting cruises for Brian Judd Tours because it gave them the opportunity to dance for hours each evening to live music.

She served two missions with Lenny. The first as a proselyting missionary on Temple Square for over 3 years. The second was at the Youth Detention Center where she taught Sunday School for 3 years. She had many other church callings during her life, mostly in primary and young womens. She loved the opportunity to serve.

Barbara is survived by her husband and five children: Gary (Sandra), Angie (Greg), Tom (Cathy), Scott (Tamara), Dan, and 19 grandchildren. Siblings: Brent (Lary Ann), Bonnie, and Bob (Chris). She was preceded in death by her parents, 3 siblings who died at birth, Betty Lynn, Jan, and Barton, and a son-in- law Darrin Wilson.

For an additional Life Sketch of Barbara's life please Click on the Program button and view a Life View by one of her granddaughters.

To view the completed services click the "View Services" button above, or click on the following direct link: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/S6QzvaW13RLLocClZi1_oBaDHCbn0CFd3AUz3N1vSjpmTc7W5PHgwHTuzK2Lghp7