

Brad Parker

November 7, 1951 ~ June 6, 2023

After a full and wonderful life, Bradley Hugh Parker died on June 6, 2023, surrounded by family and friends. Brad was born on November 7, 1951, to Douglas and Corene Parker. He was the oldest of seven children and grew up in Boulder, Colorado. Brad loved his family and remained close with his siblings throughout his life. His childhood was filled with love, adventure, and just the right amount of mischief. Throughout his life, he could captivate an audience with stories from his youth of hitch hiking, pranks, and sharing a tent with a grizzly bear. After high school, Brad served for two years in the Netherlands as a missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and graduated from Brigham Young University and the University of Utah Law School.

While in law school, Brad's life changed forever when he went on a blind date with Valorie Johnson. They quickly fell in love and became best friends. They were married in the Salt Lake Temple and lived an extraordinary life together. Brad adored Valorie and their love was evident to all who knew them. They went on dates every weekend, traveled the world together, and established rich and enduring friendships.

One of Brad's greatest joys was being a father and, later, a grandfather. He and Valorie have four sons and four daughters-in-law (Ryan and Camille, Wells and Elisabeth, Kimball and Elizabeth, and Braden and Tara), one daughter (Hailey), and eleven grandchildren. Brad coached his kids' soccer teams, taught them to ski, helped them with their homework, and took them on hikes and adventures. In recent years, he could often be found tending his bees, making movies, and building elaborate marble tracks with his grandchildren. Brad was a master at showing his children and grandchildren that he loved and believed in them.

After law school, Brad opened his own law firm with two partners—Rich McKeown and Jim McConkie—who, with their wives, became his life-long friends. Brad worked hard and became a skilled litigator, successfully representing underdogs and advocating for important causes in courtrooms across Utah. Brad was quick to use his ability to serve those in need and, with Jim, founded the Refugee Justice League to help refugees in Utah access free legal help.

Brad had a kind heart and a disarming sense of humor. His kids teased him that he couldn't get through a dinner prayer without tearing up, and he was quick to lighten conversations with a funny story, well-timed pun, or a clever "dad joke." He took a genuine interest in those he met and had a remarkable ability to love and empathize with others.

Brad was a disciple of Jesus Christ and relished his opportunities to serve in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He enjoyed thinking deeply about spiritual things and had a talent for writing and delivering talks and lessons on gospel topics. In one of his talks, Brad testified reassuringly that, "we have a Savior who can bring to our hearts peace, certainty, and an unwavering assurance that death is not the end. As surely as there has been

separation, there will be a joyful reunion.”

The Parker family would like to give special thanks to Bill and Julie Prince and Rick and Cathy Graham for their love and support during this time and their deep and enduring friendship with Brad and Valorie. The family would also like to thank the doctors and nurses at Intermountain Health who cared for Brad so compassionately during his last days and family friend Jesse Fox who counseled with Brad and Valorie as his health declined.

Funeral services for Brad will be held on Saturday, June 10, 2023, at 1:00pm at the Bonneville Stake Center (1535 Bonneview Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84105). There will be a viewing at the Stake Center on Friday, June 9th from 7:00-8:30pm and on Saturday, June 10th from 11:30am-12:30pm. Brad was passionate about helping refugees and we ask that, in lieu of flowers, friends donate to the Refugee Justice League. https://www.refugeejustice.org/donate