

Calvin Chipman Clegg

August 1, 1940 ~ October 5, 2023

Calvin Chipman Clegg, a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, passed away peacefully in his North Salt Lake home on October 5, 2023, surrounded by family at the age of 83.

Calvin was born in El Paso, Texas on August 1, 1940 during World War II to Heber Milton and Delma Clarke Chipman Clegg. Soon after Calvin’s birth, Heber, an FBI agent, was deployed to South America to monitor Nazi and pro-Nazi groups, returning home shortly before Calvin’s first birthday. His parents' sacrifices during World War II instilled in him a deep sense of patriotism and a commitment to serving others.

Calvin’s childhood was a whirlwind of new experiences and cultures. His father's FBI career took the family which included his two brothers Milt and Chuck on international assignments to Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires, as well as stateside assignments to Arizona, California, and ultimately Utah. These frequent moves challenged Calvin at an early age to quickly assimilate into new cultures and establish long-term relationships with people from all walks of life.

Calvin spent most of his high school and college years in Utah, graduating from East High School in 1958 and the University of Utah with a B.A. in Spanish and Political Science in 1965. A lifelong member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, he served a two-and-a-half-year mission in Buenos Aires, Argentina, which he often called the "school of eternity" for the profound impact it made on his spiritual and personal development. Calvin’s fluency in Spanish and Portuguese was a key asset in his career and church service, allowing him to connect with diverse communities and build strong relationships with them.

Shortly after returning home from his mission, Calvin paused in front of a campaign poster on the University of Utah campus and commented, “I want to meet that girl!” Thanks to a fortunate encounter at a dance, the two soon became “Cal and Gayle” and would remain so for the rest of their life. They married in the Salt Lake Temple on August 14, 1964 and began building a life together that revolved around faith, family and service.

With love as their foundation and college diplomas in hand, they moved to Florida to launch their careers and begin their family. Calvin worked for the CIA for two years, while Gayle taught high school history until the birth of their first child, Daniel Calvin Clegg. The CIA paved the way for Calvin to follow in his father’s footsteps and become a Special Agent in the FBI, where he served from 1967 to 1993.

Calvin's FBI career gave his young family many of the same opportunities and cultural experiences that he himself had experienced as a child. Calvin’s domestic assignments moved the family to Arizona, New Jersey, and Washington, D.C. All four of their daughters – Tina, Lisa, Cheryl and Emily – were born during that time. Calvin served as the FBI's chief of operations in Brasilia and Buenos Aires from 1974 to 1980 covering seven countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, and Peru.

With their children now entering their teenage years, Cal and Gayle chose to complete their career path in the place where it all began, Salt Lake City. During his years in Utah, Calvin served as a case agent, hostage negotiator, media spokesperson, and applicant recruiter, hiring over 100 support staff, linguists, analysts, and special agents, including his son, a third-generation Special Agent who served 25 years. After retiring from the FBI in 1993, Calvin worked for three years as the Director of Security at Huntsman Corporation, a role that drew on his extensive experience in law enforcement and security. In addition to his work in the private sector, Calvin returned to public service as a member of the youth parole board for twelve years.

Calvin was a huge sports fan, especially the Utah Utes. He cheered and yelled on his Ute Family with unparalleled energy, whether directed at the field, or the sports radio dial. He had a deep reverence for nature and wildlife and treasured the time spent hiking in his backyard Wasatch Range, or casting upstream in a favorite river.

Calvin worked hard to balance his career with family development, community service, and personal hobbies. His service in a community of faith was consistent throughout his life. He served in almost every capacity as a member of the LDS church, including the bishop of the San Fernando, Argentina Ward. After retirement, Cal and Gayle would combine their faith and professionalism as missionary servants in Portugal (Lisbon North Mission President) and Malaga, Spain. He fulfilled an assignment as Interim MTC President in Madrid and later served in the Bountiful Temple Presidency.

Despite his many interests and a distinguished career, his greatest joy was his family. He is survived by his beloved wife of 59 years, Gayle Muhlestein Clegg, his brother Chuck (Dixie) Clegg, his 5 children, Dan (Lora) Clegg, Tina (Paul) McMaster, Lisa (Shayne) Barney, Cheryl (Tom) Anderson, Emily (Rob) Hansen, 19 grandchildren, and 8 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Milton (Mary, still living) Clegg.

Calvin consistently emphasized to his family that they came first. He was a loving and present mentor in the lives of his children and grandchildren, instilling in them the belief that they could achieve anything. He took immense joy in attending their performances, sports competitions, and celebrations. He unwaveringly supported and championed his family and loved them unconditionally. He considered his 375 Lisbon missionaries as family and treasured his ongoing reunions and associations with them through his final days of life. He had a love of people at home and abroad and lived a rich life of joy, adventure, and learning. He will be missed deeply by his family and friends, but they are so grateful to call him theirs.

Funeral services will be held at Cal and Gayle’s home ward chapel at 351 Lofty Lane in North Salt Lake, Utah.

Viewing: Monday October 16, 2023 6pm-8pm, Larkin Mortuary, 260 E. South Temple.
Viewing: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 9:30am-10:30am, at the church.
Funeral: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 11am, at the church.
Interment: Larkin Sunset Lawn, 2350 E. 1300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.

For those unable to attend, services will be streamed via Zoom. Please click on the watch services link above.