

Cory Stewart Karren

December 14, 1973 ~ September 8, 2023

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of our beloved husband, father, son, and brother: Cory Stewart Karren. Cory passed away unexpectedly following years of enduring mental illness on September 8, 2023.

Cory was born on December 14, 1973 to Stewart Lloyd and Diana Jackman Karren in Madison, Wisconsin. When he was 4 years old his family moved to Salt Lake City, Utah. Cory graduated from Jordan High School in 1992. Then he served a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Seattle, Washington. When he returned home he worked various jobs until going to work for R.C. Willey Home Furnishings. While working there he met a co-worker named Heather Groneman and was instantly smitten. They began to date on September 26, 1996. For their first date he asked her if she would like to go rock rappelling and she said: "No". The thought terrified her. However, Cory persuaded her and they went. Obviously they returned safely. They continued to date and they married on June 19, 1998 in the Salt Lake Temple. Over time they had 4 wonderful children: Taylor Diane, Hayden Cory, Bruklyn Holley, and Sierra Heather. After marriage he went to work and began his lifelong career in the telecommunications industry.

Cory was an avid hiker. He loved the outdoors, the beauties of nature, and sharing those things with family and friends. We are fortunate to have many pictures of those outdoor adventures to provide us with memories.

Cory knew the value of hard work and he was one of the hardest workers we have ever known. This gift of working hard translated into an incredible work ethic in his chosen field of labor. He made every effort to learn his trade and he had what can best be described as an encyclopedic knowledge of the technical aspects of his field. In other words (for all of us common folk), he knew what he was doing. He used this knowledge to the benefit of his employers and their many customers. He often said: “I just want to go to work each day and do the best job I can for my employer and enjoy my job.”

The workplace was not the only example of the excellence seen in the jobs he did. When he did any job he did it well. This can be seen by looking at his yard. He provided a beautiful yard for his family to enjoy that included trees, shrubs, flowers, and gardens with attractive borders. As his children grew he taught them how to take care of those lawns and gardens.

Cory knew how to fix just about anything - - from a leaky pipe in the house to the most difficult repairs on his vehicles. Cory could often be seen working on his dad's truck or one of the vehicles in his own family. One of the last things he did was repair his daughter's vehicle.

Cory also had a humorous way of relating stories about being a husband, father, and raising children which often included phrases and words which brought laughter. Sometimes we would find ourselves asking "What does that even mean?" or "Is that really a word or phrase?" At times like this he would look at us with a mischievous grin on

his face.

When Cory knew someone else was down he was always willing to help lift them up. Cory knew what it was like to feel down and had great sympathy and compassion for others who were suffering. He taught his children many things about how to deal with difficult or hard experiences. He also provided valuable advice to others in his areas of experience and expertise.

Cory is survived by his loving wife Heather and his children Taylor, Hayden, Bruklyn, and Sierra; his parents Stewart and Diana; and his two sisters Shannan (Ryan) Hoffman and Kimberly (Josh) Butt. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews, loving relatives, and friends. We love him and will miss him.

In lieu of flowers, a GoFundMe has been created to help the family.

Funeral services for Cory will be held at 11AM on Monday, September 18, 2023 at the Parkwood Ward, 5927 South Park Wood Drive in Kearns, Utah. A public visitation will take place on the evening of Sunday, September 17, 2023 from 6-8PM at Larkin Mortuary – Riverton, 3688 West 12600 South in Riverton, Utah. There will be no public visitation prior to services on Monday. This time will be used for family to gather and heal. However, everyone is welcome to the Funeral Services on Monday at 11AM.

Interment will follow at the Wasatch Lawn Memorial Park in Millcreek, Utah.

Funeral services will be streamed via Zoom for those wishing to attend virtually. To watch the streamed services, please click the “Watch Services” link above.