

Daniel Deakin Schneiter

January 25, 1960 ~ December 11, 2020

Daniel Deakin Schneiter, 60, passed away December 11, 2020. Danny, or Dan as he was called, was born January 25, 1960 in Billings, Montana to George Malan Schneiter and JoAnn Deakin Schneiter. Danny lived his life in Sandy, Utah where he attended Hillcrest High School, worked at Pebblebrook Golf Course, and was father to his beloved daughter, Aubrey Schneiter.

Danny was born into a golf family. In his youth he spent his summers in Billings, Montana at Lake Hills Golf Course, participating in junior golf tournaments. In Sandy, Utah, he played on the golf team at Hillcrest High School. He often caddied for his dad, favoring most the tournaments in California. It was probably because of those shared road trips that Danny, later in life, only wanted to discuss with his family the good memories of his father. In the mid 1970s, he helped his family construct Pebblebrook Golf Course. He worked at Pebblebrook for thirty-five years, mowing fairways and greens.

Anyone who knew Danny, however, knew that he marched to the beat of his own drum. He knew who he was, he knew what he liked; he did not fit into any mold, but his own. The sports that Danny most enjoyed were those in which he felt the sensation of speed and flight. He loved to ski, swim, dive, run, bike and was exemplary at skateboarding. In 1977, he won Best Free Style at a skateboarding competition in Park City, Utah. A memorable skill was his ability to do handstands on his board while boarding down the street. He served his brother Gary some “humble pie” by surpassing his mile run track record at Union Junior High. Family stories are often told of how graceful he was. It was common for people to halt what they were doing to observe Danny when he was diving, skating, and boarding. Strangely, it can also be said of Danny that he was highly accident prone. It was a wonder he survived his childhood.

Danny’s real passion was music. He played piano, drums, flute, harmonica, harp, dulcimer and whatever instrument you put in front of him. Music was Danny’s language, the music he played and sang was his own compositions. He did not have formal training, yet by filling his days listening to the recordings of other musicians, he nurtured an innate sense of what comprised listenable, beautiful sound. Dan also combined his love of handcrafts with his pursuit of living a life of music by carving exquisite wooden flutes. Customers who frequented Pebblebrook Golf Course will remember Danny lounging on a golf cart playing the harmonica, guitar, and crooning. He was adoringly called the “Music Man”.

The treasure in Danny’s life was his family. Danny was very engaged in his daughter’s upbringing. When she was growing-up, he would often bike from Sandy to Salt Lake City where she lived with her mother. He did not want to miss precious moments in his daughter’s life. Both Danny and Sylvia loved the outdoors and they often enriched their lives by taking road trips together. Aubrey says of her father, “He was one of the sweetest people you could

ever meet. He had a heart of gold. He never talked bad about anyone and was nice to everyone. He was quick to forgive. He would give you the shirt off his back!”

A struggle of Danny’s was that he suffered from serious health issues. Because he had learned of the Savior’s love at his mother’s knee, he often testified of his unfailing knowledge that the Lord, Jesus Christ was real, loved him and all mankind, and that eternal life was a promise. Perhaps it is because of his earthly struggles that he knew beyond a shadow of a doubt that he walked with God. It is bitter, sweet that he passed at Christmas time. He loved this sacred holiday so much! He loved the spirit of the season and enjoyed giving gifts to everyone he knew. He loved life! It will always be said of him that he was the best father, son, brother, and friend. He will be missed.

Danny was preceded in death by his father, George Malan Schneiter (August 12, 1931-February 6, 2010). He is survived by his daughter: Aubrey, mother: JoAnn Deakin Schneiter, brothers: George, Gary (Kim), Stephen, Michael, Sister: Elizabeth (Brett) Godfrey, nephews, nieces, great-nieces and great-nephews. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 AM, Friday, December 18, 2020, at Larkin Sunset Gardens, 1950 East Dimple Dell Rd. (10600 South), Sandy, Utah, with a viewing beginning at 10:00 AM. Services will be livestreamed through zoom at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85280018568?pwd=Y0JWR08rUFBvdGx6MFk4QTZ5WTRGQT09