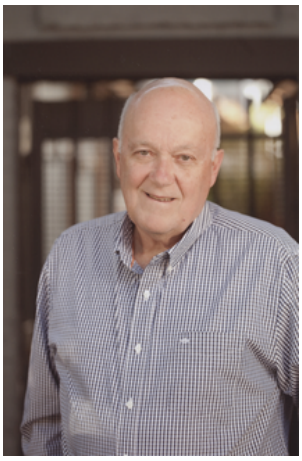

Dennis Michael Stoker

June 6, 1946 ~ May 2, 2022

Dennis Michael Stoker
1946-2022

Dennis Michael Stoker – devoted husband, father, brother, grandpa, and uncle – passed away peacefully in his home on May 2, 2022, after a brief illness. He also battled courageously with cancer in recent years.

Always a mentor, leader, and friend, Dennis was an example of loving-kindness, intelligence, friendship, support, generosity, and a genuine concern for all of those around him.

Born June 6, 1946, in Council Bluffs, Iowa, Denny was the youngest of four children born to Roy Leahmer and Joyce Arlene (McTwiggan) Stoker. He grew up and attended school in Council Bluffs where he graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School. He was a convert to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and married his high school sweetheart, Peggy Jo Thornton, in the Salt Lake Temple on Dec. 29, 1966. Denny attended the University of Nebraska and began working in the retail and drug store industry, where he advanced quickly into management in his early 20s, starting a 47-yr career working for stores including Katz, Skaggs Drug Stores, Osco Drug, Payless Drug, and Rite-Aid. His career led his family to many different places and allowed them to create lifelong friendships all along the way. The Stoker Family lived in Council Bluffs, IA; Omaha, NE; Florissant, MO; Las Vegas/Henderson, NV; Orange, CA; Corona, CA; St. Joseph, MO; Topeka, KS, and finally settled in Sandy, UT, where they have lived since March of 1986.

Denny’s greatest treasure was Family, and his favorite hobby was doing anything with his wife, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He loved visiting with friends and neighbors and traveling to visit his many family members. He also loved mystery novels and could often be found watching golf and reading various books by John Grisham.

Denny had a deep commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and was grateful to serve in every church calling, especially those where he could work with the youth. His love and kindness, which radiated through his service to others, were known by everyone. He served as a Seminary, Sunday School, and Primary Teacher, Young Men's President, Stake & Ward Clerk, Bishopric Counselor, Executive Secretary, High Councilor, and Bishop. He also had the opportunity to serve a Salt Lake Inner-City mission and in the Draper Utah Temple.

He will be greatly missed and many memories will be treasured by all those who survive him, including his wife of 55 years, Peggy Jo (Thornton) Stoker, their 4 children: Mindy & Randy Vail, South Jordan, UT; Chad & Azure Stoker, Oakridge, NC; Derek & Denise Stoker, Layton, UT; Joel & Shanelle Stoker, Corning, NY, and adopted granddaughter, Josie Stoker, Salt Lake City, UT, daughter of Amy Stoker, who preceded him in death in 2003.

Grandpa Denny also leaves 20 adoring grandchildren: Jessica Holtey, Nathaniel, Ammon, Lili, and Jonah DeForest, Madalyn Daniel, Hannah Lambson; Cameron, Alison, Haley, and Joely Stoker, Emily Godin; Adreanna Boatwright, Tyler, Trevor, and Cody Stoker; Jacob, Sophie, Genevive, and Charlotte Stoker. He also leaves 17 great-grandchildren who adored him as well. He is also survived by a devoted sister, Barbara (Del) Bunch, Council Bluffs, IA and brother, Roy “Toke” Stoker, Jr., Stockton, IA. Denny is preceded in death by his parents, daughter Amy Stoker, and sister Uneta Neighbors.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, May 7th at 2:00 pm at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Crescent North Stake, 1050 East 10600 South, Sandy, UT. Friends and family may call prior to the funeral from 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm or Friday evening from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at Larkin Sunset Gardens Mortuary, 1950 East 10600 South. Interment will be at Larkin Sunset Gardens.

To view the COMPLETED services via Zoom click the "Watch Services" button or follow the link: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/0fFwjCtLKqsRxQI9pTKuX50IfohMAKlmjPyPHSZuZkbFus35MEtj6eln2Tjs6DI.XuD0K0A