

Donnabelle Steenblik Rogers

August 30, 1927 ~ October 21, 2021

Donnabelle Steenblik Rogers, our dear Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother passed away on October 21, 2021.

Donna was born August 30, 1927, in Salt Lake City to Jerry and Florence Steenblik. She attended West High School and the University of Utah. She married Raymond M. Rogers in 1947 in the Salt Lake temple and together they raised 9 children. Her husband preceded her in death, passing in 2012 after 64 years of marriage.

Mom grew up in the Rose Park area of Salt Lake City. She loved her family and had a particularly close relationship with her dad. Some of her earliest memories are of going to the Steenblik Dairy to “help” her dad while he did his work or riding with him as he delivered to his many customers. As she got older, her father let her think he needed her to drive him around to collect payments. She soon realized this was his way of teaching her to drive. She learned the value of hard work from her father. This would serve her well in her life.

Her petite stature and bright red hair certainly meant she stood out amongst her friends. Donna met Ray on VJ day. While they both knew of each other previous to this, the romance started this day as she grabbed his hand to join the chain of revelers in downtown Salt Lake City. He walked her home that day and they began their courtship. They were married 2 and a half years later.

Donna was a kind person and was liked by those who knew her. She loved the gospel and was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She served in several capacities in the church. She most enjoyed working with the Young Women where she had a positive influence on the lives of many girls.

One of her favorite things to do was to work in her garden. She would start early in the year and made sure her flowers never lacked for attention. She enjoyed going camping or hiking with Ray and later with the kids in tow. She was up before dawn as the smell of bacon and pancakes would wake the rest of the family from their sleeping bags.

While raising 9 children, Donna worked a full time job as a secretary with the Jordan School District. She was often called the “best damn secretary” in the district and spent most of her career in the offices for the administrators where she was well liked and respected. Long before the days of computers to correct our work, everyone knew they could go to Donna for the accurate spelling, grammar, or punctuation; and she was always right.

Donna was very strong. As she raised her family and worked full time, she never complained. She knew that things needed to be done and she just did them. Even as she got older and her body began to fail, she did not complain but struggled through as she had done her entire life. Often, those around her did not know that there was an ailment from which she suffered.

She was very grateful for those who took care of her. She did not like to depend on others but as she got older, she knew she must. She always remembered to say “thank you” even in her final days when she could barely utter the

words.
She is survived by all 9 of her children, Mel (Marcia), Karen Peterson (Steve), Wendy Lindquist (Kim), Mark (Val), Marianne Skousen (Craig), Dodi Brooks (Chris), Ross (Dana), Russell (Cindi), and Randy (LaVonne) as well as 31 grandchildren, 57 great-grandchildren and 2 (almost 3) great-great-grandchildren.
A viewing reception will be held at the Larkin Sunset Gardens Mortuary, 1950 East Dimple Dell Road, Sandy UT on Sunday October 31 from 6:30 to 8 pm. As per her wishes, there will not be a formal funeral. Everyone is welcome to the graveside service which will be held on Monday, November 1st at 11 am at the Larkin Sunset Gardens cemetery. There will be an open mic so anyone who wishes to share a memory of Donna would be welcome to speak.