

Elaine Dixon Rhodes

September 15, 1928 ~ April 1, 2023

Elaine Dixon Rhodes, loving wife, mother, daughter, sister, grandmother, and great-grandmother, peacefully passed away on April 1, 2023, at her home in Taylorsville, Utah surrounded by family.

Born on September 15, 1928, in Payson, Utah, and raised in nearby Spanish Fork, Utah, Elaine was the second of six children born to Charles Hyrum Dixon and True Call Dixon.

Elaine danced her way through this life to the fullest in every way. She attended Brigham Young University for 2 years and transferred to Utah State University where she earned her bachelor's degree in dance with a minor in clothing and textiles. She used these gifts throughout her life in service to others and in her career. She was hired by Jordan High School as a dance and home economics teacher. In the evenings, she taught dance classes at the Arthur Murray Dance Studio.

She had an adventurous spirit and left her teaching jobs to work on the California Zephyr (a train) as a Zephyrette, traveling between Chicago, Illinois and Oakland, California.

After 5 years, her desire to seek another adventure took Elaine to Mannheim, Germany. There, she worked at the Army Service Clubs at Coleman Barracks-- coordinating day trips and shows for those serving in the US Army. It was there that she met the love of her life, Graham Warner Rhodes, who was serving as a Private in the US Army.

Graham and Elaine were married December 14, 1959, in Sandhofen, Germany in the office of the Bürgermeister. They were later sealed in the Logan, Utah Temple on June 9, 1962.

Once Graham was released from his duties in the army, they moved to the Long Beach area of California, where they lived for 5 years before settling in the San Diego, California area for 53 years. Elaine taught dance at Grossmont High School for 13 years and retired at age 55. She continued dancing by belonging to dance clubs with Graham and joining the Happy Hoofers.

Elaine's priority was always her family. She taught her children to love God, to seek education, and to take every opportunity to explore and discover their talents. She was an attentive daughter, a loving sister, and enjoyed having her children and grandchildren visit. Her commitment to and love for her family were always evident by the sacrifices she made to ensure her family's happiness.

A faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Elaine served in many callings. She was a loyal supporter of Graham in all his callings and his employment. She was loved and respected by all whom she served and met along life's journey.

Elaine followed the teachings of Christ and lived a life filled with charity. Her good nature and kind spirit drew many to her. She never passed up a moment to make others feel seen, whether in animated conversation with strangers in a restaurant, on a plane, in a store, or while travelling the world with Graham. Elaine and Graham shared a beautiful love story. They showed, by example, how to love one another and laugh through the tough times.

Graham and Elaine moved to Taylorsville, Utah in August 2021 and have enjoyed living close to children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Elaine is survived by her husband, Graham Warner Rhodes, her daughter and four sons: Dionne, (Greg Tarpenning), Graig (Susie), Vaughn (Lisa), Brian (Kim), and Kevin; Suzanne: sisters Linda Lundgren and Portia (Lee) Mandel; 20 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, April 8, 2023, at 12 Noon
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
3555 W. 5620 S.
Taylorsville, Utah 84129

Visitation 11:00am – 11:45am before the service

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to either the Missionary Fund or Humanitarian Fund of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Interment will be in the Utah Veterans Cemetery and Memorial Park in Bluffdale, Utah on Monday, April 10, 2023.
Those wishing to view the COMPLETED services via Zoom can click "Watch Services" or follow the link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/jOGov1RwjubzU-157CUqPuBRQb5DxAWC6c1eZlm6tP4gvQwzdI07Ez14Dp9BNBk._S