

Harry Spencer George (Spencer)

January 20, 1941 ~ June 2, 2024

Harry Spencer George (Spencer) of Orem, Utah passed away peacefully at home on Sunday morning, June 2, 2024. He was 83 years old.

Spencer was born January 20, 1941, in Salt Lake City. Spencer had fond and humorous memories of growing up in Sugarhouse, including meeting his lifelong best friend, Barry Richards, his father's love of buying ice cream cones for him, his mother's determination to feed him vegetables, and naming his little brother Jim after his favorite "Jimmy Microbe" book. He was part of the first graduating class of Highland High School and formed lifelong friendships on his football and track teams while there. After high school, serving a mission in England for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints proved to be one of the most formative experiences of his young life. He received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the University of Utah and met the love of his life, Barbara, while completing a master's degree in the same field at Brigham Young University. They were sealed for time and eternity in the Salt Lake Temple on June 2,1969 and welcomed five children to their home over the following 12 years. Their "home" changed locations many times as they raised their family in Boonton, New Jersey; Ras Tanura, Saudi Arabia; Sandy, Utah; Durango, Colorado; and Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Spencer had a keen intellect and a tremendous work ethic, traits that propelled him to a successful career at Exxon, Aramco, Northwest Pipeline, and the Williams Companies. His wit and humor would regularly shine through during family conversations or in his avid appreciation of Sunday morning comics. He was able to fuel his love of learning and travel through his work where he designed and/or developed refineries, plants and pipelines across the United States, Mexico, Columbia, Peru and Saudi Arabia. He was also able to travel with his family to over 15 countries around the world, enriching the family through engagement with different cultures, religions, environments, and people.

He was a committed man of faith and service, serving throughout his life in assignments and responsibilities for his church, including as a Bishop in Oklahoma, and quietly providing support to multiple friends and neighbors throughout his life. While a man of many interests, the interests he prioritized most were those of his wife and children. His sacrifices for and dedication to them were among the noblest attributes Spencer demonstrated for decades as a man of great kindness, constancy, and humility.

Upon finally retiring in 2011, Spencer and Barbara moved to Orem, Utah. Their dreams of retirement were soon changed by multiple diagnoses of Parkinson's disease, various heart conditions, and cancer (Multiple Myeloma), but they persevered together during the years of his gradually declining health, with Barbara steadfastly by his side as a dedicated caregiver and an even more devoted and caring spouse. Their marriage in this life was filled with love and devotion spanning 55 wonderful years to the day.

Spencer is survived by his wife, Barbara; his children, J. , Rob (Lisa) George, Greg (Millie) George, Melissa (Chris) Mattson, and Carrie George (Adam Seligman); his brother Jim (Cheryl) George; and his 13 grandchildren: Nathan, Natalie, David, Anna, Grant, Maddie, Abram, Emily, Connor, Aynslee, Zach, Owen, and Ava Mae.

The funeral will be held at Larkin Sunset Gardens at 1950 E. Dimple Dell Road (10600 South) Sandy Utah, on Saturday, June 15, 2024. A viewing will be held at 9:30 - 10:45 AM with funeral services following at 11 AM. To watch services live or view recording, please click the
“Watch Services” button above.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Parkinson’s research of your choice or to The Harry Spencer George and Barbara Ellen Moore George Fund (https://giving.broadinstitute.org/giving-form) for cancer research in Spencer's memory.