

Jeri Lynn Salisbury Miyatake

September 17, 1954 ~ July 1, 2023

Jeri Lynn Salisbury Miyatake passed away peacefully on July 1, 2023, at the age of 68 with her family by her side. Jeri will be remembered for her selflessness, humor, and kindness to all who crossed her path.

Jeri was born on September 17, 1954, in Richfield, UT to William (Bill) and Betty Salisbury. She grew up in Centerville, UT having many adventures with her brother, Eric, and sister, Jan. Jeri often lamented being the middle child, but laughed as she shared stories of being tricked into eating mushrooms or being chased throughout the house by her siblings. Jeri was very close to her parents, from whom she learned to love animals and the outdoors. They taught her the importance of kindness and inclusivity as well as the value of humor in facing life's challenges. In her adult life she spoke to her mom daily.

Jeri met her husband, Mitch, while working at Sperry Univac, and they were married on March 7th, 1981. Jeri had two children, Cory and Haley, along with two stepchildren, Shelley and Melanie. She took great pride in her kids, instilling in them a strong sense of self-worth. She supported them in life decisions and encouraged them to pursue their passions and goals. She was actively involved in their activities; always being the first to volunteer to shuttle kids around or go to the classroom for an activity. She never missed a game, performance, or competition.

One of the great joys in Jeri's life was being a grandmother. Jeri particularly loved babies and was often accused of refusing to share as she held her grandchildren. The grandchildren remember their grandmother for spoiling them with gifts. She loved to take her granddaughters shopping for new clothes, and she used any minor holiday as an excuse to put together gift bags of candy and stuffed animals. It was understood that Grandma would be buying souvenirs on any vacation and her grandchildren cherish these gifts as they remember their time with her.

Second only to her love for her family was Jeri's love for her dogs. Much like the people in her life, the family dogs quickly gravitated towards Jeri and became inseparable companions. She showed them so much love that many people said there was nothing better than being one of Jeri's dogs. In her later years, her dog Arlo provided her love and comfort and was the one she remembered until her final days.

Jeri spent much of her career working in Jordan School District at Bella Vista Elementary and Brighton High School in Cottonwood Heights, UT. She formed strong bonds with the students, parents, and teachers throughout her career and supported them like she did her own family. Many remember her years later for being friendly and kind. "Your mom is the nicest person I have ever met" and, "When I needed help, Jeri was always the first to come to my aid", are common phrases heard from those who grew up in the schools she worked in.

Jeri loved traveling with friends and family. In particular, she enjoyed many trips to Northern California with her sister and her friends. She enjoyed shopping, eating at restaurants along the coast, and visiting the many wineries in the area. She went on countless camping and fishing trips with her family. She was very competitive when it

came to catching fish and would often challenge her husband, brother, and son to fishing competitions. She wasn't shy about letting them know when she had caught more or bigger fish, showing her competitive spirit and humor.

She had a playful, silly side and wasn't afraid to goof off. She'd make her kids laugh by doing impressions from movies. She sang loudly, belting Elton John or Bon Jovi as she cleaned the house. She loved to shop, and a vacation was never complete until she'd found "the shops" and "browsed". She was also a creative person, taking jewelry classes and making jewelry for herself and her loved ones. She owned more Cricuts than can be counted and enjoyed making home decorations, cards, and invitations designed from scratch.

Jeri was a special person and was always thinking of the needs of others. She believed in giving people the benefit of the doubt and was, at her core, a truly empathetic person. Jeri liked to root for the underdog to the point that she was known to choose the ugliest stuffed animal in a store so it wouldn't be left behind. She hated to see someone struggling and was often found doing things to relieve the burdens of those around her.

Jeri is preceded in death by her father Bill, who died in 2006, and mother Betty, who died in 2017. She is survived by her husband Mitch and their children Cory (Emily), Haley (Jonny), Melanie (Eric), and Shelley (Gibby), her grandchildren Olivia (Chris), Emily, Alex, Zach, Ethan, Graham, Cohen, Kate, Mia, Cameron, and Josie, and her great-grandchild Frederick as well as her siblings, Eric and Jan (Marilyn).

Jeri's family would like to thank the caregivers at Peaks and Bristol Hospice for their loving care of Jeri and for the support and comfort they've provided to our family.

Jeri will be laid to rest on July 8, 2023. Friends and family of Jeri are invited to a reception to celebrate her life at Tuscany Restaurant between 1 and 3 pm. We ask that in lieu of flowers, if you have the means, please donate to the Alzheimer's Association.