

John Odell Tolman

January 11, 1935 ~ March 5, 2023

John Odell Tolman passed away Sunday, March 5, 2023 in Cottonwood Heights, Utah. He was born January 11, 1935 in Pocatello, Idaho to William Odell and Opal Adams Tolman, the oldest of seven children. He graduated from Idaho Falls High School in 1953 and fulfilled a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (1955-1957) to the Northern California Mission.

John married Dixie Selby in the Salt Lake Temple in 1957 and they were blessed with 3 children: Stephen (Jan), Leah (David) Durr, Derek (Carolyn). In 1968, he married Joan Ranck in the Salt Lake Temple and added 2 children from her previous marriage, whom he legally adopted: Kathryn (Douglas) Jones, and Todd (Linda). Jennifer (Spencer) Allen, and Tricia Leslie were the final additions to their blended family, raised together as brothers and sisters - sons and daughters of John and Joan.

John loved sports! He was an active participant all of his life - enjoying football, basketball, softball, track and field, and golf. He was an avid supporter of BYU sports!

John was preceded in death by his parents, his sisters Janice (Jon) Taylor and Shirlene Tolman, his brothers Michael Tolman and Darrel (Barbara) Tolman, and his granddaughter Kimberly Tolman.

He is survived by his wife, Joan and his seven children, and his sisters Loraine (Alfred) Pace and Loretta (DeLoy) Thueson. John leaves a large posterity of 31 grandchildren and 32 great- grandchildren.

John graduated from BYU with a B.A. in History and a M.A. in Ancient Near East Studies. He retired from the LDS Church Educational System after having worked in various positions as an instructor, curriculum writer, seminary principal at Hillcrest High School, and as Administrative Assistant to the Area Director over the Seminaries and Institutes in the South Salt Lake Area.

He enjoyed his opportunities for service in his ward and stake and especially enjoyed teaching the Gospel Doctrine Class. He also served in 3 temples - Jordan River, Palmyra, and Salt Lake, and enjoyed serving a mission with his wife, Joan, in the New York, Rochester Mission. His love of the Prophet Joseph Smith made serving in the Cradle of the Restoration a high point in his life.

We wish to express our gratitude for those at Escalante at Coventry Memory Care and Utah Home Health and Hospice who gave him loving care in the months prior to his passing.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 18, 2023 in the Greenfield Chapel at 6634 So. Greenfield Way, Cottonwood Heights, Utah. A viewing will be held at the Larkin Sunset Gardens Mortuary on Friday, March 17, 2023 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. and the day of the funeral 10:00-10:45 a.m. prior to the funeral service at the Greenfield Chapel. The interment will be at Larkin Sunset Gardens, 1950 East Dimple Dell Road (10600 South), Sandy, Utah.

For those desiring to watch the recorded service, please click on the blue "Watch Services" tab above.