

# Laurel Jean Salazar

*November 2, 1938 ~ April 5, 2023*

Our beloved mother, Laurel Jean Salazar (Tuzz), passed away on April 5, 2023, surrounded by her children. She was 84.

Laurel was born on November 2, 1938, in Grantsville, Utah, to Rulon Swen Stromberg and Dorothy Alice Banks. She married Fred Jacobo Onesimo Salazar, in Salt Lake City, and together they raised 5 children: Michael Salazar (Juliet), Lori Salazar-Gehrke, Leslie Lancaster (Tim), Cinda Salazar-Eresuma, and Traci Salazar-Williams (Karl).

Laurel's faith was important to her. She was a devoted member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and a member of the Forest Dale Ward; she welcomed opportunities to serve in Scouts, Sunday School, and Primary. While Laurel was busy raising her children, she started an in-home daycare business. She eventually found her calling in teaching and entered the workforce to become a teacher for Head Start. While balancing work and kids, she completed her CDA at Westminster College. Laurel possessed a respectful and caring attitude towards others, which extended to her community of sweet neighbors and supportive friends with whom she routinely shared her garden vegetables, fresh fruit, and homemade jams.

Being grandma was Laurel's most cherished role. She made every grandchild feel like they were her favorite and found time to attend every event she could including plays, games, and dance recitals. She loved to cook, sew, and whip up batches of playdough. She was quick-witted and had a knack for teasing and making them feel truly loved. She leaves behind 14 grandchildren: Brendon (Libby), Derek (Sharifa), Alec, Anthony (Shaye), Chandler (Lexi), Nathanael, Sophia, Isabella, Jack, Savannah, Dylan, Ava, Alexis (Frankie), and Jasmihn (Tommy); and 4 great-grandchildren: Alice, Luna, Isabella, and Brooks. Laurel was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and sister, Doreen. She is survived by her siblings, Mavis, Ben, and Dorothy.

Laurel's passing left us with important lessons: every day is a gift and there is no substitute for love and gratitude. She will be dearly missed and forever in our hearts. We are comforted by the joyful reunion she is having with all her loved ones on the other side.

Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 1:00 p.m., at Larkin Mortuary, 260 E. South Temple. Friends and family may also visit during the viewing at 12:00 p.m. on the day of the funeral. For those unable to attend in person the funeral will be live streamed at www.larkinmortuary.com. Interment is at Salt Lake City Cemetery.