

Leo Fredrick Kelland

January 15, 1932 ~ June 11, 2023

A strong, courageous and honorable man, Leo Fredrick Kelland, passed away peacefully in his sleep, at home, on June 11, 2023, at the age of 91.

Leo was born on January 15, 1932, in El Monte, CA to Leo Kelland and Emily Kelland and was an only child.

As a child, Leo grew up riding horses and playing football. In high school, Leo was the star quarterback. He lead his team to victory to win the state championship his senior year.

At 17, Leo joined the U.S. Army. He was a bad a**! Over 26 years of military service, he worked his way up to becoming a Sargent Major. He served multiple tours in Vietnam and Laos. Leo served in Delta Force, Special Forces, Rangers and Airborne. During his service, Leo received multiple badges of honor for his strength and courage. Thank you for your service Sargent Major Kelland!

After retiring from the military, Leo attended Westminster College and graduated in 1983 with a degree in Political Science.

In 1984, Leo worked at the Utah State Capitol for the Utah Division of Emergency Management. He was responsible for leading the team in disastrous events throughout Utah.

In 1980, Leo married the love of his life, Rose Mary McDaniel whom he met at Ft. Douglas at the U of U. They spent 38 years together going on adventures and sharing their lives. The love they shared was undeniable!

Leo was also blessed with two beautiful daughters he inherited, Tina Richards and Lisa Spencer. They agree that they were the ones blessed for having such a wonderful father.

In January 1989, Leo's life was forever changed when his only grandchild was born, Cody J Hanson. The bond they shared was so deep and filled with unconditional love. Cody unselfishly and lovingly took care of his Gramps for the last four years.

Gramps did everything for Cody and Codv returned the gift to Gramps

After retiring from the State of Utah, Leo became a little league football coach. His main goal was to be able to coach and train Cody as the years progressed. Leo then joined the coaching staff at Juan Diego Catholic High School and coached for 10 years. He loved coaching due to his passion for all things football. Go 49’ers!

Leo had a passion for life and a sense of adventure. He loved riding his horses, snow skiing, river rafting, golfing, boating and water skiing, just to name a few.

During the past few years, Leo struggled with his cancer diagnosis. However, he did not go down without a fight! He fought for three long years.

The family is sending our sincerest thanks to all that have sent their condolences, love and prayers.

A celebration gathering will take place on Monday, June 26, 2023, from 4pm to 6pm at Le Jardin at the Rose Shop, 1910 Dimple Dell Road (10600 S.) in Sandy, UT. Funeral mass will be held on Tuesday, June 27th, 2023 at St. John the Baptiste Catholic Church, 300 East 11800 South, Draper, UT, Beginning at 11 am. Interment to follow at Larkin Sunset Gardens, 1950 East 10600 South, Sandy UT.