

Lyman Clarence Pedersen Jr

January 27, 1933 ~ June 10, 2025

Dr. Lyman Clarence Pedersen, Jr., beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend passed away on June 10, 2025, at the age of 92 in West Jordan, Utah.

“Pete”, as those who knew and loved him, was born on January 27, 1933, in Salt Lake City, Utah, to Lyman Clarence Pedersen, Sr. and Bertha Farley Pedersen, Pete lived a life of purpose, service, and deep devotion to his family, faith, and country.

Pete married Virginia (Jenny) Staib Pedersen in 1994 in West Jordan, Utah, and they were sealed in the Logan L.D.S. Temple in 1997. She remained the love of his life. Earlier in life, he married Jean Ranck in 1958, with whom he shared four beautiful children. Though they later divorced, the legacy of their family remained strong.

A man of the outdoors, Pete spent two unforgettable summers working for the U.S. Forest Service in Salmon, Idaho—experiences that provided a lifetime of stories and fond memories.

Pete’s faith was a guiding force throughout his life. A devoted member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, he served a three-year mission in New Zealand, where he grew to love the people and culture. He later served as a Bishop, on five High Councils, and as a Stake Patriarch.

Education was one of Pete’s great passions. He earned a B.S. and M.A. from the University of Utah and a Ph.D. in History from Brigham Young University. He taught American History for 28 years at Grays Harbor College in Aberdeen, Washington, where he was recognized as Teacher of the Year five times.

An Eagle Scout and lifelong supporter of the Boy Scouts of America, Pete received the Silver Beaver Award and was an enduring mentor and example to young men.

Pete proudly served his country for 32 years in the U.S. Army, both in Field Artillery and as a Chaplain, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal three times. As the official State Chaplain of Washington, he was honored to christen the tall ship *Lady Washington* in Aberdeen, WA.

Civic duty remained close to his heart. Pete served on multiple committees for the City of West Jordan, contributed to local historical preservation, and served as President of the Mormon Trails Association and a member of the Oregon Trails Association.

A gifted writer and communicator, Pete loved corresponding with friends and family. He enjoyed golf, fishing, shooting, reading historical works, watching travel DVDs, and woodworking. His handmade wooden boxes and creations are cherished by many.

He loved music and in later years, spent an hour each day listening to his favorites. He retold how as a young boy learning the piano, he could play one hymn, Sweet is the Work. When announced that this hymn would be sung at

church from time to time, everyone knew it would be him on the piano to play it for the congregation

Pete loved deeply and lived fully. He is survived by his beloved wife, Jenny; sister, Gayle; his four children: Steve, Tom (Patty), Shelley (Alan), and Anne (Bruce); Jenny's children: Chuck Staib (Maggie), Karen Staib Geertsen, and Chris Staib (Mindy); many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Janet, and Jenny's son, Greg Staib.

Services:

1. **Viewing:** Sunday, July 6, 6:00–8:00 p.m. at Larkin Mortuary, 3688 West 12600 South, Riverton, UT
2. **Viewing:** Monday, July 7, 10:30–11:15 a.m. at the LDS Chapel, 9353 South Vista West Drive (3780 W), West Jordan, UT
3. **Funeral Service:** Monday, July 7, 11:30 a.m. at the same chapel
4. **Interment:** Monday, July 7, 2:00 p.m. at Utah Veterans Cemetery & Memorial Park, 17111 S. 1700 W., Bluffdale, UT

Pete leaves behind a legacy of service, learning, love, and faith. His influence will be felt for generations.

Those wishing to view the service via Zoom can click "Watch Service" or follow the link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81402441843