

Margaret LaRae Babbitt

October 18, 1938 ~ June 11, 2024

Margaret LaRae Murray Babbitt, 85, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on June 11, 2024. LaRae was born on October 18, 1938 in Twin Falls, Idaho. Her parents were Junius Bailey Murray and Margaret Hawkes Murray.

LaRae spent her first nine years in Filer, Idaho where her family was farming her uncle's farm. In 1948 her family moved to Serelda, Idaho where her mother taught school in a one room country school and her father worked for the forest service at the Porcupine Ranger Station.

LaRae was very active in school activities, clubs, band, and social groups. She graduated in 1955 from Wendell High. Soon after she enrolled in the nursing program at Rick’s Junior College and graduated on June 5, 1959. She went on to receive her BSN.

LaRae met and fell in love with Harold Thurman Babbitt. They were married on April 24, 1959. After 10 years they welcomed their son Kevin in 1969. The family enjoyed spending summers visiting the Babbitt Family cabin in Salmon, Idaho.

During her time in Idaho Falls, LaRae began her career as a Registered Nurse at the Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center. She loved working in the medical field and enjoyed spending time with her patients and colleagues. She was honored to help mothers bring their little ones into the world during her time in L&D. Her love of nursing and travel led LaRae to Yakima, Washington, and eventually Salt Lake City, Utah.

LaRae enjoyed traveling in her spare time. She had a great love for Hawaii and its beautiful scenery and culture. One of her most memorable trips was a cruise across Europe where she enjoyed all the different sights. Her favorite travel companion was her son, Kevin. Together they traveled to several different states, Canada, and explored the Pacific NW.

LaRae settled in Provo, Utah after retirement. As a BYU alumni, she loved being a member of the Cougar Club. She loved all things sports, especially BYU football games. As a season ticket holder for many years, LaRae never missed a home game and attended many of their away games. She loved celebrating the Fourth of July at the Stadium of Fire with her family, especially her granddaughter Arya. She enjoyed being a mother and was overjoyed with the arrival of her two grandchildren in recent years.

As an active LDS member, LaRae was part of the Grandview 9th ward for over 18 years. There she found joy being a member of the relief society for many years. She enjoyed making new friends with fellow ward members and neighbors.

The family would like to give a special thanks to the staff at Canyon Home Care, and to all those who have been her friend over the years. She will be greatly missed.

LaRae is survived by her son Kevin Babbitt (Jeovanna) of West Jordan, Utah. Her two beloved grandchildren, Arya and Archer Babbitt. Siblings, R Jay Murray, Oregon; Byron Kerr Murray (Ilene) Idaho; Carolyn Leong, Hawaii; Isabell Sudweeks (Jay-deceased), Idaho. LaRae is preceded in death by parents Junius Bailey Murray and Margaret Hawkes Murray; sister, Mary Carter (Virgil-deceased); brother, Blaine Murray, and sister, Amanda Murray.

Funeral Services will be held Wednesday, June 19th at 11:00 a.m. at Larkin Mortuary, 3688 West 12600 South, Riverton, Utah 84065. A viewing will be held 10-10:45 a.m. prior to the funeral service. Interment will take place at Wellsville Cemetery, Utah.

Funeral services will be streamed via Zoom for those wishing to attend virtually. To watch the services, click "Watch Services" above.