


# Merrill Lloyd Bone

*May 26, 1960 ~ October 31, 2021*

With great sadness we announce the passing of Merrill Lloyd Bone, 61. Merrill passed away peacefully October 31, 2021; he was surrounded by both his immediate family and his fire family during his passing. During his battle, Merrill was never alone. He spent his last days being visited by his family and guarded by his fire brothers.

Merrill has now been reunited with his parents, John Lloyd and Beverly Jean; his siblings, Lisa, Shari, and Bradley; his grandson, Liam; his aunt, Pat; and his beloved dog Snip. Merrill will be deeply missed by his loving wife (Laurie); sister Kim Bone; his children, Travis (Victoria), Maegan (Konrad), Emily (Sydney), and Trevor (Kristin). As well as his stepchildren, Tonia (Chuck), Hardy (Ruby), and Mandy. He was affectionately known by his adoring grandchildren, Aiden, Ozzy, Addison, Ethan, Brielle, Graysen, Holden, Charlotte, Milo, Norah, Ava, Oakley, Caydence, and Charley, as “Papa Bone”, or “Black Papa” when he was in his motorcycle gear.

Merrill lived a fast paced and exciting life. He enjoyed spending as much time outdoors as possible. He loved fishing, camping, hunting, and as a younger man, bull riding. “There isn’t a bull I can’t ride.” If he wasn’t spending his time outside, Merrill was working as a “jack-of-all-trades” or riding his motorcycle with his brotherhood, the “Leatherheads” MC.

Captain Bone lived a life of unequivocal service. As a 39-year veteran firefighter, he spent most of his time in the service of others. Throughout his fire career Merrill worked and retired from different departments within the state of Utah. He worked from his EMT to his Paramedic license and then moved onto the rank of Captain, all while continuing to obtain multiple undergraduate degrees and working on a graduate. Captain Bone was known for his expertise in any area of fire education and training and for the feeling of deep brotherhood he held so close to him. This led him to being a member of USAR, wildland firefighting, being a member of Task force 1 and many notable deployments, including the rescue and recovery operations of the 9-11 New York attack. Known for his “Merrill-isms” and quick wit, Merrill was loved by every soul he reached.

There was never a challenge Captain Bone wouldn’t face head on, including his recent fight with cancer. He struggled, defeated cancer, and once again returned to his fire duties. He never took the lives of others for granted, he was vaccinated against Covid-19, but his fight had left his immune system compromised. After contracting the illness, he fought a new battle to recover, and now is at peace.

Since losing Captain Bone, our lives will never be the same.

We will honor his legacy on Friday, November 5 from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm for a public viewing at Larkin Mortuary – Riverton, 3688 West 12600 South, Riverton, UT 84065.

Funeral Services will be open to the public and held at Olympus High School 4055 South 2300 East, Holladay, UT 84124. Funeral services will begin promptly at 11:00 am. Line of Duty Honors will take place during the funeral services.

The family kindly requests all in attendance at the viewing and funeral wear masks to help keep everyone safe.

A private family ceremony will take place following the funeral services.

For those unable to attend in person, the funeral services will be live streamed by clicking the “Watch Services” link above, or through the following link: https://www.youtube.com/c/UnifiedFireUtah/live.

Memorial contributions can be made at any Firefighters Credit Union or via GoFundMe. https://www.gofundme.com/f/bone-family-support?qid=9abac62227f73c95f5bb0c804dc8420d