

Monica Ilene Leake

December 29, 1935 ~ July 26, 2024

Monica Ilene Leake, cherished mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend, returned to the loving arms of our Heavenly Father on July 26, 2024.

Monica was born on December 29, 1935 in Salt Lake City, Utah to Elizabeth Opal and Lot Huntington Hancock. She married her eternal companion, Raymond Walker Leake, in the Salt Lake Temple on October 28, 1954, and together they enjoyed 57 wonderful years.

Monica was extremely talented with all types of handwork. Her hands were always busy, and she found joy in gifting her creations to family and friends. Her masterpieces included appliqued Christmas stockings for every member of the family; layette items for every new baby; counted cross stitch pictures for each family's home; and countless afghans, quilts, sweaters, hot pads, and dishrags.

Monica was a skilled seamstress and made many of her children's clothes, Halloween costumes, and Barbie outfits when they were young. Her daughters have fond memories of watching their mother sew, and under her guidance, they became skilled seamstresses themselves.

Monica had a passion for traveling. She especially loved her yearly trips to Hawaii and cruising with her family. Another of her passions included BYU football and cheering on her "boys in blue."

Monica was a faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and made it a priority to read her scriptures daily. She was a perfect example of visiting teaching and never missed a monthly visit. She supported many missionaries with the assistance they needed to fund their missions. She also served multiple service missions at the Bishop's Storehouse where she blessed the lives of those in need.

Monica was the epitome of the word "grandma." She adored all of her grandchildren and had the unique ability of making each of them feel like they were the most loved and most important. She made it a point to attend every recital, concert, pageant, ball game, and horse show she was invited to. She never missed a birthday and made sure each family member received a card to celebrate their special day.

Christmas was a special holiday for Monica. Each year, she spent weeks making baked goods to deliver to friends and neighbors during the holidays. Among those were her family's favorites: nutty coconut bread, pumpkin rolls, and Amish friendship bread. She cherished the family tradition of gathering on Christmas Eve. She prepared for this event all year long and made it a goal to finish her shopping by October. She had a knack for giving the best gifts, and often, Grandma's gifts were better than Santa's.

Monica loved deeply and hugged tightly, and her passing leaves a void in the lives of all who knew her. However, her family finds comfort in knowing she has been reunited with her beloved husband, Ray; her infant daughter, Tresea Ann; her son-in-law, Dan Pearson; her foster daughter, Florie Landvatter; her parents; her siblings; and her

precious grandbaby and great-grandbabies.

Monica is survived by her children, Vickie Pearson; Kevin (Shauna) Leake; Kathy (Brad) Nelson; Marilyn Spafford; Derick (Christie) Leake; her brothers, Dale Hancock and Clint (Jackie) Hancock; her brother-in-law, David (Elizabeth) Wilson; 24 grandchildren; and 38 great-grandchildren.

The family would like to thank the staff at Copper Creek Senior Memory Care for the excellent care and love they have shown for our mother.

Funeral services will be held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, located at 14400 South Redwood Road in Bluffdale, Utah on Friday August 9th at 11:00 am, with a viewing to precede the funeral, beginning at 9:30 am. A viewing will also be held on Thursday August 8th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Larkin Mortuary, located at 3688 West 12600 South in Riverton, Utah. Interment services will follow at Memorial Redwood Cemetery in West Jordan, Utah.

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