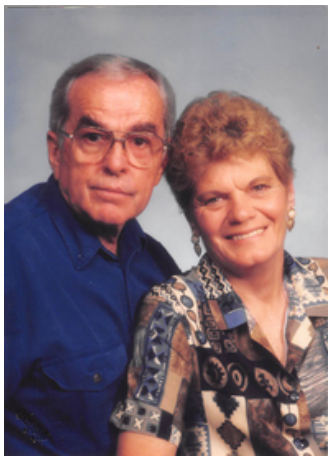

Barbara Richins Crebs

November 21, 1937 ~ August 5, 2020

Barbara Crebs beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother passed away August 5, 2020, of natural causes.

Barbara was born November 21, 1937, in Salt Lake City, Utah to Aldo and Helen Richins. As an only child, she was peppered with love by her mother and father. In all their family pictures, Barbara was always dressed in the coolest clothes for the time and the obvious center of attention. In short, life was good!

As a teenager, Barbara was compliant and a model of obedience – not! From the stories that came up during family gatherings, Barbara oftentimes went against the grain. Not in a bad way, but “her way.”

In 1953, she met the love of her life Lee Crebs. However, Lee was not her father’s first, second, or even third choice. Regardless, Barbara, the stubborn person she was (still is), disregarded her father and ultimately married Lee in August of 1954. It was the best decision she ever made. Her father, through the years, learned to love and respect Lee.

Shortly after marriage, Lee joined the United States Army and Barbara, forever Lee’s sidekick, went along as a loving and supporting wife. While supporting Lee in the Army, Barbara gave birth to their first-born son Randy in 1957. If you were to compare the number of pictures and home movies she took of Randy, compared to Mike (1958) and Penny (1960), Randy was clearly her favorite. He wanted that published!

In 1958, Lee was honorably discharged from the Army and they returned to Salt Lake City. Shortly thereafter, Barbara gave birth to Michael followed by Penny.

With three young kids, sorry Michelle you came later, she was extremely busy and fully engaged in their lives. She made sure they all learned how to swim, knew what was going on at school (one year she was even the PTA president), taught them how to ride and how not to ride a skateboard (fell and cracked her tailbone), and gave out some of the softest spankings ever. The kids had to fake that it hurt to ensure Dad did not have to redo it when he got home.

In 1968, just when she thought things would start getting easier, Michelle was born. With the large gap between Penny and Michelle, the camera came out again and Michelle became the new favorite, Sorry Randy.

Now with three young kids and a new-born, Barbara had to call upon the previously mentioned stubbornness to keep the house in order. She had to keep everyone quiet so Lee could sleep (he liked working graveyards), break up fights between two rambunctious boys, prevent an eight-year-old girl from burning the house down with her Easy Bake Oven, and keep the “new favorite” fed and dry. How it was done no one will ever know, but whatever she did it left an indelible impression on her four children because none of them had more than two children – go

figure.

As the kids grew up and left the nest, Barbara tried her hand at a few jobs outside the home, but the yearning of keeping her house tidy and welcoming called her back to what she liked most – home sweet home.

After Lee passed away in September of 2019, things were never the same for Barbara. She talked about him frequently and longed to be with him again. In the weeks before her passing, she bragged how they had never spent a wedding anniversary apart. Well, that streak still stands, because just 13 days prior to their 66-wedding anniversary Barbara left this earth to be with Lee.

Mom you will be forever loved by your children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and husband who you stood by for more than six decades. We will miss your dry sense of humor, your voice calling us into the house at the first sign of lightning (our playmates always got a perplexed look on their face when we ran home), the $30.00 you gave us for every birthday (the $30.00 started in the 80's, but she did not believe in cost of living raises. However, legend has it, Penny's husband Scott got $31.00), and the love you have shown us throughout the years.

The family would like to give special thanks to all the caretakers at Sagewood at Daybreak (senior living) and Canyon Home Care and Hospice. You were all awesome and showed great love and respect to our mother who more than likely showed you some of that dry sense of humor.

Barbara is survived by her son Randy (Gayle), son Michael (Lesley), daughter Penny (Scott), daughter Michelle (Blake), grandchildren Michael, Ryan, Colby, Lauren, Nick, and Madison, great grandchildren Carlon, Caylee, Emma, Leo, and Henry. Preceded in death by her beloved husband Lee.

Graveside service will be held at 10:00 am on Friday, August 14, 2020, at Larkin Sunset Gardens, 1950 East Dimple Dell Road (10600 South), Sandy, UT. Due to COVID 19, there will be no public visitation.