

Paula Maurine Cushing Palmer

December 7, 1950 ~ January 28, 2022

Paula Maurine Cushing Palmer, our beautiful wife, mother, grandmother and friend passed away January 28, 2022 after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.

Paula was born on December 7, 1950 to Paul Vernon Cushing and Va'Leen Gunn Cushing. Paula was an only child and spent most of her youth in the East Millcreek area of Salt Lake City where she attended Highland High School and graduated in 1969.

On December 29, 1968 Paula met Wain Palmer while she was a Senior in High School. They continued to date and shortly after she graduated they took a train ride to Grand Junction, Colorado where they had a lunch date at Lincoln Park. This is where they fell in love and their story began.

On November 24, 1969 she married the love of her life, Wain Palmer, in the Salt Lake City Temple where they were sealed for time and all eternity.

In 1971 they moved to Long Beach, California for a short time before returning to Salt Lake City where they would eventually settle down and start their family.

Murray City is where all of her children were raised and would later move to Riverton in 2000 where she lived out her remaining 22 years of life.

Because she was an only child, she really valued her friendships more than most. She was always so proud of maintaining friendships with her life-long friends that went back to grade school: Susan, Pat, Linda, Nanette, Kristin and Randy.

She made friends with all of her customers that she sold Avon to for over 20+ years and made great friends with people on the special needs bus where she worked as an aid for several years. There were two friends, later in life, whom she was especially close with; Sue and Jody. Sue just recently passed from cancer and perhaps, her very best friend ever, was Jody.

She also had the very best sister-in-laws and spoke often of how lucky she was to marry into a family that had seven sons so she could have six sisters.

She loved her children unconditionally and taught each of them good principles and values and what to look for in a spouse. She was an awesome example for her kids and made life so fun and easy. She loved spending 1-on-1 time with each of her kids as they became adults, usually lunch dates, or “just goofin,” a term she used for going shopping.

Paula was known for her beauty, but surprisingly, was unaware. She was stunningly beautiful all the way to the end, but it didn’t stop there. She was smart, kind, determined, caring, the ultimate mother hen and fiercely loyal.

She was also known for her strong opinions and her strength was immeasurable. She had a great sense of humor and compassion for anyone struggling in life. She was very sarcastic and even a bit snippy at times, too. She was a bit of a wild card, but she had amazing grace. She was a faithful wife and a loving mother and grandmother. She was the WHOLE DAMN PACKAGE!!

In Paula’s own written words she said, “I am so blessed to have had my five wonderful children and a wonderful husband. I want my children to know that I have learned that I have found a whole new big family by doing genealogy. They were wonderful people. Family means everything. It’s all that really matters. I’m proud of the stories of my ancestors as well as my own family; and someday your children’s, children’s, children will be reading about us. Thanks to my wonderful husband, friend and father to our children for helping me find my FAMILY.”

She is survived by her husband, Wain, her 5 children; Bryan, Ben, Dustin, Alyson, and Nathan; and 12 grandchildren of whom she was greatly blessed, Destri, Nate, BreAnn, Riley, Gavin, Oliver, Grayson, Anniston, Presley, Sloane, Dawson and Beckham.

She was preceded in death by her father, Paul Cushing; mother, Va'Leen Cushing, and in-laws Merlin and Elna Palmer.

Your song might be over, but your melody will linger on forever…

Please join us in celebrating Paula’s life at 11:00am on Saturday, February 5, 2022, at Larkin Mortuary Riverton, 3688 West 12600 South, Riverton, UT. A viewing will be held at the same location Friday evening, February 4, 2022, from 6-8pm, as well as Saturday prior to the funeral services beginning at 10:00am. Interment will follow at the Riverton City Cemetery.

To view the previously held funeral services, please click the "Watch Services" link above.