Susan Harbertson

March 24, 1959 ~ March 7, 2022

Susan Rae Turner Harbertson passed away peacefully on March 7, 2022, after a valiant and courageous battle with a glioblastoma brain tumor.

Susan was born in Logan, Utah on March 24, 1959, to Marden A. Turner and Verna Olsen Turner. She was the youngest of 6 children. Susan was raised and educated in Cache Valley, Utah. She lived in Young Ward with her family until she completed her first bachelor's degree at Utah State University.

She served a mission in the Michigan Dearborn Mission in 1982-1983. Upon returning home, Susan completed another bachelor's degree at USU in secondary education with a social studies composite. She moved to Salt Lake City during that time to do her student teaching at Olympus High School.

Her first position in her educational career was teaching history, psychology, and sociology at Mountain View High School in Orem, Utah. While she taught high school for 3 years, Susan worked on a master's degree in educational psychology-school counseling at the University of Utah. She also sang 1st Alto in the Mormon Youth Symphony and Chorus.

While singing in the Mormon Youth Symphony and Chorus, she met a handsome man with a beautiful baritone voice, and they fell in love singing beautiful music in the chorus. Mark Harbertson proposed marriage the following year. Mark is the love of her life, and they were married on July 18, 1987 in the Logan Temple. They had 34 happy years together.

Upon completion of her master's degree, Susan became a school counselor in Granite School District. She spent 22 years at Olympus Junior High, 3 years at West Lake Junior High, 1 year at Jefferson Junior High, and retired from Bennion Junior High after 5 years. Susan was named Utah Middle School Counselor of the year in 1998 and loved working with students. She influenced thousands of lives at this important age. She would constantly run into current and former students around the valley. Even while traveling from Italy to Hawaii and everywhere in between, Susan would be recognized by students she influenced.

Susan's health was a great challenge her entire adult life, stemming from 2 car accidents in the first 2 years of her marriage. She relied on her faith and learning new skills to help her persevere and reach her retirement after 34 years in education.

She served faithfully in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, teaching Primary, Relief Society, Young Women, and Sunday School. Susan and Mark had the opportunity to serve a senior mission in the New Jersey Morristown Mission in 2019-2020. They were assigned to the Morristown Ward and the Morristown Spanish Branch, taught English lessons to immigrants, served at Ellis Island helping people with family history, and worked in the mission office. They loved serving and helping the young missionaries.

Susan loved music and artistic endeavors, such as home decorating and scrapbooking. She loved decorating her home for each new season and holiday. Susan loved giving wedding and baby showers for her nieces and nephews, hosting many of them over the years. She also sent out hundreds of greeting cards every year to her family and friends, always remembering their birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays. She just finished sending her last cards in December 2021, while she battled her illness.

Susan is survived by her husband, Mark; siblings David (Marilyn) Turner, Allen (Billie) Turner, Marianne (Brent) Fredrickson, Jeffrey Turner, Dixon (Donna) Sandoval, and Deborah Turner; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was proceeded in death by her parents.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, March 12 at 11:00 am at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at 10206 South 3200 West in South Jordan, Utah. A viewing will be held at the same address on Friday, March 11, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm, and prior to the service beginning at 10:00 am. Interment will be at Bountiful City Cemetery.

Thanks to all her care providers at Huntsman Cancer Institute, Carrington Court Assisted Living, and Quality Home Care and Hospice and to you who have fasted and prayed with us. We are very grateful for your support. A special thanks to Vanetta at Release Works who provided pain reduction and relief for Susan over the past several years that allowed her to keep working and functioning.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Humanitarian Fund in Susan's name at https://philanthropies.churchofjesuschrist.org/humanitarian-services or call 1 (800) 525-8074.

To view the recorded service, please click on the following link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/dBCb5IzlVPVXz3bObNYMF1uoDNylF8tPPfA54rcCEULJ_6dv9IGkSgm4h_wVsPE7.RA