

Verdi Thomas Smith

February 4, 1943 ~ April 24, 2023

Verdi Thomas Smith passed away on April 24th 2023. Born February 4th 1943 to Gerard Thomas Smith and Nona Jones Smith. His parents loved music and named Verdi after a famous composer. Verdi also loved music and was very musically talented. Like his name he was unique in his kindness and generosity to those he came in contact with.

Verdi was a member of the first class to graduate from the newly built Highland High School. He gained a love of running while on the Highland High track team and continued running until he was no longer able; even completing the St. George Marathon in 1981.

He went on to graduate from the University of Utah in accounting. Ever the diligent worker, he paid his way through school while supporting his young family. He met his sweetheart, Sherry, in a Latin American dance class at the university. They danced through their courtship and after being married in the Salt Lake Temple in April of 1968, they continued to dance through their marriage.

After being born and raised in Salt Lake CIty, Verdi left the state briefly after enlisting in the National Guard and completing his basic training at Fort Ord California.

In 1992 he was diagnosed with a rare form of Multiple Sclerosis. For the next 30 years he battled the steady decline in his physical capabilities and the ever changing expectations about how life would play out. He was in constant pain but seldom complained. He was a gracious and sweet man.

Verdi is survived by his wife Sherry Pearce Smith. Sons Derek Verdi Smith and Damon Noble Smith (Kaylie). Daughters Audra Lynette Smith (Paul) and Adrienne Smith Gagnon (Darrin) and 9 grandchildren.

For those desiring the view the recorded service, please click on the blue "Watch Services" tab above.