

Gordon McKell Beckstrom

December 19, 1933 ~ August 21, 2020

1933-2020

Gordon Mckell Beckstrom age 86, husband, father, brother, grandfather, great grandpa and dear friend passed away peacefully at home with his family on Friday, August 21, 2020. He is now reunited with the love of his life Arleen.

Born December 19, 1933 to William Robertson Beckstrom and Della McKell Beckstrom in Spanish Fork, Utah. He was the oldest of 3 brothers. At 19 he served in the Western Canada Mission. Gordon married his sweetheart, Arleen Elizabeth Hedberg, June 7, 1957 in the Salt Lake Temple.

Gordon was the father to five children, four daughters and one son whom he loved very much.

Gordon was a hard worker and he always maintained several jobs to support his family; some of those jobs included the family working together.

He spent his life working in the Utah school system. He started as an art teacher at Valley Jr High. He then went on to get his Master's Degree in Education Administration. From there he worked as a guidance counselor at Granite High School and then became the Vice Principal at Cottonwood High School.

When Gordon retired he kept busy serving in many capacities for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He served a proselytizing and temple patrons mission in Sweden with his wife. As a couple they also served a mission overseeing Deseret Industries and their distributions to other non-profit organizations in the western states. Gordon was a scriptorian and was called to serve on an LDS committee to contribute to the Old Testament footnotes for Isaiah of which he was very proud.

Gordon was also an avid reader, often reading three books a month. He was an excellent artist and has over 100 beautiful paintings. When he retired, he spent many hours painting and sharing his talents with others in his art studio. He loved hearing and sharing good stories or jokes. His laughter was infectious and usually funnier than the joke itself.

Gordon had a lot of great friends and neighbors who took time to visit and look after him, especially after his wife Arleen passed.

Family and God were everything to him, he was always there for us.

Gordon is survived by his five children; Laurie Funston, Brock (Kristie) Beckstrom, Christy (Russ) Harris, Jane (Chris) Emery, LaNae Jensen, brother Glenn M. Beckstrom, 20 grandchildren, and 26 great grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his wife Arleen Elizabeth Hedberg Beckstrom, parents William R. Beckstrom and Della McKell Beckstrom, and brother Kent M. Beckstrom.

A special thanks to the caregivers at Ashford Assisted Living, Canyons Home Health, Crista Emery, Jane Emery, and Laurie Funston.

A public viewing will be held on Monday, August 31, 2020 from 2:45 – 3:45 pm at Larkin Sunset Gardens, 1950 East Dimple Dell Road, Sandy, Utah. By invitation only, due to Covid-19 private services will be held from 4:00 - 5:00 pm. Interment at the Larkin Sunset Gardens Cemetery.