Willis James "Jim" Mattinson

April 1, 1938 ~ July 17, 2023

Willis James Mattinson (Jim), passed away peacefully Monday July 17th, 2023 surrounded by his dear wife and family. He was born on April fool's day, April 1, 1938 in Spanish Fork Utah as an only child to Clara and Charles Willis Mattinson. Jim became an accomplished trumpet player, and tennis player in High School. He played his trumpet in a local jazz band. He met his sweetheart and future wife early in his school days.

He worked many jobs as a teenager including helping his dad (Boss) at Del Monte canning factory in Spanish Fork. Dad liked studying and "hitting the books" his entire life. His most studied book ended up being a medical book. He graduated from BYU and the University of Utah earning a degree in Business and a Master's Degree Industrial Engineering. His employment included 18 years at Kennecott and several years with Hercules working as an industrial engineer. Dad was a hard and dedicated worker. He worked shift work at Kennecott and worked second jobs to contribute to the family for outings and vacations.

Jim developed a love of jogging and ran many races in his life including 5 marathons. He later enjoyed walking around the neighborhood and the Sandy area and probably tallied these walked miles into the thousands. Neighbors would see him walking almost anywhere and often miles from home. Numerous pairs of shoes met their fate on dad's feet. It is ironic that he would later lose the big toe on his right foot due to an unknown cause. He liked Pepsi and would walk a fair distance for a good fountain drink.

He loved camping with his family especially at Capitol Reef and the Spruces. He and LaWana loved their truck and trailer. For 25 years dad would install the "Club" on his truck's steering wheel to keep his truck safe from unseen thieves. He kept his dashboard like new with a sun-shade always in place and the window cracked just a little.

Dad had many unusual health challenges in his life and valiantly battled each one as they came. His dear wife LaWana coached him back to life after a serious and sudden brain condition nearly took his life. He was 47. The resulting brain condition required him to learn to read and write all over again and he had to struggle a great deal even with simple things we all take for granted. Over the years, other health challenges presented and each time dad confronted them with great strength and determination.

Jim shared an endearing, exuberant, and enthusiastic love for all people he came to know. He was never shy with giving hugs and kisses or pats on the leg, and even to people that least expected it. Sometimes he would have a little food on his mouth when he kissed you. He loved to laugh and always showed unique compassion and deep love for each family member.

Three years ago he and mom were delivered the devastating news that their youngest child and son Scott had not survived a serious car accident. Monumental grief and sorrow were endured patiently. He continuously prayed for his family over the years and had a deep and abiding testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ. He was always a faithful

member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He loved home teaching and was loved by his fellow neighbors and Ward members. The many years of Jim's suffering and constant health challenges turned him into an unusually kind and loveable man.

Jim is survived by his dear and cherished wife LaWana, children: Susan (Stephen Mannschreck) Mattinson, Craig (Pamela) Mattinson, Pam (Brian) Capson, Lorraine (Cary) Bruteig, Scott (preceded dad's death) (Cammie) Mattinson, 21 grandchildren, and 18 great-grandchildren. A special thank you is expressed by the family to the many compassionate health care workers, and later, hospice caregivers that helped dad along his life's journey.

A viewing will be held Tuesday July 25, 2023, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at Larkin Sunset Gardens, 1950 East Dimple Dell Road (10600 South). Funeral Services will be Wednesday July 26, 2023, at 11 am at the Hillcrest 1st Ward, 8485 South 1000 East, with a viewing one hour prior to the service. Interment will follow at the Spanish Fork City Cemetery, 420 South 400 East.

For those unable to attend the service in person, the family invites you to join via Zoom at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86167232921. A free Zoom account is required and you will need to sign in to join.