

Wilma Workman Gardner

February 22, 1924 ~ February 24, 2024

Wilma Workman Gardner passed away on February 24, 2024, of causes incident to age just 2 days after her 100th birthday. She was born February 22, 1924, in Delta, Utah the third child of John Cornelius Workman and Florence Atella Cook Workman. Her father, John, was serving a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints assigned to the Southern States Mission at the time of her birth. When Wilma was 18 months old her father returned from his mission and the family moved to Provo, Utah and then to Salt Lake City where she lived her youth and graduated from East High School. After her family was raised, she attended Brigham Young University earning an Independent Studies degree in 1982.

On March 8, 1943, she was married to Kenneth Norman Gardner of Delta, Utah in the Salt Lake Temple. In their early married years, they lived in Salt Lake City, Idaho Falls, Idaho, Atascadero, California and Fresno, California. They moved back to Idaho Falls in 1956 for her husband's employment in the electrical wholesale business. In 1961 she was instrumental in supporting him as he founded Electrical Wholesale Supply in Idaho Falls.

In 1969 she served as a companion to Kenneth as he was called to serve as President of the Hawaii Honolulu Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Upon their return in 1972 they settled in Salt Lake City where he founded Electrical Wholesale Supply of Utah. They lived in Salt Lake City until 1987 when they were called to serve in the Singapore Mission assigned to serve in Madras, India. Kenneth died in 1988 while they were serving in Madras, and she returned home to Salt Lake City.

In 1991 Wilma was called to serve for one year in the Washington DC South Mission. Shortly after her return she married Wilbur Franklin Wayman in 1992. They built a home and moved to St. George, Utah and then to Provo where they lived until he died in 1997. Wilma then married long-time acquaintance and friend Donald Angus Kirk in 2002. He preceded her in death in 2015.

In addition to her missionary service, she served in numerous callings in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints including ward and stake Relief Society President, Young Women Presidencies, Gospel Doctrine Teacher and others. She also participated in the Indian Placement and Unwed Mother Programs sponsored by the Church.

Wilma is survived by her five children Diane (Don) Adamson of Salt Lake City, Utah, John (Karen) Gardner of Orem, Utah, Gary (Debbie) Gardner of Draper, Utah, Gil (Rhonda) Gardner of Washington, Utah, and Reed (Bobbi) Gardner of West Bountiful, Utah. She is also survived by 28 grandchildren, 101 great-grandchildren, and 21 great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, four brothers and four sisters, husbands Kenneth Gardner, Wilbur Wayman, Donald Kirk, daughter-in-law Cindy Gardner, grandson Jay Adamson, granddaughter Auralee Scott and great-granddaughter Joy Weaver.

Special thanks are given to her several faithful long-term private caregivers and the professionals of Utah Home Health and Hospice and Aspen Senior Care and many friends and ward members of the Riverwood Ward of the Provo Utah Edgemont Stake.

A viewing will be held from 9:30 to 10:45 am Saturday March 2, 2024, at the Larkin Sunset Gardens located at 1950 E 10600 South in Sandy, Utah. The funeral will be held afterwards, beginning at 11:00 am. Interment will be held at Larkin Sunset Gardens.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to the Humanitarian Fund of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.