

Darlene Hughes Jensen

June 27, 1929 ~ July 23, 2020

Darlene passed away in her wheelchair, while napping at the table with her newspaper on July 23 at the age of 91. She was the last surviving child of Thomas and Katie Mortimer Hughes. She was born in Salt Lake City, the 6th of 8 children. Twila Hughes is her last surviving sister-in-law. She leaves behind her husband of 71 years, Byron David Jensen and 6 children; Jan (Neil Budge), Mark (Mary), Darrel (Tami), Vern (KayLynn), Robert (Sheri), and Carl (Judy). She is also survived by 26 of 27 grandchildren, along with their spouses, and 72 great-grandchildren. Also dear to her were her many nieces, nephews and “adopted” nieces and nephews. She had a huge heart and always wanted to champion the underdog. She was a BIG BYU fan and loved the Jazz.

Darlene was raised in Salt Lake. She and Byron raised their family in Orem, Utah. She worked as a florist as a child and off and on throughout her life. She worked as a librarian for Orem City for 15 years and told thousands of stories at “Story Time.” She served for over 30 years as a Primary Chorister without knowing how to read music. She was a voracious reader and read 2 novels and finished at least one jigsaw puzzle with Byron in her last week. She loved God and knew he loved her.

In December 2015 she suffered a fall and a dislocated shoulder. She moved to Legacy Assisted Living in Provo. These last few years have not been easy but she has struggled through without much complaining, doing the best she could. Two years ago she left her friends at Legacy to join Byron after they sold the family home. They have since lived at Lehi Covington Assisted Living. She said she would rather be with him than anyone. She survived breast cancer, a heart attack, the death of her first grandchild, and the struggles of her children and grandchildren. Her last words to her daughter this week were “Go, have fun, I’m OK, I will be fine.” That, she would say to all of us!

Family has opted to do a private viewing and graveside service.