



## Cleone Johnson Rowley

September 16, 1929 - March 26, 2020

Cleone Johnson Rowley left this life peacefully at home March 26, 2020. She was born September 16, 1929 in the Iron County Hospital to Ivan and Orna Gillies Johnson of Parowan, Utah. As a young girl, Cleone worked side by side with her mother and three generations of her grandmothers operating the Paxton Hotel on the corner of Main and Center Street.

She was bright and interested in many things. During her school years she excelled in math, science and language and made lifelong friends. She also enjoyed music. At the age of 16, she sang a solo in Parowan's first Christmas Cantata.

After graduating from Parowan High School, she attended BYU in Provo where she became better acquainted with a young man from her hometown, Robert Alvin (Bob) Rowley. They were married January 24, 1948. After Bob's graduation, they made their home in Parowan where they welcomed eight children into their hearts and home. By example, they instilled in their children a deep and broad curiosity, a sense of loving kindness and an appreciation of music. Her children have fond memories of their mom at the piano playing songs from Rachmaninoff, Debussy, Ravel and the beautiful melodies of her era.

Later in life, Cleone and Bob's marriage ended, but their love and support of their children and grandchildren carried on.

The following tribute written by Cleone's grandchild, Jessica, paints a fitting portrait of her life and influence on those around her.

“Grandma was a unique woman who lived in the small town of Parowan, Utah. She was an avid reader with a love for the universe. I grew up with her showing me things beyond the earth through her telescope. Her walls were adorned with photos of galaxies. She was a skilled seamstress who made draperies as a profession, along with being the town librarian for years. I watched a lot of fashion shows on tv with her as a child. She would give me a penny for each pin I picked up in her sewing rooms. Then she would take me to a little shop where I would buy paper dolls.

She always had astronomy magazines and many books around. I read Gulag Archipelago as a tween after seeing it in her room. Her nails were always done up in red, and I loved her sleek, dark hair. One of my earliest memories is hearing her sing Mares Eat Oats to help me fall asleep at nap time.

So many things have changed in my 47-year life, but up until this morning my Grandma Rowley in that beloved, memory filled house is the one and only thing I can think of that had stayed constant. I cherish how steady and sweet she was for me and all the love she gave.”

Many in the community came to know her as she served them in the Parowan Library. She found great joy in personally matching books to readers.

Cleone is survived by her loving sister, Lola Ann (Claude) Jones and by her children Robert Alan (Kathryn) Rowley, Guy James Rowley, Lorraine (Mike) Thompson, Russell J (Kathleen) Rowley, and Lynna Kaye Rowley. She is also survived by 23 grandchildren, 55 great grandchildren and 5 great, great grandchildren.

Preceding her in death are her siblings Carlyle G (Marie) Johnson and Ida Eleen Evans and Cleone’s children Richard Johnson Rowley, Ryan Gage Rowley and Laurel Ann Rowley.

Interment will be in the beautiful Parowan Cemetery beside her three children. A family memorial will be held to honor her life at a later date due to Corona virus restrictions.

Thank you to her caregivers Brad Haaney, Lynette Mangold, Iron County Home Health, Sun Tree Hospice and all who have loved and cared for her.



# Cemetery Details

## Parowan

300 South Canyon Road  
Parowan, UT

# Events

**Details are pending.**

# Tribute Wall

GT

“ Aunt Cleone was always to me one of the most beautiful woman I ever knew. She was so kind to me as little boy when I would spend a few days at their house with my cousins. She will always be wonderful memories too me.

**Gordon Topham** - March 29, 2020 at 01:48 PM

RR

*Thank you Gordon*

**Russell Rowley** - March 29, 2020 at 07:14 PM



“ I feel so very honored and priviaged to have had your great friendship . yourbeing gone is such a huge loss foe everyone who knew u. i learned so much from you over the last 5 or 6 years i feel so very lucky. so many people who had the chance to spend time with u and didnt just really missed out and will never really no how truely wonderful u were and what a great heart u had R I P sweet lady I will luv u and miss u for ever u may be gone but never forgotten To the family im sorry for your loss Lynnette

**Lynnette Mangold** - March 29, 2020 at 09:35 AM

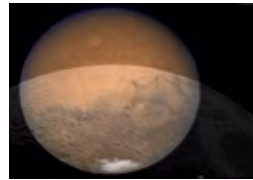
RR

*Thank you so much Lynette, I know how much mom loved and appreciated you. We as her children can't thank you enough for your kindness, service and love for our mom.  
Russell*

**Russell Rowley** - March 29, 2020 at 10:48 AM

RR

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Russell Rowley** - March 29, 2020 at 12:05 AM

LT

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Lorraine Thompson** - March 28, 2020 at 08:52 PM

LT

*"Days of Fun" with Mom, Guy, Bobby and Lorraine*

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**Lorraine Thompson** - March 28, 2020 at 08:49 PM

LT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Lorraine Thompson** - March 28, 2020 at 08:10 PM

LT

*Cleone at peace.*

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**Lorraine Thompson** - March 28, 2020 at 08:11 PM

LT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lorraine R Thompson - March 28, 2020 at 08:02 PM

LT

*So blessed to be theirs.*

Lorraine R Thompson - March 28, 2020 at 08:03 PM

MT

*It's always hard for me to put into words feelings that I have for others, particularly family and aunt Cleone was indeed family. As a child, the home of Uncle Bob and Aunt Cleone was always a favorite weekend destination. Yes, I was anxious to play with cousins, but I was equally excited to feel the embrace of Uncle Bob and Aunt Cleone. I loved the way they would make me feel. They both took a personal interest in me and Aunt Cleone made me feel loved as though I were one of her own. She was a beautiful person inside and out. My feelings for her continued throughout my life. In later years I was saddened by the adversity she was called upon to endure. It seems very unfair to me and I hope and pray that she is in a better pace now, with family that makes he feel the way she always made me feel. Rest in peace Aunt Cleone, you left your mark on me and many others during your mortal probation. LOVE YOU - LOVE YOUR FAMILY!*

Marshall R Topham - March 30, 2020 at 11:28 PM

LT

*Thank you, Marshall for sharing your beautiful memories and kind thoughts. I know Mom loved you too, as I do.*

Lorraine Thompson - April 01, 2020 at 11:32 AM

LT

*Many years ago, my brother Guy Rowley wrote a beautiful tribute to Mom as a Mother's Day Gift. It is a perfect snapshot of their shared love. Mom kept a framed copy on her kitchen table for the rest of her life. He has given me permission to share it here.  
(Lorraine R Thompson)*

*On Mother's Day (Written for Mom by Guy)*

*Mom, hear what shall say, for it is true  
That half of what's inside of me is you  
And all these things you share with me, your boy.  
If I am happy, greater is your joy;  
If I am sad, half that is borne by you;  
If I achieve, my pride expands by two;  
If I should fail, your eyes make me the best.  
I've felt your heart alive within my breast  
And know your worth: I see you with the stars.  
You are my best and truest friend; I'm yours.*

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**Lorraine Thompson** - April 01, 2020 at 11:36 AM

RR

*Thank you Marshall, I feel the same way about my dear Aunt Afton and Uncle Waldo and the "My Three Sons" they raised. Love to you and your family.*

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**Russell Rowley** - April 02, 2020 at 11:14 PM