



Colleen Later

April 30, 1934 - February 7, 2026

Colleen Later, age 91, passed away on 7 February 2026, in St. George, Utah. She was born 30 April 1934, in Cedar City, Utah to Clynn LaNor and Rilla Hall Davenport. She married Ralph Wilford (Bud) Later, in Yuma Arizona on 20 July 1951. Their marriage was later solemnized in the Los Angeles California, LDS Temple on 22 August 1956.

Colleen had a great faith in God and His love for us. She served in many capacities in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, including Music Director, Young Woman's President, Relief Society President and Temple Patron.

Colleen tenaciously followed her passion for art and graduated from Utah State University with a Master of Fine Arts degree on 3 June 1978. Her specialty was floral art and sculpture. Her work has been shown in galleries throughout the United States. She was one of Utah State University's Flying Professors. She frequently flew to Eastern Utah to teach art for the University Extension Service. She was Gallery Director for the Alliance for the Varied Arts (AVA) in Logan Utah. She was a Gallery Director/Owner in Charlottesville, Virginia and St. George, Utah. Additionally, she taught Watercolor and Sculpture at Central Oregon Community College.

Colleen was a passionate advocate for education. Although she dropped out

of high school at a young age, she worked tirelessly to complete her university degrees while raising seven children and helping her husband in his businesses.

Colleen was a lifelong learner. She continued her artwork daily until the last month of her life. Her artwork, honoring God's wondrous creations, is scattered in many homes and public places. She donated several paintings for auction benefiting Hurricane Katrina victims in 2005. Many of her paintings and drawings are cherished gifts to her family and friends.

Her husband Bud Later, preceded her in death on 13 October 2015. She is survived by her children, Debra Murray of Virginia Beach, Virginia; Ralph Timothy Later of Eagle Mountain, Utah, Linda Kemer of Idaho Falls, Idaho; Laura Delis of St. George, Utah; Jack Later of West Jordan, Utah; Stacy Beus of Nibley, Utah; and Don Later of Bountiful, Utah. Her living siblings are Betty Gubler of Tehachapi California and John Davenport of Mesa, Arizona. She has twenty-six grandchildren, sixty-six great grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents Clynn and Rilla Davenport, and three siblings Vance, Shannon, and Alvin Davenport. Colleen was the oldest of her family.

Our family would like to thank Bristol Home Hospice, and Brighton Hospice, Doctors, Nurses, CNAs, Friends, and Family including sweet Mercedes Diaz, each has helped care for Colleen over the last two years.

Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday February 17, 2026, at 11:00 am at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 2850 South, 1000 West, Nibley, Utah. A viewing will be held at 9:00 am on the same day/place.

Interment will be at the Logan Utah Cemetery.

Family and friends are invited to share tributes online at www.SerenityStG.co

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Previous Events

Viewing

FEB 17. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (MT)

Nibley LDS Chapel
2850 South 1000 West
Nibley, UT

Viewing

FEB 17. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (MT)

Nibley LDS Chapel
2850 South 1000 West
Nibley, UT

Funeral Service

FEB 17. 11:00 AM (MT)

Nibley LDS Chapel
2850 South 1000 West
Nibley, UT

Funeral Service

FEB 17. 11:00 AM (MT)

Nibley LDS Chapel
2850 South 1000 West
Nibley, UT

Graveside Service

FEB 17. 12:30 PM - 12:45 PM (MT)

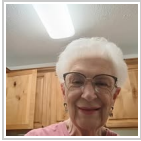
Logan City Cemetery
1000 North 1200 East
Logan , UT

Burial

FEB 17 (MT)

Logan City Cemetery
1000 North 1200 East
Logan , UT

Tribute Wall



“ I wish I had met Coleen earlier in my life. We(my husband and I) always enjoyed our visits, and felt her love. My husband died on February 12th. She treated everyone like family.

Kathleen McAllister - March 22 at 05:30 PM

JL

“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Wall*



Jack Later - March 02 at 11:40 PM

JL

“ 1 file added to the album *Funeral Audio Recording*



Jack Later - March 02 at 11:36 PM

JL

“ 1 file added to the *tribute wall*



Jack Later - March 02 at 11:36 PM

JL

“ Mom, I believe that every very now and then, when God wants to bring beauty in the world, he creates a flower. Some of my favorites are Lillys, Iris, Orchids, Fuchsia, Carnation, Birds of Paradise, Roses, Daisies, Chrysanthemums, and many others.

On the other hand, sometimes God needs extra help to beautify the world. The names of Michelangelo, Da Vinci, O’keeffe, van Gogh, Stradivari, Handel, Rogers and Hammerstein and the Carpenters come to mind.

You were blessed to be one of the choice artists to bring beauty to the world. Although you had to work hard at your craft (as all masters must), your passion for beauty is a gift from God. You create beauty in art and in other people! What an amazing gift! Not only do you create a masterpiece with a pencil and paint brush, but you bring beauty into the world in so many other ways. One thing I have always appreciated is your ability to listen. How beautiful! I feel I can share just about anything with you. It reminds me of the game Show-and-Tell. I can share my interests in family, teaching, genealogy and temple work, science, sports, and even business. I can also share my frustrations and fears. When I share with you, I always have a captivated audience.

I believe one of the reasons why my life was spared several times, was so that I can feel and learn what love and light is about from you. Even today, when I leave your home, I feel better. It is the best therapy in the world to be with you. Sometimes when I leave the condo to go to my other home in West Jordan, I feel like I am on cloud nine. At that instance a quote from Joseph Smith comes to mind; “I had actually seen a light, and in the midst of that light I saw two Personages, and they did in reality speak to me.... I knew it. I knew that God knew it, and I could not deny it.”

I have never seen a vision, but I know what love and light is like because of you. I always feel uplifted when I am with you. It is easy to feel the spirit when I am with you.

Because flowers are your specialty, it reminds me of seven birth flowers. Daisy (April), Daffodil (March), Rose (June), Chrysanthemum (November), Narcissus (December), and Aster (September). These represent the birth months of Deb, Tim, Linda,

Laura, Jack, Stacy, and Don. Like a difficult painting, you have been working on us for a long time. You never give up.

You taught us to love God and to love and care for other people.

Here are some names of others you cared for; Susan Later, Sandy Colaw, Eddy Dunkin, Dana, Granny, Vance, Shannon, and Alvin.

All of them enjoyed the beauty you created, both visually and in their hearts. You were their sounding board. You cared for them deeply.

Much of what you know about caring for others, you learned from Granny. It was sad to see her go as a relatively young age. But her love for you is never ending. Many of those Granny Girl traits live on in you. Her love of beauty, her listening ear and patience is also exemplified in you.

I can't remember the names all of the church members you helped. But I know you have a special place in your heart for the Mutual girls in the North Las Vegas 4th ward and the ladies in the Sisters Oregon branch when you were the Relief Society President.

In additions, I have a few favorite memories.

Rip the Ripper. I didn't like him, but looking back I think it was funny that he ran after you too. I remember that you defended me when Dad found out I wasn't feeding the chickens. I said that Rip the Ripper would attack me whenever I tried to feed the chickens. The next day, we had him for dinner (my kids get the long story).

Performing the Sound of Music. You kept all of us busy. Somehow, we were willing to follow you at such a young age.

Singing next to you on the piano bench learning the songs from Sound of Music, South Pacific, West Side Story, Music Man, Mary Poppins, and many others.

My mission: Dad gave me a hard time about my mission farewell talk. I said, "Dad is the head of the family, but Mom has all the control."

Jack Later - February 20 at 05:44 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Funeral Audio Recording*



Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah - February 19 at 11:46 AM

TD

“ *One of my favorite things about Colleen is the way that she took such a deep interest in all the things we were doing in our lives every time I would see her. She would remember that I had a race coming up or she would ask about my running and my job. She always had a genuine curiosity about what each of the kids were doing in their lives. Colleen was always such a good listener. Another good memory I have of her was when we took a family road trip to Oregon to see my dad and Colleen made it such a special trip. She took time to make food and we spent time together playing dominoes. She also took time to play a little game with my kids and show them the pollywogs. And then when we took my dad out to the fishing pond, I observed how much care she had towards my dad and she was so worried that he might get sunburned so she made sure he had a hat. When I was in the kitchen with her, she talked about how glad she was to have another woman in the house to talk with, as she was always stuck with just Bud and my dad in the house. Lol*

Colleen is such a good example of caring deeply for others. Thank you Colleen!

Love, Tiffany Diaz

Tiffany Diaz - February 17 at 10:16 AM

JL

Thank you Tiffany. Your tribute was right on key! Jack

Jack Later - February 20 at 05:30 PM

SM

“ Spencer & Debra Murray purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Colleen Later.



Spencer & Debra Murray - February 13 at 06:43 PM

FK

“ Florene Mickelson and Chrisie Kump planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Colleen Later.

Florene Mickelson and Chrisie Kump - February 13 at 03:01 PM

FK

“ Florene Mickelson and Chrisie Kump purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Colleen Later.



Florene Mickelson and Chrisie Kump - February 13 at 03:01 PM

FW

“ Fenton and Laurie Whetstone purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Colleen Later.



Fenton and Laurie Whetstone - February 13 at 01:56 PM