



Dolores (Dee) Briggs Thomas

June 19, 1927 - May 20, 2015

Ethel Dolores (Dee) Spencer Briggs Thomas, our spunky mother, grandma, and great-grandma passed away the 20th of May 2015 at her home. She was 87. The child of Christine (Tissie) and Herbert Spencer, she grew up in Williams Lake, British Columbia, Canada. She married Fred Azer Briggs in Williams Lake, and they were later sealed in the Salt Lake Temple. Together they raised six beautiful children. After our dad passed away, Dee married Reed Thomas.

She is survived by her 5 children, Robert (Julia), Luanne (Scott) Savage, Mark (Christine), Kay (Rick) Berry, and Curtis (Cristie) Briggs. 29 grandchildren, 57 great-grandchildren, and two on the way. Dee was preceded by one son, Christopher Fred Briggs, her sister Kathleen, her brother Robert, her husband, Fred, her parents, step-father, Naussau Sutton, and our step-father, Reed.

Dee was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints where she served for many years as Young Women's President, camp director, Regional Sports Director, and choir. She loved writing Road Shows and working with the youth. She was gifted in the arts: painting, sketching, crewel embroidery, and needlepoint. Always an individualist, she had unique handwriting, and she wrote letters to many expressing kind words, praise, and inspiring quotes. Receiving a letter from our mother was priceless. She faithfully wrote to each grandchild every week while they served their

missions. In addition, she took pride in making handmade birthday cards, and took an interest in each grandchild and their talents. Mom opened her home to many nieces and nephews, and considered them part of her immediate family. In later years, Fred and Dee served an LDS mission to Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. She had a testimony of Jesus Christ and read the Book of Mormon over and over again.

For Fred and Dee, skiing became a passion. She was a ski instructor for Brighton Ski school for ten years. Her passion turned to tennis where she was fiercely competitive, and started competing in the Huntsman Senior Games, and achieved three gold medals. With her 2nd marriage to Reed, they competed in games throughout the inter-mountain west. She referred to Reed as her "coach" as he mentored her at age 75 in taking up track and field events. Reed taught her how to compete in throwing the discus, shot put, and javelin, and other events. Proudly, they served as Ambassadors for the World Senior Games. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday May 23 in St. George at Sunset Stake Center 100 No. Dixie Dr. Viewing from 10:00-10:45. Another viewing will be held on Wednesday May 27th in Salt Lake City for family and friends from 10:00-10:45 at the Milo Way Chapel 2625 East Milo Way, Holladay, Utah, 84117. Funeral services will begin at 11:00. We love you mother!

Please share condolences and memories at www.serenitystg.com.

Cemetery Details

Wasatch Lawn Memorial Park

3401 S. Highland Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84057

Previous Events

Viewing

MAY **23**. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (MT)

Sunset 11th Ward
82. N. Dixie Drive
St. George, UT 84770

Viewing

MAY **27**. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (MT)

Holladay 18th /28th Chapel
2625 E. Milo Way
Holladay, UT 84305

Service

MAY **27**. 11:00 AM (MT)

Holladay 18th /28th Chapel
2625 E. Milo Way
Holladay, UT 84305

Tribute Wall

TG

“ I was just thinking of this beautiful lady the other day. Many years have passed since I last saw her. My family & I got to know her & Fred when they served their mission in Winnipeg. She was kind, fun, helpful in our ward and caring. I will always remember how special she made me feel. - Terrie (& Lyle) Green

Terrie Green - February 12, 2020 at 09:11 PM

MS

“ I have known Dee for ever and a day. Loved working with her - met Fred before they were married - went to their reception and went to Winnipeg to see them. Loved them both. My love and sympathy to all, shall miss her very much.

Mary (Latin) Skipp

Mary Skipp - May 29, 2015 at 07:35 PM

TC

“ To all the Briggs family,
The passing of Aunt Dee has saddened me. Going back many years I remember well Aunt Dee and all the Briggs family visiting us in Grand Junction and our visits to Salt Lake City. When we moved to Salt Lake City there were many more happy times together. I learned to ski at Brighton and had a memorable ski day with Aunt Dee at Alta. In the mid 1990s I had occasion to be in Salt Lake on business and contacted Aunt Dee and Uncle Fred. We spent a day visiting Temple Square, and then drove up to Park City, skiers all of us, stopping along the way at a monument (Jim Bridger?) overlooking the valley where Aunt Dee explained that our family was related to one of the figures depicted in the monument. Many many good memories. All my sympathies to the Briggs family
Tom Carver
Calgary

Tom Carver - May 29, 2015 at 10:54 AM



“ Rob, Julie and all my Briggs Family,
I am so very sorry to hear about your sweet mom. She was so amazing - always sweet and kind to everyone. She was a go getter. So active and talented in so many ways. It was so fun to spend time with her when we went to Maine, we stayed in the same cabin together. What a lady! She will be missed so much. I am so sorry I couldn't attend the viewing or funeral, I really wanted to be there to give you all a hug. Your family is very dear to me as I have known you and been surrounded by you almost my whole life. I love you all and am thinking of you at this time. So glad to know that we are "made of the stuff of eternity!"
With love, Lorah Evans Maeser (aka Lori)

Lorah Maeser - May 27, 2015 at 12:59 PM

CR

“ I so loved to be around her! We met at the Provo Senior Games, during the track and field competition. She was a knock out; beautiful, dressed just right, fancy nails, and great personality -- always friendly and encouraging me -- it was so awesome to watch her throw the javelin and shot put. What a uniquely wonderful woman she was! It was a joy and a privilege to be friends with her. I looked forward to seeing her whenever I had the chance. What a great gal! Love her!

Cindy Richards - May 26, 2015 at 07:29 AM

JP

“ Dear Briggs Family, we are saddened in the loss of your beautiful, wonderful, fun Mother, gone too soon! Please accept our sincere sympathy at this time, and we will miss her with you...time goes by way too quickly and loved ones gone way too soon!
Our sincere Sympathy, Byron (Pete) Parker (deceased) and Joyce Parker

Joyce/Pete Parker - May 25, 2015 at 05:57 PM

FC

“ Dear Briggs Children--I wanted to send you my sincere condolences on the passing of your dear mother, Dee. My parents were close friends to Fred & Dee for many, many years. As a young boy I remember many occasions when Fred & Dee would come to our home. I especially loved your Dad's great sense of humor. In recent years I have been able to stay in touch with Dee each time my wife and I would visit St. George as we have a home in Springfield Estates just above where Dee was living. She also allowed me to prepare her tax returns for the past several years.

*With sincere sympathy,
Fred Christensen*

Fred C Christensen - May 25, 2015 at 12:42 PM