



## Earl Ervin Mecham

February 15, 1948 - November 4, 2021

Earl Ervin Mecham, age 73, most recently of Hurricane, Utah, passed away unexpectedly at St. George Regional Hospital on November 4, 2021.

Earl was born in Blackfoot, Idaho on February 15, 1948 to Lynn Lafayette and Lelah Hemmert Mecham. He grew up on a homestead in Hunt, Idaho on the Minidoka Development Project until 1961. As a small boy Earl loved hunting, fishing and rodeo. He rode horses and worked the family farm until he was old enough to take a position at a local processing plant hefting 50-pound sacks of potatoes ten feet into the air. The family moved to American Falls in 1961 where he attended high school and participated on the wrestling and golf teams.

After graduating from American Falls High School in 1966, Earl served a two-year mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in London, England. After returning to Idaho, he met Karyn Longhurst of Pocatello. They were married in the Idaho Falls Temple on December 26, 1970.

Earl joined the U.S. Army and served in the Security Agency. Shortly after his and Karyn's first child was born, he was separated from his family for a year while stationed in Thailand. After four years of service he was honorably discharged having attained the rank of Specialist.

A graduate of Ricks College and Brigham Young University, he earned a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Finance. After graduation, the family lived in Soda Springs, Montpelier and Chubbuck, Idaho while Earl worked for the Farmers Home Administration. In 1986 they moved to Acworth, Georgia and

Earl began working for the Department of Housing and Urban Development in Atlanta.

Earl was a lifelong member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served in various callings in the Church including as bishop of the Allatoona Ward in Acworth. He was an avid supporter of the Boy Scouts of America having earned the rank of Eagle Scout in his youth. Earl and Karyn raised two sons and three daughters and were happily married until Karyn's untimely passing in 2003.

Earl married Lynne Hagan in the Atlanta Temple on June 28, 2003. After retiring from HUD in 2006, Earl and Lynne served three missions for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, including 24 months in the Russia Novosibirsk Mission from 2006 to 2008, 18 months in the England London South Mission from 2013 to 2014, and 12 months while living at home in the Utah St. George Mission in 2020 to 2021. Between mission calls, Earl and Lynne crisscrossed the country visiting their children, grandchildren and many friends. In 2017 they moved from Woodstock, Georgia to Hurricane, Utah. In his free time, Earl enjoyed woodworking, gardening, cooking, photography, traveling and serving others. He and Lynne cared for numerous friends and neighbors and frequently took them meals or had them over for dinner. He loved playing ping-pong with his grandchildren and may have even let them win a few times. Earl had a gift to see others that were in need and then fill that need with service. While living in Georgia he volunteered with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for abused or neglected children. He was also an active member of the Cherokee County Republican Party and served as precinct committee chairman. After moving to Utah, Earl was involved in the Dixie Springs Helping Hands community service group. His commitment to family, dedication to church and community, and love for friends, neighbors and strangers were reflections of his deep faith in and love for the Savior Jesus Christ.

Earl is survived by his second wife, Lynne; sisters Jerilynn Mecham (Paul) Robinson of St. George, Utah, and Cheryl Ann (Eugene) Martin of Pocatello,

Idaho; sons Lon Lafayette (Victoria) Mecham of Nashville, Tennessee, and Greg (Yvette) Mecham of Lake Stevens, Washington; daughters Wendy (Andrew) Tartaglia of Marietta, Georgia, Kami (Bill) West of Washington, Utah, and Ashley (Glen) Croft of Star, Idaho; step-daughters Melissa (Jimmy) Parry of New Market, Alabama, Kimberly (Bradley) Johnson of Kaysville, Utah, and Rebecca (Brett) Gagnon of Culver City, California; and 28 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and first wife Karyn.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, November 13, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at the Hurricane 21st Ward Chapel, 320 North 3400 West, Hurricane, Utah. A viewing will be held that morning from 9:30 to 10:30. Burial will be at the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Boulder City, Nevada. In lieu of flowers, please perform an act of service for your neighbor.

Services will be available at:

<https://youtu.be/YRdtPT-cd7g>

# Previous Events

## Viewing

NOV 13. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (MT)

Hurricane 21st Ward Chapel  
320 North 3400 West  
Hurricane, UT

## Funeral Service

NOV 13. 11:00 AM (MT)

Hurricane 21st Ward Chapel  
320 North 3400 West  
Hurricane, UT

## Burial

NOV 15 (PT)

Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery  
1900 Veterans Memorial Drive  
Boulder City, NV

# Tribute Wall



“ *Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah created a Tribute Video in memory of Earl Ervin Mecham*



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**Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah** - November 16, 2021 at 11:41 AM

KD

“ *My cousin John met Earl in Thailand as a serviceman. They worked on the same shift. Earl taught him the gospel and baptized him there. Although he was skeptical, John had an unusual dream about the Book of Mormon and the Bible working together. So Earl's friendship and the gospel changed John's family and his life. If anyone in Earl's family gets this post and would like to chat, call me at 801-227-4720. Kent Duncan*

*There is a family history component, if someone is going to RootsTech. This year 2026.*

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**Kent Duncan** - January 10 at 07:46 PM

WJ

“ Earl and Lynne were neighbors in Woodstock for almost 10 yrs +-. Even though we were not of the same faith, Waring enjoyed many talks and conversations about everything from religion to history to ... you name it. Earl grew an edible yard and we were lucky to enjoy receiving some of his home grown fruit and vegetables. Not knowing what happened, Waring had been calling and sent several texts but never heard back till I pulled up his obituary. We still miss him and Lynne and send our condolences even though its 2 years late. Waring and Jane Jackson

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**Waring . Jane Jackson** - December 20, 2023 at 09:52 AM

LB

“Uncle” Earl has always been very dear to our family. He taught my mom the gospel, gave me my name and blessing and a few years later, introduced my mom and dad. (My mom was divorced ) He always kept in touch with us and even more so after my dad passed away 3 years ago.He texted me pretty much every day, an inspirational quote from Deseret bookshelf, and asked after us regularly. We knew he really cared about us, that we were family to him, just as he was and always will be to us. He was such a great example of Christlike love and attributes and we felt so blessed to know him.

*Lisa Byington*

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**Lisa Byington** - November 13, 2021 at 02:56 PM

JH

“ I know Earl Mecham as Elder Mecham. He and Sister Mecham served in Oxford, England as senior missionaries for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. We had 27 people we could depend on to come to church at the time our congregation was formed. Several weeks later, the Mechams arrived in England. It was not but a few weeks later that the number of people coming to church started to grow. You see, the Mechams were out, every day, visiting the people (loving the people) who were on the church records and were not coming to church. About a year later, there was one day when we had 127 people at church. Most of the increase in the number of people coming to church and the quality of experience individuals had when they came to church was a result of the Mecham's love and work.

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**John S Hoffmire** - November 13, 2021 at 09:00 AM

RF

“ Earl made his mark on the world in his kind and gentle ways. We need many more Earl’s in our world, but this Earl was one of a kind. We’ll definitely miss this good man. His wry sense of humor, his forthright faith in his Savior and his willingness to love one another while enjoying being his brother’s keeper. Earl and Lynne are a loving, caring example of a marriage to emulate. Ron was friends with Earl. I was fortunate to be friends with Lynne. Someone talked Earl into attending a Tupperware party at my house when Lynne wasn’t available. Earl brought his friend. Imagine two quiet, unassuming gentlemen perusing a Tupperware catalog while all the ladies had conversations going back and forth across the room. Ron purchased a pitcher. Earl bought whatever Lynne told him too. About 6-8 months later, Ron and I were married in the Mecham home. Was that a set up or simply Earl and Lynne being caring and helpful? We are grateful for the kindness of these fine people who brought us together. We have just entered the beginning of the tenth happy year of our sacred and loving marriage. Earl and Lynne also attended our sealing ordinance. Just quietly going about their lives of doing good in the world and making pathways bright with love and smiles. We love both Earl and Lynne. We know Lynne will miss her eternal companion as they continue the Covenant Path on different sides of the veil. We have every confidence that Earl is enjoying his new phase of the Plan of Happiness. It’s sad that they must be separated for this twinkling of an eye moment, but how wonderful that the Plan of Happiness will ensure their togetherness. We love our Mecham Matchmaker Friends! With hearts of love, joy and gratitude for your spiritual example and wisdom, Ron and Deb Fisher (Ellijay, Ga.)

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**Ron and Deb Fisher** - November 10, 2021 at 09:09 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Earl Ervin Mecham.*



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November 10, 2021 at 08:53 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Earl Ervin Mecham.*



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November 10, 2021 at 06:37 PM



“ *When I was a young man, Earl took me and some other young men for some ice cream. When he dropped me off, he wouldn't let me out of the car until I told him why I was going to serve a mission for my church. I gave him a bunch of reasons that didn't seem to impress him. After letting my squirm in my answers for a while he said, "you should do it because you love your Savior."*

*Then he unlocked the door and let me go. That answer made an impact that I still feel today. Thank you Earl for caring for a kid like myself. You made a huge difference in my young life.*

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**Dallan Wortham** - November 10, 2021 at 03:09 PM

JC

*Earl, do you remember that day in the pocatello FHA you made a mistake on my farm loan and as a result I lost my farm thanks to your lying to the state FHA office. You got away with it until now and god is my witness your in a place you deserve, HELL. I've suffered all these long years until I learned of your death. Now I'm happy GOD our savior has passed judgment on you. You moved/sent by the government back east so you could hide from me my family and the truth. God is my witness, he has passed judgment and took you life from your family. Your first wife's death was Gods first judgment upon you and your entire family. Today I feel sorry for your second wife for she is innocent for knowing of your crime's and immoral conduct. THANK YOU DEAR LORD. I CAN REST NOW*

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**John Carter** - June 16, 2023 at 05:12 AM

CC

“ *As a youth, I met Earl after we moved to Georgia. I became fast friends with his daughters and we hung out at church activities and occasionally at each other's houses.*

*When I first met Earl, I was intimidated by him. It sounds funny now, but he was so Christ-like, that it was unnerving to me. I felt he could look into my soul and read me like a book, but I never felt judged, just loved. I felt he could see my potential and knew when I was not living up to it.*

*As I grew up and got to know him better, I found him to be a dear friend and mentor. He became someone I wanted to emulate. I believe that men like Earl are on earth to show men like me what we can be as sons of God, to give us an example.*

*The Hymn "Each Life That Touches Us For Good" comes to mind. I love you, Earl. Thank you for being great. I will continue to strive to live up to my potential.*

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**Chris Carter** - November 09, 2021 at 09:55 PM

SC

“ *Earl is a great friend and will be dearly missed.*

*Earl and I shared a church calling together working with a deacons quorum. A great experience with a great memory of spending a week at summer camp with Earl at Camp Woodruff in the north Georgia mountains.*

*Dearly love Earl.*

*Steve Chesnut*

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**Steve Chesnut** - November 09, 2021 at 09:59 AM

LT

*When I think of Earl there is nothing less than being in awe of this special man. I truly believe the Lord put me in Lynne and Earl's lives. They are so spiritual...you instantly feel that peace. I'm so glad they got to go to that Alaska cruise...him grinning ear about his Salmon!! Watching BYU won't be the same. Love you so very much Earl*

*Lorie Trout*

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**Lorie Trout** - November 09, 2021 at 01:57 PM

SS

*Earl touched our lives in many ways and will be dearly missed.*

*He was a gentle man, a caring man, a kind and helpful man, a man we looked up to and he will always be in our hearts. Earl,*

*We love you and will make sure we are always there for Lynne.*

*Ken and Stephanie Schultz*

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**stephanie schultz** - November 11, 2021 at 12:43 PM

NC

*As neighbors and friends we love Lynne and Earl! They have always been so kind, thoughtful and loving towards us; Lynne makes a habit of dropping off yummy treats from her kitchen, and Earl has prepared wonderful Overnight Yeasted Waffles and a whole table of other breakfast items that were so tasty along with Lynne's Funky Grits Casserole; we were so blessed to enjoy joining them for wonderful meals . We will miss Earl and all the service he generously has given to so many. Lynne we are here for you and pray for you to be comforted and feel our Saviors love.*

*Neil and Wendy Christiansen*

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**Neil and Wendy Christiansen** - November 13, 2021 at 04:57 PM