



Nila Jean Dodson

June 5, 1939 - October 27, 2018

Nila Jean Dodson passed away peacefully, October 27, 2018, at home, surrounded by family. In her final days, her family filled the home with music, joy, and a celebration of her life.

Born June 5, 1939, to Jesse Randall and Afton Richards Hailstone, Nila was the middle daughter between her sisters, Valois and Pat. She loved music, played the violin and was a member of the drill team. She met Ron Dodson in middle school and the two sweethearts were sealed together in the Los Angeles Temple on August 7, 1958.

A tender soul with a gentle heart, Nila found the good in everyone she met and every experience. Ever the optimist, she made things better and was often heard to say, "It will all work out." Her legacy is one of devotion, faith, kindness, and childlike joy. Her loving influence graced our lives and made us all better for it.

She is survived by: her husband of 60 years, Ron; their children, Don, Randy, Karen, and Chris; as well as her 16 grandchildren; and 6 great grandchildren whom she loved more than Disneyland!

Nila's life was filled with miracles and wonders. She and Ron spent their retirement years together serving four missions for the Church of Jesus Christ

of Latter-day Saints. They were blessed to enjoy many adventures around the world and wherever they were, she unconditionally loved the people and found meaning in their cultures.

She was creative, talented, and made everything beautiful-- from her home to the beautiful things she knitted for those she loved. A life-long learner, Nila was never satisfied with simple explanations. She wanted to know the why's and how's of most any topic.

Nila loved the beauty of nature and instilled that love in the hearts of her children. She preferred being outdoors, especially RZR riding with Ron and dear friends. She was a loyal fan of BYU athletics, attending games near and far. Most of all she loved spending time with her family. She was known as "the cool grandma." It was common to find her on the floor playing games, reading stories or building forts.

The family wishes to express deep gratitude to the Huntsman Cancer team for their expert and sensitive care, and to the many cherished friends who loved Nila through the years. She loved all of you!

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, October 31, 2018, at 11:00 a.m. Visitations will be held Tuesday evening from 6:00 to 7:00 pm and again, Wednesday morning from 9:30–10:30 a.m. prior to the service. Services will take place at the LDS Chapel, 625 East Center Street in Ivins, Utah.

Previous Events

Viewing

OCT 30. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (MT)

Ivins Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
625 East Center Street
Ivins, UT 84738

Viewing

OCT 31. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (MT)

Ivins Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
625 East Center Street
Ivins, UT 84738

Service

OCT 31. 11:00 AM (MT)

Ivins Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
625 East Center Street
Ivins, UT 84738

Tribute Wall

JB

“ *What a blessing to have crossed paths with Nila and Ron during our missions in Hong Kong! We love you both and are blessed to know you. We treasure the memories there -- on our work floor in the office buildings, out to lunch together, in devotionals, at couples' FHEs and at the Harborview, and on couples activities!! What a tender mercy to have run into each other just 10 days before Nila's passing -- a beautiful sunny day on the corner of Temple Square. Nila was beautiful as well as the day; indeed I would say 'radiant'! The perfect example of enduring to the end!*

Jennifer Bertin - November 03, 2018 at 11:17 AM

RB

“ *Ron(Dad) has been many years since I have seen you guys. But oh the memories from when you lived in Butler Pa. How I was treated as family by Nila(Mom) and you. Such wonderful times. My deepest condolences to you and the family*



Ray Barlett - November 01, 2018 at 11:02 AM

MS

“ *Ron - I was saddened to see Nila's obituary in the newspaper and I regret that we have not been in touch for many years. R.J. and I appreciated the opportunity to get to know both of you through BYU Athletics and also the BYU Ninth Stake. You are outstanding people, and we appreciated your friendship and support over the years. May you be blessed with many happy memories, and a strong feeling of comfort and peace.*

*Marilyn M. Snow
Provo, Utah*

Marilyn M. Snow - October 31, 2018 at 11:53 AM

JM

“ *The funnest grandma around! I’ll always remember her signature grandma dance, her love for holidays, the forts she built during sleepovers, and our shared love for Cheetos and Harry Potter, among many more memories. She will be missed and remembered every time I read “Go Dog Go” the grandma way to my kids* ❤️



Jordan Metcalf - October 30, 2018 at 09:04 PM

KE

“ Nila had a tremendous impact on my life and I am deeply saddened by her passing. I met Nila and Ron through their son Randy shortly after I joined the LDS Church. Randy was there when I joined the Church and I followed him and his young family back to Utah. Ron and Nila immediately embraced me as I moved to Utah, went to BYU and completed a mission. For my years there, I felt part of a real family for the first time in my life. The entire Dodson family encouraged me to serve a mission and supported me every step of the way. Nila and I wrote every week and I still have every letter between us (she saved every letter I wrote and presented them to me upon my return).

I never understood what family life could be prior to knowing the Dodsons. They opened their home to me, gave generously to me and most importantly always made me feel that I was special and able to accomplish my dreams. I do not think they likely ever knew the impact they have had on me. Ron - I love you and I am so sorry for your loss. I hope you know how much Nila meant to me and how both of you forever helped me through some difficult times. Nila made me feel special, she made me feel loved and the sincere way she gave of her time and energy has meant so much to me.

My deepest sympathies to Ron, Don, Randy, Karen, Chris and all the families. Please know that I love you all very much and I wish you all the best.

Kevin



Kevin Edwards - October 30, 2018 at 08:38 PM

BG

“ Ron, so sorry to hear of the passing of Nila. Though our interactions were somewhat brief, I was left with a lasting impression of your love and devotion to each other during a difficult time. May you and your family be comforted and blessed at this sacred time.

Bud Gardner

Bud Gardner - October 30, 2018 at 05:57 PM

RL

“ Nila was truly a beautiful woman. I have known Ron and Nila for many years. They purchased my paintings early on and helped promote my art career in a big way. I will ever be grateful to them for that. But more than anything we are grateful for their example of faithful service to others, manifested by their several missions served. We will miss Nila and pray God's comfort to sustain Ron and their family. Roland Lee

Roland Lee - October 30, 2018 at 03:36 PM

TF

“ The Borup and Gamble families purchased the Love Everlasting Bouquet for the family of Nila Jean Dodson.



The Borup and Gamble families - October 30, 2018 at 01:47 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Nila Jean Dodson.*



October 30, 2018 at 01:23 PM



“ *Love Everlasting Bouquet was purchased for the family of Nila Jean Dodson.*



October 30, 2018 at 10:59 AM



“ *My grandma. I will miss her so much. We spoke the same holiday loving party throwing language. Life is short and so precious. Love you more than Disneyland Grandma! Can't wait to see you again someday.*



Jaclyn Gunter - October 29, 2018 at 11:13 PM

KE

Jaclyn - I am so sorry for your loss. Your Grandma was the best!.

Kevin Edwards - October 30, 2018 at 09:45 PM

JS

Ron, we were sorry to learn of Nila's passing. We remember with fondness the time we spent together in Hong Kong as you came into the Asia Area office and replaced the Wolsey's. You both were very spiritual cohorts, and we enjoyed each of your positive outlooks on life. We are still living in our home in Provo. We hope to see you if you are up this way. 1825 Oak Lane, 801-377-4002. Jay and JenaVee Smith

Jay Smith - November 02, 2018 at 12:51 PM