



## Rodney Rutherford

February 21, 1943 - August 15, 2022

Rodney Rutherford passed away peacefully August 15, 2022, in St. George, Utah. Rod was born February 21, 1943, in Buhl, Idaho where he attended school and worked on the family farm. He was an accomplished athlete earning a state title in wrestling in 1962 and playing football for Buhl High School. Rod earned a full-ride scholarship to Idaho State University for wrestling and football. It was at ISU where Rod met Susann Stephens, later marrying her, and having four children together. Rod served as a lieutenant in the United States Army after college working as a military police officer in Ft. Gordon Georgia.

After serving in the Army, Rod returned to Idaho where he taught school, driver education and coached football and wrestling at Meridian High School, Kamiah High School, and Gooding High School. He later took a job with Horace Mann Insurance selling insurance to teachers. Rod and Sue divorced in 1988 and he eventually returned to his love of teaching and coaching. Rod worked for Castleford High School, and Leadore High School before moving to Pocatello and opening R & R Driving School where he taught hundreds of kids to drive and how to change a tire.

While in Pocatello, Rod met Jane Kokal (Jackson) and they were married in

2005. They eventually sold the driving school and retired to Beaver Dam, Arizona (outside of Mesquite NV).

Rod is preceded in death by his father Dudley Rutherford, his stepmother Doris Rutherford, his mother Doris Brown, his stepfather Raymond Brown, and his sister Teri-Lynn Rutherford.

He is survived by his wife Jane, his daughter Amy Mills (Keith) of Filer Idaho, Jenny Lutterman (Barry) of Aurora Colorado, Steve Rutherford (Joyce) of Meridian Idaho, Brian Rutherford (Brenda) of Arvada Colorado and his grandchildren Cassie Mills of Twin Falls Idaho, Justin Mills of Boise Idaho, Connor Lutterman (Nellie) of Aurora Colorado, Kyle Lutterman of Phoenix Arizona, Noah and Mia Rutherford of Meridian Idaho, and Madison and Brenden Rutherford of Arvada Colorado. Rod is survived by his brother Stanley Rutherford (Lynne) and niece and nephew Hannah Hagendoorn, Jacob Rutherford all of Burgaw North Carolina, Andi Wolf Jones of Las Vegas Nevada, and Julie Wolf Hammonds of Meridian Idaho. Rod is also survived by his stepchildren and grandchildren Francis (Delena) Jackson of Parker Colorado, Sara (Kale) Miller, Jackson, Easton, Liam of Rockwell Texas, Janice (Wayne) Eurich of Milliken Colorado, Samuel Huddleston, Ellen and Owen of Parker Colorado, Forrest Huddleston (Mindy Riordan) and of Elizabeth Colorado, Krysta, Kaleb, Kaydence, Tinsley, Richard Huddleston of Aurora Colorado, Susan (Dale) Findley of Parker Colorado, Nicole Findley (deceased), Amber Findley (Albert Gonzalez) of Port St. Lucie Florida, Pamela (Jeffrey) Smith, Derek Carpenter of Centennial Colorado, Chasten (Paul) Campanelli, Amrielle Rosnowski, James Campanelli of Longmont Colorado, and Paulina Douglas (Christopher Blake), Sivar Cirivello, Clayton Douglas of Castle Rock Colorado.

Rod will be remembered for his tremendous love of people, especially his family, his passion for a good game of gin rummy with his wife Jane, and his goofy sense of humor. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Rod's honor to the ALS Association (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis or Lou Gehrig's disease). Rod's father was taken by ALS and now Rod's son-in-law is battling the disease. Helping to find a treatment or a cure would be a fitting legacy for Rod. Please go to [www.als.org/donate](http://www.als.org/donate)

# Tribute Wall



“ *In the 1970's I was principal at Bickel elementary in Twin Falls. Rod worked with our kids trying to teach them to play soccer on the blacktop playground. At that time, soccer was a novel sport in the area and no one knew how to play it. He was ahead of the time. RIP*

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**Dennis Sonius** - September 11, 2022 at 10:29 AM

RC

*I was blessed to have "Coach" as my driving instructor. He had me drive him around to get my hours in for my license and taught me about his business. Such a great guy and will always be in my memories. Condolences to his family.*

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**Reed C.** - September 11, 2022 at 11:56 PM

BS

*I new Rod at ISU . He was a was a lot of fun. I will never forget him playing football and getting his jaw broke in three parts. They had to wire his mouth shut for 6 weeks. It was sure quiet for awhile. I got to ride to ft Lewis Washington with him for rotc summer camp in his red corvette. The best thing about Rod was that he was a friend to everyone. I'll miss him.*

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**Brent Stastny** - September 12, 2022 at 12:45 PM

GK

*Rod was my 2nd cousin (fathers were cousins), and he always showed up at the family reunions my mom and dad (Ralph and Lolly Hann) put together in Twin Falls. Recently I saw another obituary for his mother (Doris Rutherford Brown) who passed away in the Seattle area. Great memories of Rod, Stan, Terri Lynn and parents. I was blessed to have known/ been related to him.*

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**Gail Kohntopp** - September 12, 2022 at 06:53 PM