



Gordon Monson Thomas

JUN 24, 1934 - DEC 22, 2017



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Merry Christmas, Darling!

Gordon Monson Thomas (born June 24, 1934 in Boise, Idaho) died after a long battle with dementia on December 22, 2017. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie Cummings Thomas and seven children--Karen (Brian) Arnesen, Kathryn (Dave) Moon, Jim (Janet) Thomas, Joanne (Sean) Jones, Ron (Christine) Thomas, Rebecca (Steve) Evans, and Nathan Thomas—as well as 29 grandchildren, and 26 great-grandchildren.

Gordon grew up in Salt Lake City and graduated from West High School. After his father died (when he was six years old) he spent his summers in Boise, staying with his oldest sister, LaVene, and her husband, Albert Call. He married the love of his life, Bonnie Cummings, on August 29, 1955. They celebrated their 62nd anniversary this year and had a long and happy life together.

Gordon worked as a sales representative for General Mills for 34 years. When he retired, his company didn't know what gift to give a man whose whole focus was his family, his God, and his work.

He was an avid runner, running 6 miles a day, 6 days a week. He ran four marathons and many half-marathons. He ran his last half marathon with his granddaughter when he was 77 years old. In 1984 he carried the torch for the Los Angeles Summer Olympics through Salt Lake City.

Gordon loved politics. He served on the Cottonwood Heights Community Council for 9 years. When the community was incorporated, he served two terms on the city council. He loved people and they knew he loved them. He had a special gift to love. He often stopped mothers to talk to their children. During his last year when so many things were unfamiliar to him, his great-grandchildren could always bring a smile to his face.



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He loved the gospel and was an active and committed member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He loved serving with the youth in the Church. He was the bishop of the Butler 7th ward for 7 years and loved the people of his ward. Later he served in a stake presidency and stake young men's presidency. He was a faithful home teacher. He was faithful in holding family prayer, family scripture study, and family home evening. His children frequently saw him studying his scriptures, and he memorized favorite passages on his daily run. Later in his life he served two missions with his wife—the first in the Nigeria Enugu mission, and the second in the Greece Athens mission, where they served nine months in Egypt and nine months in Cyprus. His faith sustained him during difficult times and became an important legacy he left his family. He passed away during the Christmas season, his favorite time of the year. We look forward to a happy reunion.

Funeral Services will be at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 27, 2017 at the Butler 7th Ward building located at 1355 East 7200 South in Cottonwood Heights, UT. Viewing will be from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday and again from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday at the Church.



Tribute Wall

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VM

Valerie C. Mills posted:

What an inspiring life! Thank you for sharing this beautifully written obituary which helped me focus my own priorities in life. God bless Hordon for sharing His light. Thank ypu!

March 15 at 1:49 AM

AB

Aleta Billadeau posted:

He was always Bishop Thomas to me- he interviewed me for baptism when I turned 8. He was so loving when our family went through the rough years when I was young. I remember some General Mills surplus making its way to our home. Loving and encouraging. I always admired him for the way he lead his family to live the gospel. My love and sympathy to Joanne (my childhood friend who was always a great example to me) and to his wife, Bonnie, and to the rest of his family. -
Aleta (Nielson) Billadeau

January 6 at 6:09 PM

KS

Kevin Sato posted:

Although I only knew Gordon through work as a Councilman I know how much he was appreciated by city staff. I appreciated his hello each and every time that we crossed paths and the knowing that he genuinely cared about you. He was a very good person and I will miss him. My condolences to the family. May you find compassion during this trying period and peace in your heart. Kevin Sato

December 27 at 8:41 AM

JD

Julie Dille posted:

Dear Bonnie and Family We are so blessed to have had our beloved Gordon as our Home teacher and Bishop. He never missed a month to visit us. He truly loved us and shared his love every time we saw him. We know he is in heaven still loving and teaching all that greets him. We love him and know in our hearts he will be waiting for all of us to hopefully join him. May you and your beautiful family be comferted at this time. Your example is amazing to all of us. Much love, Richard and Julie Dille

December 26 at 8:39 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Gordon by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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