



Elwood Jay Shepard

MAY 14, 1937 - MAY 20, 2021



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Elwood Jay Shepard

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Elwood Jay Shepard died peacefully at home surrounded by family on May 20, 2021 at the age of 84. “Shep” was born on May 14, 1937 in Mona, Utah to Geniel Hanson and Melvin Shepard. He graduated from Granite High School. In 1957, he married Bonnie Bain and they had two children, Steve and Diane. They later divorced. Shep worked as a builder for West Construction and was involved in building the first Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant in SLC. He also had his own construction company, Designer Construction Company, which he operated for many years. In the mid 1960’s, he joined the Salt Lake County Sheriff’s Department where he served honorably. In 1972, Shep was promoted from Deputy Sheriff to Sergeant. In the 1980’s, he met Sherry Howa, his life partner of almost 40 years. They shared many adventures together as he helped Sherry raise her daughter, Niki. Shep was known for his big personality and enthusiasm for life. He loved to play basketball when he was younger. He was a natural athlete and enjoyed playing league softball, tennis and especially golf. He also loved the beach and was a loyal Utes fan. You could definitely say he was a big sports enthusiast. He also enjoyed watching and betting on the horse races and was always known to have a lottery ticket in hand. Shep is survived by his life partner Sherry Howa, and her daughter Niki (David Montoya), his son Steve (Jeanette) and his daughter Diane Neff (Brent), 8 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. Also survived by his sisters Sheila Bowles, Terrie Stowe, and Ellyn Hanson. A private memorial service will be held.



Tribute Wall

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KR

Kathy Richards posted:

Shep will be missed by all. He was what I termed, a gentle giant and was one of the sweetest people I was honored to call a friend. Always a great story teller and loved to laugh when with friends and family. Love to Sherry and Shep's entire family. Surely Shep & Larry are having a rum & coke, potato chips and sharing life's memories. We will miss you sweet Shep. ❤️

June 2 at 2:14 PM

JH

Julie Hunt posted:

My dad, Jim West, and Elwood were best friends growing up. My whole life Ive heard stories of Elwood but had never met him until recently. My dad passed away in October but thankfully, He and Elwood reunited a year or so before and were able to get together. That was such a fun night and I was grateful I also got to meet this incredible person I had heard so much about. One of the last conversations I had with my dad was how Elwood was his best friend. I was so sad to hear of Sheps passing but also so happy for my dad that those two are together again- I'm positive they are playing sports and telling all their fun stories they have lived through. Thanks Sherry for all of your support with my dad and for taking such great care of Shep. I pray you'll be comforted.

May 30 at 4:38 AM

AB

April Ballou shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Jim and Elwood. 2020

May 29 at 8:13 PM



AB

April Ballou posted:

I'm sure there is a happy reunion in heaven right now between 2 best friends. My dad, Jim West told us so many stories of about their great times together.

May 29 at 8:10 PM



Premier Funeral Services shared an album called **Memories Album**.

May 26 at 10:13 AM





Media

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April Ballou shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

May 29 at 8:13 PM





Media

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Premier Funeral Services shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

May 26 at 10:13 AM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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