



Christopher Elliott Whiting

FEB 10, 1962 - JAN 26, 2023



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Christopher Elliott Whiting

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Christopher Elliott Whiting of Liberty, Utah passed away Thursday morning, January 26th, after a two-year battle with pancreatic cancer. Born in Los Angeles February 10, 1962 to Judy and John Whiting, Chris had a sense of adventure, playfulness, and love of people. His family recognized that free spirit early on and helped to foster his love of the outdoors - together they bodysurfed the California beaches and skied or hiked in the Sierra Nevada mountains. He had a gusto for life that few people ever see or experience.

After working a season at Alta then attending college, Chris wanted to explore the world. He helped build a replica Viking ship in Denmark and surfed in Portugal and Indonesia. The mountains and the ocean finally lured him back to Southern California, where he could surf in the morning, ski in the afternoon, and then work at night. The mountains are where he met his wife, Ché, and they married at the top of Kratka Ridge in October 1994. They lived for fifteen years on a South Pasadena hilltop overlooking Los Angeles before ultimately settling in the beautiful Utah mountain valley, Ogden Valley.

Chris spent the next fifteen years exploring every corner of his beloved valley and the surrounding mountains. He was part of the fabric of this community – whether managing the “Wolf Mountain” lifts, crafting skis at DPS, helping friends with odd jobs, bartending at events, catering at the original Harley and Bucks or doing his dream job as greenskeeper at Wolf Creek. His favorite times on the golf course were dawn and dusk, where he could listen to the birds sing and watch the animals forage for food. Powder Mountain was his mountain, where he would ski all day every day and one was lucky to have a “Whiting sighting” because he was so elusive.

His love of all things green extended to his yard, where he created a whimsical paradise of funny signs, goofy statues, and beautiful gardens – his sunflowers were legendary. Chris found his well-loved treasures on his “junking” expeditions to his favorite thrift stores. His preferred “non” activity was to hang out on his back porch in front of a bonfire and watch the weather. He loved to cook and garden, while Ché tackled the plumbing and electrical. It was a perfect match.



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Every day was beautiful for Chris, even while fighting cancer. He was able to breathe deeply and find something amazing about each day, no matter how sick he felt. He found himself surrounded by other cancer patients who seemed much worse off than he felt, and decided to not complain, because he “wasn’t that bad.” At first he didn’t want to see anyone or accept help in any way, however, the community had other ideas and what followed was an outpouring of love that Chris ultimately embraced. His doctors and nurses and care teams loved him, loved his positive attitude about beating cancer, as he planned his favorite activities to look forward to. This was the driving force that kept him alive for so long.

After multiple chemotherapy treatments, he pushed himself in the spring of 2022 to cross country ski in a pasture behind his home, then skied the Village lift at Powder Mountain before the end of the season, started to hike a bit and walk on the golf course, picked up a paddle board and went to the lake daily in the summer. He wanted to do something he loved every day, if he was able, and that gave him the energy and strength to keep going. Folks in the community started to see him out and about and encouraged him to keep up the fight! He lived to ski, golf, travel, paddle board, surf, every day, always making the plan that kept him going along with his treatments to eradicate this cancer. Through the unfailing support of his wife, friends and family, Chris was able to sky dive, play dozens of rounds of day (and night) golf, travel cross country on a train one way and driving back with his wife the other way, (something he had never done before,) paddle board and somehow sneak in 30 days of powder skiing before the slopes opened. He was on the first chair at Powder Mountain on opening day! His last adventure was a surf trip to Mexico with three close friends, which was magical.

Once home from Mexico and back in treatment, Chris began to lose the fight. After a 9 day hospital stay, he came home and passed peacefully with his wife and special cat, Bisou, both by his side, as the sun was coming up over the mountain and the light was coming through the room.

He is survived by his loving and heartbroken wife, Ché Zuro, his soul-cat Bisou, his parents John and Judy, his sister, Dawn Habgood, nieces and nephews, friends from all around the world, and the family that he chose here in Ogden Valley; people that trusted him, listened to him and loved him.

A celebration of Chris’s life will be planned when the snow melts. “Chris’ Last Run” at Powder Mountain was a special, early celebration of that life. A special thanks to Addie Jensen for the idea, which was brought to fruition by the Powder Mountain family. As mentioned during the small



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ceremony, if this had been for someone else, Chris Whiting would have hiked up, said a quick hello, and then disappeared. Thank you to all of his loving friends who are family. He loved you so much. He loved the 745.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Powder Mountain Avalanche Dogs via Venmo to @C-Kuhnly to help with the health, maintenance and training of the canines who work with the ski patrol in rescue on the mountain. If you prefer to donate a different way, please send a message to czwhiting@gmail.com and put Powder Mtn Avi Dogs in the subject, and the family will help.

Condolences can be sent to the family at www.premierfuneral.com.

“Fare thee well now

Let your life proceed by it’s own design

Nothing to tell now

Let the words be yours, I’m done with mine.” -John Barlow and Bob Weir



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MN

Melanie H Nagahiro posted:

I remember Chris telling me, he found his love, and was settled down. I said, yes you turned over many a stone. Another found memory was one late night, I walked in with a date, he said, "Mel, its pizza or nothing!" I said, "hello Chris..."Chris Godspeed, and prayers of comfort for all those who you loved, and loved you. Pax

June 27 at 1:32 PM

MW

Mary Wagner posted:

I was so sad to hear about the passing of Chris.He was a bright light in the class of 81. SMHS.He was kind, funny and just a guy I loved to run into in Pasadena. I always will remember him.Thinking of you all.My parents were very fond of you.With Love and Prayers.Mary Muller Wagner

May 2 at 11:03 AM

GG

Geoff Gadbois posted:

I was saddened to hear the news of Chris's passing. My condolences to his family.

April 13 at 11:53 AM

JM

Janice Mize posted:

Chris was a truly good person; he could not say no and would literally give you the shirt off his back. He was a Maverick and just fun-loving. I am saddened to hear of his passing. Che my thoughts and energy are with you... Janice Mize (former Valley Lodging)

March 21 at 9:25 AM

SB

Sandra Bibby April 10 at 1:00 PM

Che I didn't know anything about your husband but now I do he sounded a caring loving and a gift of live and lead his life to the full and packed in so much of what he enjoyed in his life even before the cancer took hold then he carried on doing the things he enjoyed. May he RIP now free from pain. I cannot imagine your pain che. Sending hugs. Xxx



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AS

Alice Mccrea Sharp posted:

Super sad to hear of Chris's passing. He was a true force of nature and always put a smile on my face though I have not seen him for 45 years. Chris' energy was infectious and I am sure that just grew stronger over the years. Chris was the first person who introduced me to the Grateful Dead and I have never been the same since. My thoughts go out to Che and the entire Whiting family who have been family to me since I was a child. Godspeed and Fare thee well my friend. See you on the other side.

February 15 at 6:57 AM

PL

Paul & Linda Lawless Lastayo shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Ripple in still water ❤️



February 6 at 12:57 PM

WJ

Walter Jones posted:

Peace be with you and your family! Living near WC golf course, I often ran into Chris. His hard work always showed and was appreciated by everyone. We miss you!Walt & Margaret Jo ed

February 6 at 10:59 AM



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PT

Peter Turner shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



Chris Whiting and I have for years shared our pics and texts of the spectacular sunrises we get here in Ogden Valley. We both enjoyed them so much and enjoyed sharing with someone else who was up early enough to be watching one of nature's light shows. Yesterday he passed in the early morning. At about that time I was looking out my window at all the snow on the ground and piled up to the point that it was about all you could see, and the snow filled oak and maple trees. Gradually it lit up to a wonderful glow as a vehicle passed by with its lights on. I was in awe at the simple beauty of the colors, shadows and white of the view as it unveiled with the passing of the lights. I took notice of that simple beauty. I now realize it was one more beautiful view of nature that he wanted me to see. It was too early for the sunrise. But it happened. I believe the visual was enhanced because I visited with Chris the night before his passing. We had some great chats and recalled memories. A thoughtful gentleman even at the very end. The next morning, I delivered special homemade food treats to his supportive family and friends. Unbeknownst to me at the time he had passed just prior. About the same time as my lit-up snow and light show. I think it was Chris saying goodbye but reminding me don't forget the beauty of nature. As I drove home, I had a strong sense of what was going on with words spoken by Che as I handed her my offerings. Fragments of thoughts kept going through my head. None complete but feelings rising and quickly passing to the next one, having lost my ability to focus and concentrate knowing the inevitable. Not knowing for sure it already was. As I looked around the Valley, I understood Chris was one of our Valley Spirits. There are many spirits in our Valley. One of the reasons we all enjoy living here so much. More good spirits than bad and he was one of the good ones, possibly the best. I will always remember him and his good spirit. We all need to do the same and try to keep that good spirit, emulate it, and keep the bad ones away so we can still love this place long into the future. All who knew Chris certainly will see the good spirits. Gone, but the spirit not forgotten. Goodbye, dear friend. I will think of you when I see all these sunrises.

February 3 at 5:23 AM

JY

Janice Yeaton posted:

I only met Chris a few times, but thru Che I felt I knew him well. What a wonderful life he experienced. He was a special person who lived his life as he wanted to. He will be missed by all. Many memories to cherish. Our deepest sympathy to Che and his family. Rest in peace. Janice & Gordon Yeaton

February 5 at 8:18 AM

JD

Judy Delong posted:

Chris's life was blessed with love, adventure and so many friends! Well done Chris, we will all miss you! Love and prayers of comfort to Che! Paul and Judy

February 5 at 8:14 AM



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



February 3 at 5:23 AM



Paul & Linda Lawless Lastayo shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

February 6 at 12:57 PM





Media

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Peter Turner shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

February 5 at 9:27 AM



Chris, do you see it?



Media

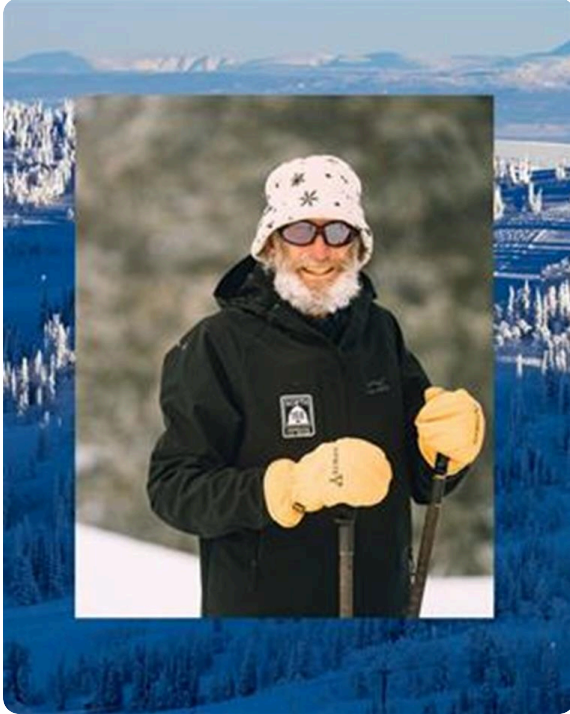
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Premier Funeral Services shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

February 3 at 5:23 AM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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