



Nellie Maka'alaokalani Watson Bucasas

JUL 2, 1954 - JAN 31, 2026



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Nellie Maka'alaokalani Watson Bucasas

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Nellie Maka'alaokalani Watson Bucasas

July 2, 1954 – January 31, 2026

Nellie Maka'alaokalani Watson Bucasas, 71, passed away peacefully on January 31, 2026, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Born in Honolulu, Hawaii, Nellie was the radiant heart of her family and a beautiful force of nature who left a lasting mark on every soul she touched. As one of twelve siblings (later joined by two more through adoption), she learned early how to shine in a crowd—and she never dimmed her light.

Nellie attended BYU–Hawaii, where she first met the love of her life, William. However, following her deep faith, she temporarily set aside her studies to serve the Lord as a full-time missionary in the North Dakota Rapid City Mission from 1977 to 1979.

Upon her return, she began a new chapter of love and devotion. On September 12, 1979, she was sealed for time and all eternity to her devoted husband, William Bucasas, in the Hawaii Temple.

Shortly after their marriage, as the couple began their 46-year journey together, Nellie completed her education at BYU–Hawaii, graduating with an Associate Degree in Secretarial Science. Their life together, spanning from the islands to the mountains, was a testament to enduring love, faith, and mutual support.

We express our deepest gratitude for Nellie's unwavering kindness; she had a rare gift for making everyone feel seen, special, and truly loved. Nellie will be remembered for her incredible strength, her fighting spirit, and her beautiful singing voice. She was famous for her "cackle"—a laugh so powerful it could shake the house and, as her family often joked, shatter the windows.



Obituary

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Nellie is now joyfully reunited with her beloved parents, Gilman Kimo "Jimmy" Watson and Zelii Kapaahu Niau Watson. She is survived by her husband, William; her children, Ryan-James, Robert, Zelii (Skylar), Elizabeth (Catalina), Joshua, and Benito Urban; and her six cherished grandchildren: Kiana, Chancy, Nellie, Skylii, Arya, and Raiden. She also leaves behind her siblings: Sharon, Rudy, Randy, Yolanda, James Jr., Jesse, Puanani, Moana, Harold, Nelson, David, Theodora, and Shelley.

On that Saturday afternoon, Nellie took her last breath and began flying with the angels. While the space beside William felt empty the following morning, we find peace imagining her glorious, joyful passage through the veil. We live in the certain hope that when it is our turn to return home, Nellie will be among the first to welcome us with open arms.

Celebration of Life Services

Thursday, February 26

- Viewing: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- Location: LDS Chapel, 6350 S. Rodeo Lane, Murray, Utah 84121

Friday, February 27

- Final Viewing: 10:00 AM – 11:45 AM
- Funeral Services: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
- Interment: 1:30 PM – 2:00 PM (Murray City Cemetery, 5490 S. Vine St.)
- Luncheon: 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM (LDS Chapel Cultural Hall)

A Note on the Luncheon: The Relief Society is providing a light lunch. In the spirit of aloha, we invite those who are able to, please bring a side dish or treat to share.

Virtual Service:



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The following is the Zoom link for those who wish to join the celebration services virtually on Friday, February 27th at 12:00 PM MST:

- Meeting ID: 4477965181
- Passcode: 062052
- Mobile dial-in: 719-359-4580

Mahalo for helping us honor our sweet Nellie.



Events

Nellie Maka'alaokalani Watson Bucasas

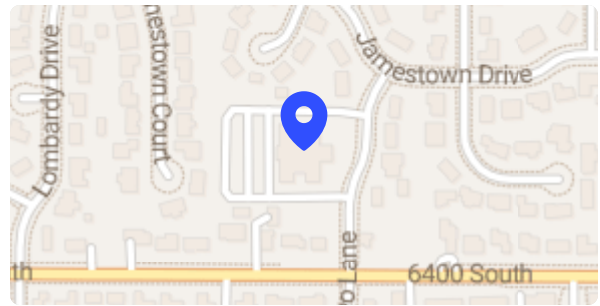
JUL 2, 1954 - JAN 31, 2026

Evening Viewing

Thursday, February 26, 2026

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM MT

LDS Chapel
6350 S. Rodeo Lane, Murray UT

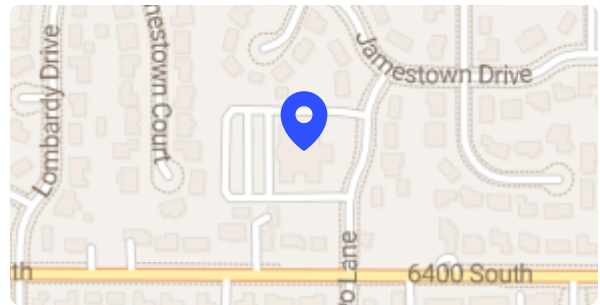


Viewing

Friday, February 27, 2026

10:00 AM - 11:45 AM MT

LDS Chapel
6350 S. Rodeo Lane, Murray UT

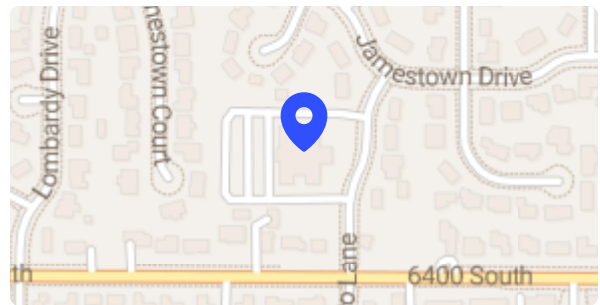


Funeral services

Friday, February 27, 2026

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM MT

LDS Chapel
6350 S. Rodeo Lane, Murray UT





Tribute Wall

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Jeff Watkins posted:

Dear Will and family, We are so sorry for the loss of sweet Nellie. It is never easy losing a parent, especially a mother. Will losing a spouse must be so hard. We love your family and hope that you can hold on to the wonderful memories of your wife and Mom as you surround yourselves with family and share in her memory. You are all in our prayers and thoughts. Much Love, Jeff and Joan Watkins

February 27 at 11:11 AM



Holli Kiuvara posted:

Dearest Will & Family, Nellie was the strongest bravest lady around!!! She always had a 99.9% attitude that included a contagious, smile and laughter that we will never forget and always cherish! I'm so grateful to have known her and well and to have been able to take care of her throughout the years she will be missed, but I'm happy that she's with others and without paying now. Thank you well for always taking such good care of her. I'm loving her so deeply you two or two peas in a pod and we all loved you dearly. Thank you for sharing each other with us as a team. Much love Holli Kiuvara

February 25 at 3:37 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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