



Burke Floyd Adams

December 26, 1935 - January 5, 2016

Burke Floyd Adams

Burke Floyd Adams, of Pleasant Grove, passed away peacefully on January 5th due to complications from Parkinson's disease. He was 80 years old.

Burke was born on December 26, 1935, in East Garland, Utah, to Floyd Ardell and Zelda Barbara (Atkinson) Adams. He was the third of seven children, six boys and one girl.

When Burke was two years old, his family moved to Yuba City, CA, where he grew up on a peach farm and learned the value of hard work.

As a boy, Burke developed a love and a passion for singing and all forms of music. His favorites ranged from Gene Autry, to Elvis, to classical music. He and his siblings would spend hours listening to their father play the steel guitar and sing. Burke had a passion for the drums and participated in the marching band at Yuba City High School, where he also ran track. Years later, Burke continued the musical tradition in his own home, singing the same songs he learned from his father, to his own children, often while playing his ukulele. He was known for his distinctive voice and his kind, gentle, and friendly manner. He loved acting and singing in college and in church productions. While at Chico State, he played the roles Captain Hook and Mr. Darling in the theater production of Captain Hook.

From 1956 to 1958, he served in the Central American Mission (in the countries of Nicaragua, Guatemala, and El Salvador) for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He quickly picked up the Spanish language and continued to speak it fluently throughout his life.

On June 26, 1959, Burke married Darla Marie Ethington in the Los Angeles LDS Temple. Interestingly, Burke's sister, Barbara, and Darla's brother, Lloyd, married each other ten years earlier. Burke and Darla met as children, shortly after Darla's family moved from Arizona to Yuba City. Their relationship blossomed after Burke returned from his mission. Burke and Darla have been married for 56 years.

Burke earned his bachelor's degree in education from Chico State University and began his career as a teacher and administrator. Burke's first teaching assignments were at Lincoln Elementary School and Tierra Buena Elementary School in Yuba City. He was then accepted into the Department of Defense Dependent School system, which took the Adams family around the world.

In 1963, the family moved to Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, where Burke taught at the elementary school on Ramey AFB for eight years. While there, he completed a master's degree in guidance and counseling from the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico, San German. He received certification in elementary school administration through Sacramento State University, as well. Always one to enjoy an adventure, Burke also learned to scuba dive while in Puerto Rico.

From there, Burke and his family continued to traverse the globe, accepting teaching and administrative assignments at Goose Bay AFB in Labrador, Canada; Keflavik Naval Station in Keflavik, Iceland; and the RAF Edzell Navy base in Scotland. His final role in the Department of Defense Dependent School system overseas was the Assistant Superintendent of the Atlantic Region based in Brussels, Belgium.

In 1991, the Adams returned to Yuba City. Burke worked as a school principal in Marysville, CA, for eight years before health issues forced him to finally retire. In 2006, Burke and Darla moved to Pleasant Grove, Utah.

Throughout his life, Burke was an active and devoted member of the LDS Church, serving as a seminary and gospel doctrine teacher. While teaching abroad, Burke also served as a counselor in several branch presidencies, as branch president multiple times, and as district president in the Caribbean District, based in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He truly loved missionary work and was grateful that his family could contribute to the missionary effort everywhere they lived. His missionary highlights include helping the first missionaries in Puerto Rico and helping to reestablish formal missionary work in Iceland.

Burke was preceded in death by his sister Barbara (Lloyd Ethington) of Yuba City, CA and his brothers Jed (surviving wife LaNea) of Orem, UT and Bruce of Phoenix, AZ. He is survived by his wife Darla, of Pleasant Grove, UT; and brothers Marc (Jennie Joy), of Yuba City, CA; Kent (Jackie Archibald), of Shelley, ID; and Cleve (Debbie Hoxie), of Navarre, FL. Burke is also survived by his five sons: Brad of Rexburg, ID; Scott of Livermore, CA; Todd of Los Altos, CA; Kevin of Eden Prairie, MN; and Darin, of West Valley City, UT and their families including 19 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m., Saturday, January 16, 2016 at the Grove Creek LDS Chapel, 500 North 700 East, Pleasant Grove, Utah with a viewing prior to services from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Interment in the Orem City Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the LDS Missionary Fund. The family also wishes to express gratitude to the staff members of Stonehenge Care Facility (American Fork) and Alpine Valley Care Center (Pleasant Grove).

Cemetery

Orem City Cemetery

1520 North 800 East

Orem, UT, 84058

Events

JAN

Visitation

09:00AM

16

Premier Funeral Services (Orem)

1160 North 1200 West, Orem, UT, US, 84057

Comments



“ What a wonderful photo and obituary. I have enjoyed hearing your stories of your family. It sounds like he had an amazing life.
Love Kim Jackson

kim jackson - January 16, 2016 at 10:23 AM



“ Even though we never went to California to visit them to many of their overseas homes , our family felt like we were best friends besides family. Because we lived in Orem ,next to Provo we had to the opportunity to have their family in our Home alot and because of BYU where I believe all their kids went to school, we were the home spot and best place to go where we had some fun nights of just hanging out singing and listening to "Cheap Dates" and "Be a Zoobie" and many other songs that they would sing in our home. I remember laughing alot when your kids were around at our house!! We took them to the MTC and BYU and picked them up to and from the airport many times and I still feel to this day that I am closer to their family then some of my own first cousins. Burke is my dads 1st cousin so we just love you so much and your wonderful family and are so blessed to know you !! So happy you get to be free of this life's ailments and be in a Happy place with many of your family whom have gone on before you. My dad has told us many times the story of when you were in Yuba and about the Dam breaking and your loved ones that you lost that day , all together !! What an amazing man and family you and Darla have and I will always be eternally grateful to your family for the many things I have learned from you and the times we had had and the love I have always felt from your family, and your extended family, I remember being at my grandma and grandpa Watts house and your father showing us his fingers he had missing as a kid. That is some of my first memories of a child and my connection to your family. We love you so much Burke and Darla!!
Brenda " Watt " Dye

Brenda Watt Dye - January 16, 2016 at 09:56 AM



“ Burke was one of the most amazing men I ever had the privilege to care for. Burke was not only kind and calm but had the most colorful personality. It was such a pleasure to get to know him and his beloved wonderful wife Darla. I enjoyed many many days at work caring for Burke. He will be missed. My prayers are with you Darla and family. Please know a day has not gone by that I have not thought of you all.

Sarah Prentice
Nursing, Stonehenge

Sarah - January 14, 2016 at 11:41 PM



“ We cherish the memories we had with Burke during his stay with us at Alpine Valley Care Center. He is truly missed. Our thoughts and prayers to Darla and the whole Adams family. May you find comfort during your time of grief.

Management Team & Staff
Alpine Valley Care Center

Alpine Valley Care Center - January 13, 2016 at 05:59 PM



“ Please accept my sympathy and prayers in remembrance of Burke. I have fond memories of him during the time he worked as a Principal in the Marysville Joint Unified School District. He was a genuinely nice man.
Carolyn Tindel, Marysville CA

Carolyn Tindel - January 13, 2016 at 12:31 PM



“ Burke and Darla are some of the most wonderful people in the world. As I spoke with Darla today, she said something very true: "Burke doesn't have an enemy in the world." That is very true. Who doesn't like Burke when they meet him? No one! Everyone likes him immediately and feels comfortable with him as the great human being he is.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you Darla. We love you and are so grateful for the magnificent Plan of Happiness.

kindest regards and much love,
Bob and Liz Cowan

Robert and Liz Cowan - January 13, 2016 at 12:27 PM



“ So sorry to hear about Burke. We grew up together in Yuba City, California. Many years ago his Father was our Bishop. My thoughts and prayers are with Darla at this time. At times like this we are eternally grateful for the Plan of Salvation. And know we will be together again. May our Heavenly Father comfort you always.
Love, Janet (Jan) Myers - Provo, Utah formerly Yuba City, California

Janet M Myers - January 12, 2016 at 10:46 AM



“ While my wife and I were visiting my Uncle Burke and Aunt Darla in Belgium, they loaned us a car to go to Germany and told us the best places to visit and stay. We had the opportunity to enjoy their company, Darin and Aunt Darla joined us on a small trip to Amsterdam While Uncle Burke was on an overnight assignment in England. When it was time to fly home, Uncle Burke took us to the airport and accompanied us to the gate. The airlines tried to split us up from our original booking. Uncle Burke stepped forward and with definite authority told the gate attendant that was unacceptable and they had to give us what we originally booked- sitting together. We were very impressed, they made it work.
Uncle Burke and Aunt Darla gave us Kinder Eggs to bring home to our children. We remember other great adventures while we visited them. They have always been so kind and thoughtful, Uncle Burke had a great sense of humor, his singing, his stories, and his love of family was always important. We view our Uncle and Aunt as the best examples of parenting. So many memories from his younger years, his parents and siblings, I haven't thought about for many year's. We will miss you Uncle Burke.

Gary and Sandra Ethington

Gary Ethington - January 11, 2016 at 08:03 PM



“ The Riddle family have so many fun memories of our time together in Iceland. We loved having Burke and Brad as our home teachers and we had so many fun adventures traveling around and learning about Iceland. I did not realize until I read his obituary that we were born just a sort distance from each other -- me on the Idaho side of the Utah Idaho border and he on the Utah side. It took quite a few years before we finally met and even more before I realized we were born so close to each other. My Great grandfather Bowcutt lived in Garland and is buried in the cemetery there. Small World after all. Love you all and send our love to the family.

Wilma "B" Riddle - January 11, 2016 at 03:23 AM