



Debra Louise Brooks

February 11, 1953 - February 11, 2019

Debra “Debby” Louise Brooks passed away peacefully on Monday February 11, 2019, her 66th birthday, surrounded by her loving family in Saratoga Springs, Utah. She passed from respiratory failure associated with ALS. She was born on Wednesday February 11, 1953 in Monroe, Michigan.

She had a hard life growing up, and chose to move away from home at age 13. She traveled to Shreveport, Louisiana to live with family where she became a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints soon thereafter. Before her last year of high school she moved to Provo, Utah, where she graduated from Provo High School in 1971. She later moved to Ohio where she met and married Michael “Mike” Boesch in Mayfield Heights, Ohio on Saturday May 3, 1980. They lived in Mentor, Ohio and were in the Kirtland Ward for over 30 years. She worked as a caregiver in a group home from 1996-2013. She also co-owned a small business with her sister Renee called Brooks Manor Assisted Living for a few years, a life dream of hers. Her health began to fail her in 2011. After two years of medical testing, she was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) in 2013. Over the course of the next five years her disease spread throughout her arms eventually leaving them almost entirely useless. It then traveled to her lungs. Even as her body failed her, she remained remarkably positive and continued to uplift others. She was preceded in death by her parents, Willard Ray Brooks and Olive Wanda Lee Ellison Brooks.

She is survived by her siblings Renee “Sue” Denise Brooks Zapart (Marion) of Chicago, Illinois, Gail Lynn Brooks Jimenez of Hollywood, Florida, Kimberly Ann Brooks Rupp Howell (Dean) of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and her brother Anthony “Tony” Ray Brooks Halt of Chicago, Illinois. Michael William Boesch and their four children: Lindsay Marie Boesch of Salt Lake City, Utah, Whitney Gail Tonkinson of Saratoga Springs, Utah, (Mark Aaron Tonkinson), Ashley Brooke Rivera of Ogden, Utah, (Shane Michael Rivera) and Daniel Michael Boesch of Provo, Utah. As well as her four beautiful grandchildren Liam Michael Rivera (3), Elliott Maxwell Tonkinson (3), Bennett McKay Tonkinson (1), and Kenya Brooke Rivera (9 months).

Funeral services will be held Saturday February 16, 2019 at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Harvest Hills 1st Ward building at 270 West Harvest Hills Blvd Saratoga Springs, Utah at 11:00 am. A viewing will be held prior to the services from 10:00 am to 10:45 am. Interment will be located at the Provo City Cemetery following the services.

Previous Events

Viewing

FEB **16**. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (MT)

Harvest Hills 1st
270 West Harvest Hills Blvd
Saratoga Springs, UT 84045

Funeral Services

FEB **16**. 11:00 AM (MT)

Harvest Hills 1st
270 West Harvest Hills Blvd
Saratoga Springs, UT 84045

Graveside Service

FEB **16** (MT)

Provo City Cemetery
610 South State Street
Provo, AK 00000

Tribute Wall

LD

“ I newly moved to Mentor Ohio in 1980. Debbie befriended me right away. We spent a lot of time together and I often think back to our times together. Our favorite thing was after going grocery shopping we would go eat lunch at taco bell. Good times with a great friend, I will miss her but know I will see her again someday. I moved to Madison Ohio in 1994, one time I was shopping in Mentor and the holy ghost kept urging me to go see Debby. I was in a hurry and felt I needed to get back home so I felt I couldn't stop at her house, as I went to drive past the road the holy ghost, through me, sharply turned the wheel and made the turn. I will never forget that feeling. When I knocked on her door she answered the door in tears, she then put her arms around me and said " I've been praying all day for the Savior to send me an angel". She had such a strong spirit and such faith and I admired her so much. I am glad that the Lord sent me to her door that day and am more thankful he sent her to me as a friend. I love her so much and only wish I could have been there more for her these last years. I could go on but I won't, I am sorry to the family for their loss, she adored her children as they came into her life and I'm sure it was the same with her grandchildren. Treasure your memories and don't forget to record them in writing. Lindsay, Whitney, Ashley and Daniel may God bless and watch over you now and forever, you all may not remember me much but I love you all and hope to be friends and remain friends.

Lauren Davis - February 17, 2019 at 01:43 PM

HL

“ We have known Debby for many years. She was a dear friend and sister in the gospel. We shared many joyful moments. We want her children to know how blessed we feel to have known her. We are here if we can do anything for any of you. We wish you peace at this time of mourning. Ed and Holly Lepisto

Holly and Ed Lepisto - February 16, 2019 at 11:44 PM

AS

“ When I was a pre-teen, I would have sleepovers with Lindsay. Whenever in her home, Debbie talked to me like I was a mature, important person. She was always complimentary of me. She told me I was beautiful and I could be a model. She made an awkward kid feel special. I remember how hard she worked; she was constantly trying to improve the lives of her children and those she was employed to help. She certainly made the world a brighter place by who she was.

Anna Stice - February 16, 2019 at 09:30 PM

LF

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. I can only imagine how difficult this time must be for you. I hope that treasured moments spent with Debra bring you comfort. While words fail to capture the pain of losing a loved one, we can look forward to the time when words will fail to capture the joy of having our heavenly Father return your dear Debra to you. God's written word assures us "that there is going to be a resurrection" and at that time "no resident will say: 'I am sick'" (Isaiah 33:24; Acts 24:15). Please accept my deepest sympathy and a warm invitation for you to find more comfort at JW.ORG

L Flores - February 15, 2019 at 03:51 PM

KM

“ I loved every moment I got to be with Debby. I always came away feeling so happy and loved. She was so genuine and wore her heart on her sleeve. She would apologize for comments that were even slightly negative. I adored her story telling and was amazed that she found something so unique that would keep her mind busy and serve others while her body was failing her. I'll miss her. She got her birthday wish. What a blessing and a testimony that God hears and answers our prayers.

Kristen Mendenhall - February 15, 2019 at 01:24 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Premier Funeral Services - February 14, 2019 at 12:21 PM



To my loving sister and her beautiful family .Everything she did in her life was about and for all her children she would go without things she wanted or needed

Renee Zapart - February 14, 2019 at 11:00 PM



to ensure that they had things . She was always funny and dealt with her everyday situation with the help of her family and I thank you all . I myself am not able to travel far due to my health but my thoughts are with you all .

Renee Zapart - February 14, 2019 at 11:04 PM