



Garth Hugh Nielson

March 12, 1974 - June 18, 2014

Garth Hugh Nielson, while surrounded by his wife and daughters, was called home to his Heavenly Father on June 18, 2014, after a short, but stalwart battle with cancer. He is greatly missed by all who were fortunate enough to call him husband, father, son, brother, uncle, and friend. Garth was born March 12, 1974, in Payson, Utah, to Bill and Cheri Nielson, the final of six children. Garth loved working with his dad on their cattle ranch, and especially appreciated his dad's strong work ethic. He excelled in sports, particularly football and wrestling. His senior year of high school, he was the state wrestling champion in his weight class—Rich High School's first-ever state champion wrestler. In 1993-1995, Garth served an LDS mission to Brazil, São Paulo South; he loved the Brazilian people and continued to keep in touch with many of his Brazilian friends and companions. He married Monica Pimentel in 1995, and over the next 12 years, they added five beautiful daughters to their family. They later divorced. On October 20, 2012, after a whirlwind courtship, Garth married the love of his life, Melanie Gibby. They loved attending plays—Garth proposed at Tuacahn during a performance of Aladdin—and just being together. A short 11 months after they were married, they were blessed with a sixth daughter, Zoey. The accomplishment Garth was most proud of in his life was his daughters, who he doted on and loved unconditionally. He was especially enthusiastic about soccer and tirelessly supported them in practices, games, and even coaching. Garth adored all of his girls and cherished every moment he was able to spend with them. His final thoughts in this life were only for his wife and daughters. All who knew Garth treasured his big heart, his love of people, and his laidback attitude. Some of his daughters' favorite traits of their dad were his pride in them, how he put others' needs before his own, how he was always there for them, and how he would take them to Randolph to ride horses. Garth is survived by his adoring wife, Melanie; his darling daughters Jennyfer Monica, Sarah Eloiza, Jessica Valeria, Trinity Brooke, Sofia Cheri, and Zoey Anne; his cherished parents, Bill and Cheri; his devoted siblings Sandra (Ken) Robinson, Christine (Jerry) Chadwick, Bill (Kay) Nielson, Stephanie (Kevin) Terry, and Jeneal (Mike) Christensen; his grandmother, Ethel Mae Nielson; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was described by many as the "favorite uncle." He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Albert Senius Nielson II, and Keith Whitney and Arvadele Weter Ward; and his uncle Albert Senius Nielson III.

Services will be held Saturday, June 21, 2014, at 11:00 AM, with viewings on Friday, June 20, 6-8 PM, and Saturday, June 21, 9:45-10:45 AM, at the Slate Canyon Chapel, 1745 S. State Street, Provo, Utah. Remembrances can be made online at www.premierfuneral.com. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made at Utah Community Credit Union in Garth's name to offset medical and funeral expenses and to help provide for his wife and daughters. The family wishes to thank his wife, Melanie, for her devoted care of Garth in his final days; the members of the Slate Canyon 10th ward who provided countless meals and service; as well as Intermountain Hospice Care, who attended to Garth and his family with kindness and compassion.

Tribute Wall

BC

“ I attended a mission reunion on April 3, 2015 and just found out that Garth had passed away. I served in the Brazil Sao Paulo South mission with Garth. He wasn't my companion but I knew him well. He will surely be missed.

Brian Craig - April 05, 2015 at 12:08 AM

ES

“ Melanie and Family,
I'm sorry we could not make the funeral services as we were traveling that day. If we could have made it we would have been there. We are so sorry for your loss. Memories and Thoughts...
Garth and I were missionary companions for several months in Samambia, Brazil. I remember the bicycles we rode and we both had these helmets that looked like motorcycle helmets one was bright blue and one was bright yellow. (They looked so funny on us...) We were about the Lords work and so no matter how ridiculous we wore them because it was mission rules. We had great success and we became great friends. Garth's father and my father's older brother were friends growing up, and upon learning this as companions, we became even better friends. Interestingly enough he grew up in Randolph, Utah and I grew up in Bear Lake, Idaho, only about 50 miles away from each other and we are the same age... Who would have thought we would end up in the same mission together as companions. I have kept in touch with Garth over the years and really appreciated his friendship.
The last time I saw him was when I met up with him at the City Creek Mall in downtown Salt Lake City for a few minutes April of this year, I'm so glad I made the effort to see him on that trip.
I know he was loved and will be missed.
Sincerely,
Edward Spotten and Family

Edward Spotten - June 25, 2014 at 01:06 PM

TW

“ So sorry for your loss! I grew up with Garth and went to school with him at Rich High School. He was just a year younger than me. I will always remember Garth and his dedication to everything he did. He was a great guy with a huge heart willing to help anyone at anytime. He has great parents and a wonderful family. May the Lord and His spirit be with Garth's family at this time. Sincerely, Tricia Johnson Watts and family

Tricia J. Watts - June 21, 2014 at 02:29 PM

DR

“ Dear Melanie and family, Our hearts - all of us at Hayden Peak - are still in shock and are mourning the loss of your sweet Garth. We are glad for the time you had together and know your love will last a lifetime - and beyond! Hugs!

Diana Riddle - June 20, 2014 at 07:04 PM

ME

“ There, in front of eyewitnesses, Jesus performed an unforgettable resurrection. It was a token of the resurrection that he had already predicted some time prior to this event, a restoration to life on earth under “a new heaven.” On that occasion, Jesus had said: “Do not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out.”—Revelation 21:1, 3, 4; John 5:28, 29; 2 Peter 3:13. This is the hope for, Mr. Nielson, as well. I am very sorry for your loss. May God’s Word comfort you and your family. Sincerely, Meryl

Meryl - June 20, 2014 at 06:38 PM

RF

“ Garth has been a good friend and neighbor for the 13 years that we have known him. He always lent a helping hand with a smile on his face. He will be missed greatly.

Robson and Sherry da Silva and Family - June 20, 2014 at 09:58 AM

KG

“ For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:” I cannot think of more comforting words! I know that we will resurrect and be made perfect through Christ. God be blessed! Allow these comforting words to temper your grief. You will all be reunited. I love you.

Ken Gibby - June 19, 2014 at 01:48 PM