



Merrill Robert Hansen

September 5, 1952 - November 23, 2018

Merrill Robert Hansen (66) died November 23, 2018, in Saratoga Springs, Utah, after battling pancreatic cancer for the past 13 months. Never once did he complain about his situation and the pain he was suffering. He was always very positive and was prepared to move on to the other side. Merrill had a very special relationship with our father and we are certain that Dad was there to meet him for a joyous reunion.

Merrill was born September 5, 1952, in Covina, California, the 4th son of William and Ellen Nichols Hansen, moved to Bakersfield, California in 1966, and graduated from West High School in 1970. He served a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Indiana, Indianapolis mission. He lived his life in Covina, Bakersfield, San Diego, and Utah.

In his work as an Insurance Inspector, he traveled extensively throughout the Western U.S., driving hundreds of thousands of miles, camping along the way. He loved his travels and could tell you something about every little town in every state he visited. He had a phenomenal memory for people, places, and events.

Merrill was a great brother and friend. He was a talented artist and writer and had a keen sense of humor. Merrill was profoundly sensitive and that sensitivity was manifested in his artistic talents. This talent was mostly self-taught, as he would study other artists' methods and incorporate them into his own work. When Merrill wanted to accomplish something, be it a painting, cartoon, or writing his book, he would devote himself to the effort until he felt he'd given his best. He was a truth seeker and totally honest. He will be sorely missed.

He had an abiding faith in his Savior, Jesus Christ, never wavering in that belief. Over the past year, he felt particularly grateful for the enabling and healing power of Jesus Christ's Atonement.

Merrill is preceded in death by his father and nieces Maren Hansen and Alice Hansen. He is survived by his mother, brothers Gary (Susan), Russell (Tawnya), Dennis (Sharma), and

sisters Drusilla (Buck) Willhite and Leslie (David) Smoot, and many, many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, November 29, 2018, in the Lindon 3rd Ward building, 320 West 500 North, Lindon, Utah. Friends may visit at the church from 9:00 -10:30 that morning.

Comments



“ Merrill and I were best friends at West High School in Bakersfield. We lived just a few houses away from each other in Park Stockdale and were in a tight group of neighborhood buddies.

Merrill and I spent many enjoyable hours riding bikes, listening to records and exchanging deep thoughts on religion and politics while smoking Marlboros on my front lawn. His humor and easygoing disposition offered relief from our friends' more volatile temperaments. He was always welcome.



Russell WOODGATES - December 08 at 11:52 AM



“ Mary N. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Merrill Robert Hansen.

Mary N. - November 29 at 11:31 AM



“ Vaya Con Dios my quiet friend!

Randy Holbrook - November 29 at 10:19 AM



“ I have know Merrill since I was in grammar school. He was always kind and quiet. I am so sadden to hear of his pasting, we have remained friends on classmate for many years. I know he was truly dedicated to his church and lived his beliefs. He was a good friend and man. I know he is in a very special place.

Kally Elton - November 27 at 08:58 PM



“ I met Merrill in high school and we became friends. Later while living in San Diego we were roommates for short periods but he was always part of the group until he move to Utah. This last year we connected several times talking and never did he complain or say why me. He was at peace with his situation. He has left me and his other San Diego friends with many "Merrill" stories that we still enjoy sharing.

I will miss my friend. Lou Haberkern

Lou Haberkern - November 27 at 03:32 PM



“ I first met Merrill in the spring of 1993 when he moved into Old Farm condos & apartments in Salt Lake City. He came to Elders Quorum meeting one Sunday while I was teaching.

I liked to use the discussion method and it was hard due to the fact that it was a relatively small group of Elders. It was hard to get the degree of participation that I wanted. That is until the new guy (Merrill) started opening his mouth.

I knew immediately that this guy knew the scriptures really well and he became the backbone of my classes. He told me that when he was growing up that his parents and family made sure he learned the gospel well. I was so grateful to have Merrill in my class because he added so much knowledge and participation to the group.

We became good friends away from church and have remained friends over the years. I never saw Merrill mad at anyone and we personally never had a hard word in all those years. He was a good, pure person who cared a great deal about other people and others liked him as well.

We played church basketball together for many years, we played tennis a lot because Merrill really liked that game, and later we played golf together. I tried earlier to get him interested in golf, but it just the wrong time. Then later he did get interested in golf and he loved to play with his brothers in Utah County and with me when in Salt Lake.

It is hard to lose a really good friend especially at a relatively young age, but I sensed that Merrill accepted it well and was in a very good place spiritually these past months. If anyone was prepared and ready to move on...it was Merrill. I'm sure he is in a much better place now. I'm so grateful for my testimony!

Rich Kletting

Richard Kletting - November 26 at 01:41 AM



“ I will forever giggle when I think of the evening you teased Rufus by trying to take his dog food. You are very luck you kept your nose. I loved you then, I love you now and I know you loved me too. Thank you for five wonderful years as companions and for so many memories that mean so much. HUG HUG sweetheart and rest easy now. You made such a wonderful impression on every life you touched.

Kathie Bird - November 25 at 10:41 AM