



Paul David Turnblom

January 3, 1952 - March 9, 2020

Paul David Turnblom (age 68) husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, Christian, photographer, and creative craftsman passed away in his home in Clearfield, Utah, on Monday, March 9, 2020, at 9:25 p.m. after a courageous eight-year battle with multiple myeloma. Paul left this earthly journey holding hands with his sweetheart Sandy, his loving wife of thirty-one years. “They met dancing, “ she said, “and he wouldn’t leave.” He loved her dearly, and they met their daily challenges together.

Paul was born in Idaho Falls, Idaho to Palmar Felix and Margaret Applonie Turnblom. His early years were spent in Washington Terrace and Brigham City. He graduated from Box Elder High School. After high school, he started his family in California, and then quickly moved back to Brigham City, where the rest of his five children were born and raised.

He proposed to Sandy Thurgood (his second wife and lifetime sweetheart) at the Weber State football game on the jumbo-tron. She was mortified, and he was delighted to broadcast his undying love in front of thousands of Wildcat fans. His family still claims that he “bleeds purple.” Never one to miss a home football or basketball game, Paul became a welcome presence on the sidelines with his camera in hand. His photographs caught the attention of the basketball coaching staff, and he was invited by Cody Olsen owner of WeberHoops.com to be the online action and archival photographer for both Wildcat teams for over four years.

He thoroughly enjoyed his work and lived with enthusiasm. He involved his children in Paul’s Party Palace assisting with novelty orders. They remember him singing The Lollipop Guild with helium. He drove for Pepperidge Farms, built Champion homes, worked for Thiokol, and Paint Sundries, and was founding artist for Heartprintz Studios. For the past 23 years, he worked as a merchandiser and service technician for Hillman Fasteners. His co-workers often said that they forgot how sick he was, because he always made them laugh.

The Applonie Family Softball Team dictated his summer schedule for more than a decade.

The cousins gathered weekly under the watchful eye of Grandma Applonie to run the bases and the opposition into the dust. He cherished time joking with Genno and the boys.

Always a kid at heart, Paul sought adventure in unusual places: exploring abandoned houses, hiking Antelope Island, running and flopping Marx Brothers style, sliding down park railings, and skating across frozen sidewalks. His most recent escapade led to a road trip to find the perfect spot to photograph the Big Boy 4014, which came to Utah for the celebration of the Spike 150 Celebration in May 2019. He often carried a backpack of random props that he liked to photograph in random places. He loved to create through woodworking, photography, and digital media. He skillfully played the harmonica, french horn, and the tenor drum. He was also a formidable “dashboard drummer.” Wipeout never sounded better than when he played it on his granddaughter’s bongos.

No matter how difficult the challenges facing him, Paul made time to lift through love and positive messages. After the death of his father, Paul began sending positive messages through weekly texts to family and friends. His messages evolved into weekly videos as the Motivational Mutt on his YouTube channel and patriotic messages to his 11,000 Twitter followers. Paul honored the Constitution of the United States and dedicated his talents and energy to upholding its values.

He loved nature and lived in gratitude. He often said: “My life is blessed every day. Pay it forward.” He made friends at every opportunity. For Paul, there were no strangers, only friends he hadn’t met. He lived to make each and every person happy. A family song “Shut Up-a Your Face” he changed to “Cheer Up-a Your Face,” bringing a smile to even crying babies in grocery stores.

Noelani (Paul and Sandy’s Solomon Island Eclectus) was his feathered, beautiful girl from heaven. They cuddled and played often.

Paul was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He shared his faith and his love for Jesus Christ in word and deed, each day striving to make his life and the world a little better.

Paul’s father Palmar was his hero, and his dad was very proud of his Number One Son. Paul’s children feel the same for him. They say they got all of their creativity, random moments of laughter, and “It Just Doesn’t Matter” attitude from their ever-positive superhero. He proclaimed that everything would be okay, because his blood type was “B Positive.” Even in the days before his departure, Paul laughed as he quoted lines from Charlie Chan and Steve Martin movies, expressed his love for his family and friends, and

shared tender moments with his grandchildren.

Paul is survived by his wife, Sandy Thurgood Turnblom, his children Lisa Brook Cowley (David) and granddaughter Lauren; Christopher Paul, grandson Paul and granddaughter Neena; Crystal Ann, and grandson Prior and granddaughter Megan (Mark) and great-grandchildren Claire, Noah, and Olivia; Brady John (Alcyone), and grandchildren Ryleigh and Daxton; Amber Lynn, and grandchildren Eclipse, Lynx, Spirit (deceased) and Skyler; and Daddy's best buddy Noelani, his siblings Karen Ratta, Steven Turnblom (Marlene), Dominique Storni, Diane Peterson (Brent), Daniel Turnblom (Joy), Cheryl Bartholomew (Alan), and Laurie Turnblom.

The family expresses their sincere appreciation to Dr. Jason Stinnett, his friend and infusion Nurse Lisa, the staff at Utah Cancer Specialists for their dedicated service and friendship, the staff at Layton Hospital IHC and LDS Hospital Stem Cell for skilled care, and their neighbors, friends, and family for their love and support.

Paul's children would like to thank their "wicked cool" stepmom for the attentive, gentle loving care she so endlessly gave to their dad.

A private family viewing will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2020, 10:00-10:45 a.m. at Premier Funeral Services in Roy, Utah. Immediately following the viewing a graveside service will be held at the Washington Heights Cemetery. Please share your memories and messages with the family via the mortuary website www.premierfuneral.com.

Comments



“ I am still in awe and feel like there is a missing part in my life now that my best friend has moved on. Well where do I begin, so much to say about Paul...truly a legend with commendable traits, an inspirational, loving and caring person who has touched many hearts along his journey.

It is heartbreaking for me not being able to say goodbye and I honestly and sincerely hope we meet up again. Paul was a character with an uplifting spirit to always be around with. So many unforgettable adventures together, zany crazy fun times and was there for me on many occasions, which included a hard break up when I needed a friend and he provided, assisted with many projects and fundraisers, by being there as well as providing ideas that made events a success, photography trips together, and so much more...

You are truly missed Paul and I wish the best for you and your family through all of this and to those you have touched with your rare always happy to be with character...love and miss you brother...always in my heart

Mo Martinez - May 23, 2020 at 01:55 AM



“ Thanks Mo!!! he couldn't say enough about you when I was little. I remember all the dj equipment in his basement from gigs you two had done. He always spoke very highly of you.

-Brady Turnblom (youngest son)

brady Turnblom - May 24, 2020 at 10:20 PM



“ I am at a lost for words and have a empty heart, Sandy found me on FB and notified me last night. While based at Hill AFB for 8 years till they transferred me out to California. Both Paul and I became best of friends, natural brothers to say the least. Spent just about every weekend or as much as we could together with Paul and Sandy. Paul had to gift and personality of a very liked person with a very loving heart. Very creative individual who "ALWAYS" came up with great ideas in the realm of creativity, a very talented loving husband, dad, grandfather...and always liked animals, how can you not love a guy who is well natured in every aspect.

Last time I spent time with Psycho was while visiting my daughter in Ogden for a month and he would come get me on the weekends to attend the Weber Football games, as well as I went to work with him servicing machines in a variety of pet stores

Im missing you my friend and my heart is saddened, you will always be a special part in my heart and the most biggest part of my heart filled with great memories together. Love you brother nd I hope I will get to see you in heaven as that would bring me much joy

Mo Martinez

Mo Martinez - May 22, 2020 at 11:12 AM



“ Lisa, I am sorry for your loss. It seems such a blessing that he saw you marry and become a happy mother and wife. He no doubt will be busy in his new assignment and won't have to carry the same earthly baggage that we have weighing us down. You and your daughter and others will feel him close when you experience certain smells and find laughter at the same things that would have entertained him. You will feel close to him when you see his influence play out in the life of your family. God bless. Thanks for sharing. Love, Renee

Renee Gandola - March 29, 2020 at 07:47 PM



“ So sorry to hear about Paul. He was always a happy, positive person. He will be missed.

Sharon Larsen - March 21, 2020 at 12:30 PM



“ Paul always had a smile and joke to share! You would feel happy just being near him. We will always remember the great times watching the family play softball together!

John and Jill Detamore

John and Jill Detamore - March 21, 2020 at 12:06 AM



“ I feel so much admiration and gratitude for Paul and his influence in my life. He finds joy in everything. We knew he was struggling, but he always put on a smile, and made the rest of us smile. When our parents passed, he assumed the role of family leader and brought us together through weekly inspirational messages. He is never afraid to express his faith and his love of country. He is an eternal optimist, a great husband, brother and father, and an amazing grandfather. He has passed over the veil into heaven to meet family and friends, and I know he is now safely "clasped in the arms of Jesus" (Mormon 5:11) to receive an eternal reward. We miss you, Paul; your love of life, your joy and laughter, and your example of faith and courage in all circumstances. Sandy, thanks for sharing him with us. We love you and pray for you. We are forever your family!

Danny, your kid brother

Danny Turnblom - March 20, 2020 at 11:18 AM



“ 18 files added to the album Memories Album



Premier Funeral Services - March 19, 2020 at 10:17 AM



“ I loved so much Paul's attitude, joyfulness, and gentle demeanor. That day we hiked up to the waterfall at our family picnic was one of my favorite. Our family is so lucky to have him. Love you Paul!

Lisa Hanson - March 19, 2020 at 01:47 AM



“ Sorry to hear about Paul passing. I worked with him many years ago at Champion Home Builders in Brigham City. Paul had a way of making work fun because of his great sense of humor. I left Champion in 1985 and made the mistake of not keeping in touch with Paul. It's unbelievable how fast the years fly by. My condolences to his family and friends.



Scott D Clark - March 18, 2020 at 11:12 PM



“ I will always remember Paul's genuine smile and Witt. He loved Weber State. I will treasure the times I was there to see him clicking away at his camaro and the spirit he showed every time. What a wonderful cousin. My heart goes to you Sandy and all his kids and their families. Thanks Paul for the brightness and hope you have to this world!

Teresa Cutler - March 18, 2020 at 10:01 PM



“ When I told my boys and husband about Paul's passing, they remembered him because "he was always the one with a camera". Very kind and funny man. He will be missed.

Trina Favero - March 18, 2020 at 07:46 PM



“ Paul and I both worked for Hillman. We met at a regional meeting and became instant friends. Even though we might see each other once a year we talked often. Several years ago my daughter was playing softball in the SLC area and Paul met up with us and took pictures of her playing. He obviously loved photography. You couldn't speak to him without it coming up somehow. He also of course loved his family. Always talked about Sandy and how she put up with him, and his kids and grands. And then we couldn't finish a conversation before we talked about Weber state. He was a true fan. As I sit here in a hotel room thinking I'm going to call him, I scroll across this... so sad. I will miss you my friend.

Kevin Kimey - March 18, 2020 at 07:02 PM



“ I am sorry for your loss! I grew up next door in Brigham City. The obituary made me smile at what a wonderful man Paul became! Gail Anderson Ravenberg

Gail Ravenberg - March 18, 2020 at 03:20 PM



“ To Paul's family you have my sincere condolences I met Paul in Brigham after he graduated high school when Paul, Kessler Armstrong and I carpoled to Weber State paul never drove so Kessler or I would always drive Paul would never be ready when we picked him up so we would have to wait for him and that made up late for class so we would go to the student center music room and listen to music till the next class started I lost track of where Paul was but often thought of him Paul always as the saying goes danced to his own beat RIP Paul

richard garrett - March 18, 2020 at 02:12 PM



“ I love that you shared this. LOL. Dad was late for everything. <3

Crystal Turnblom - March 19, 2020 at 06:02 PM



“ Yup^^^

Lisa Cowley - March 24, 2020 at 01:02 AM



“ Just wanted Paul's family to know what a wonderful individual he was. I just happened to come across this obituary. I only knew him while sitting next to him a few times in 2018 at Utah Cancer Specialists in Layton while also receiving chemo infusions. He was always so positive and never without a smile on his face. I am sorry for your loss.

Lynette Sunday

Lynette Sunday - April 25, 2020 at 04:47 PM