



Ray Farrer

March 14, 1955 - October 29, 2020

Ray Farrer was born March 14, 1935, in Salt Lake City to Frank and Claire Zion Farrer.

Ray married his high school sweetheart, Maryetta Chamberlain, on August 17, 1953, in the Salt Lake Temple.

They have five children; Gregory (deceased), Rebecca (Mike) Dobbins, Clarke (Nancy), Elizabeth Plumb, and Douglas (Stacey). Ray and Maryetta have sixteen grandchildren and forty-two great grandchildren.

Ray was raised in the grocery and meat cutting business working with his father at Farrer's Central Market on 1st South in downtown Salt Lake City. Ray's grandfather, Ben Farrer, had five sons and he and each of his sons were meat cutters (not butchers!)

After graduating from East High in 1953, where he was Junior and Senior Class president, Ray attended the University of Utah (hand over heart, "I am a Utah Man, Sir!") and then graduated from Michigan State University in 1957. He then entered the US Army as an infantry officer. He became a US Army pilot and was stationed in several locations including Colorado Springs, Colorado, Ft. Greely, Alaska, and Dugway Proving Grounds, Utah.

Ray loved flying. He flew planes and helicopters all over the country. He often said, "If they had left me alone and let me fly, I would have flown for the rest of my life." But the Army had other plans for him. After five years, Captain Farrer left the Army and returned to civilian life.

After leaving military service he opened Ray Farrer's IGA market on 23rd East 13th South in Salt Lake. After a few years Ray decided he did not want to continue in the grocery business, and he started a new career as a salesman with Johnson and Johnson. He worked for J&J's Healthcare Division from 1963 to 1976, working in the Los Angeles area, the Bay Area, Chicago as a regional sales manager, and in New Jersey at J&J's corporate headquarters in New Brunswick, finishing his career as national director of sales.

"Remember, it's Band-Aid Brand Adhesive Bandages."

In 1976 Ray entered into a partnership with Dr. Russel B. Clark as the operating partner of Tropicana Industrial Center in Las Vegas. At that time Ray and Maryetta moved to Las Vegas and lived on Mt. Charleston and in Las Vegas until 2018.

Ray was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, serving in church leadership positions all through his life. He served in several bishoprics, on stake high councils, as the Indian Springs, NV, and Mt. Charleston, NV, branch president, and a stake patriarch. He and Maryetta served as temple workers for many years in the Las Vegas Temple where Ray was a sealer.

In 2018 they sold their home in Las Vegas and returned to Salt Lake City.

Ray and Mary loved the beauty of Heavenly Father's creations and traveled the world seeking out beauty and adventures. They honeymooned in Jackson Hole, Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. Their honeymoon never ended, and they continued visiting national parks throughout their lives. For many years they enjoyed the beach house on Laguna Beach, CA. They loved Zion National Park at Easter with all the family, family reunions at Bear Lake, their home on Mt. Charleston, Nevada, and long drives up any canyon and mountain.

Ray is preceded in death by his parents and his sisters; Geri (Keith Clarke), Shirley (Harold Moss), and Jean (Dr. Anthony Anderson, who lives in Ivins, UT), his son Gregory, and his granddaughter Aimee.

We invite you to share your condolences, memories, and stories of Ray and Maryetta as comments on this page.

Comments



“ Ray and his lovely wife, Marietta were best friends with my husband, Jex. They came to Missouri for our youngest daughter's wedding, and back again in 2008 where Ray gave the most wonderful salute of love and friendship when Jex passed. A beautiful couple, a beautiful man and amazing friends. My deepest sympathy to his family.

Bobbie Capener - December 13, 2020 at 05:37 PM



“ Thanks Bobbie, I just read this to my Mother.

Clarke Farrer - March 17 at 09:20 PM



“ My grandfather was a generous, kind, thoughtful, and attentive man. I loved listening to him read Luke 2 to the whole family on Christmas Eve and I loved hearing his faith promoting stories when we were all gathered together in Zion each Spring as we celebrated the resurrection of Jesus Christ together each Easter. I always felt welcome and loved when I was around him. When my wife and I honeymooned in Kauai he insisted on treating us to a a helicopter tour of Waimea Canyon "the Grand Canyon of Hawaii". Thank you Grandpa, for sharing your love of nature, flight, and above all, thank you for sharing your testimony of Heavenly Father and his plan, and Jesus Christ and his atoning sacrifice. We love you and we will miss you until we meet again.

Joshua Dobbins - November 13, 2020 at 08:39 AM



“ Ray is one of the kindest, most generous people I know. My condolences to his family.

David K Epperson - November 06, 2020 at 09:41 PM



“ My father passed away when I was fairly young the Ray Farrer was like a dad to me up whenever I was going through a major change in my life he always had advice for me. He was a kind man and he's definitely somebody I gravitated to as a father figure. The world will not be as good of a place without him. But we do have his children and the people he's influenced and now it's up to us to make up the difference

Stan Hulse - November 01, 2020 at 05:40 PM



“ Maryetta, We were so sad when we read of Ray's passing. He always had a smile on his face and always said Hello or waved when he passed by our house. We missed both of your terribly when you left Los Prados and Palm View Village. Prayers for you and your family as you go through this most difficult time. Mary Beth and John Dempsey

Mary Beth Dempsey - November 01, 2020 at 05:37 PM



“ The entire Thinger family send our love to you Doug in the loss of your beloved father. Thank you for sharing this beautiful tribute to him because I can see so many of his outstanding characteristics in you.
God bless you and Stacey, your dear mother, and family.
Sincerely and lovingly,
Sister Norma Thinger

Norma Thinger - November 01, 2020 at 03:37 PM



“ Always loved the Farrer family and cherished the friendship of Ray and Marietta. My condolences to all of you. Love from Alice Waite

Alice Waite - November 01, 2020 at 01:16 PM



“ I was able to be rays counselor in the indian spgins branch ptrsidency, i learned a great deal a bout the church and how to be a good man. I really goit to love that great man he was a very good friend. I didnt know until i read his history that ray was a piolet i am also a piolet and it would havr been fun to swap stories. Rsy and his wife were very special to me i loved them dearly, i. Lnow it will be a great. Time when i see him again.

Brent woolsey - November 06, 2020 at 03:16 AM