



## Roderick "Rod" Terry Gribble Allen

September 30, 1964 - February 10, 2020

Roderick "Rod" Terry Gribble Allen

1964 – 2020

Roderick Terry Gribble Allen (Rod) left us suddenly and unexpectedly much too soon on Monday, February 10, 2020 at the young age of 55 due to complications after emergency surgery for an aortic dissection. He was surrounded by his children and his sister. A more generous person may not exist, and he will be missed by so many, it's hard to know where to start. Perhaps at the beginning.

Born on September 30, 1964 in Hollywood, California, to Robert G. and Barbara L. Allen Gribble, Rod was the third child and second son in the family. He always had a smile on his face and was adventurous and mischievous right from the start. His family moved across the country to Connecticut when he was 10 and a few years later he had a paper route, on which he delivered the papers while riding a unicycle. Many will remember his affinity for classic cars, especially his prized bright orange '69 Camaro and his '68 Coronet RT 440.

Rod served in many ways throughout his life, including a Spanish speaking mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in California, oddly enough in the same area where he grew up many years before. After moving to Utah to attend Brigham Young University, Rod married and shortly afterwards settled in Provo, where he lived for the rest of his life. For the first couple of years after his marriage, he provided loving care in his home for his grandfather at the end of his life. This led to a brief career as a Home Health Aide, for which Rod received awards and recognitions due to his excellent care. He developed several friendships while serving in this capacity which remain intact to this day.

His skills as a mechanic led his sister to dub him "The Car Whisperer" and it's hard to meet anyone who knew Rod who didn't have a story to tell about his assistance with their car in one way or another. He never expected payment, and would happily spend hours

fixing, improving, or helping to purchase vehicles for family and friends. Rod also loved to ride his custom painted motorcycle, and visited Sturgis several times, again, making friendships that have survived through the years.

This might be the time to say that Rod could, and did, make friends with anybody and everybody from all walks of life at anytime and anywhere. Within minutes of meeting someone, he would find a personal connection and initiate a conversation making them feel like an old friend. He educated himself on many, many subjects, and had a wide expanse of knowledge in so many areas; it was hard to find something he could not discuss at great length. He had a terrific, and sometimes a little twisted, sense of humor, and was passionate about several of his opinions on a variety of subjects but could and did relate to anyone with respect in a conversation. Relationships were very important to Rod, and he kept in touch with people from early in his life to the time of his passing. He would drop everything to go to the assistance of a family member or friend in need. All felt a close connection and will miss him terribly.

Although he loved working on cars and other types of vehicles, and caring for people as a Home Health Aide, he went back to school to get a degree in Computer Science from Utah Valley University, leading to a very successful career as a Software Quality Assurance Analyst and Engineer for several different companies. In this capacity, he traveled the United States and the world, at times providing on-site technical support for over 100 Corporate Events a year. His expertise was in high demand, and clients often requested him and his team above any others for their events.

Rod is survived by his three wonderful and brilliant children, JT (Rachel) Allen, Bianca Allen, and Michael Allen. He is also survived by his older brother and sister, Richard (Tamara) Gribble, and Luone Ingram, along with several nieces and nephews. He was pre-deceased by his parents, Robert (Cleo) and Barbara Gribble, and his brother-in-law Brad Ingram. Others who will mourn him and remember him with great love are his girlfriend, Dee Flannery, Kerri (Chase) Haacke, Bryan (Michael Stoyanoff) Liston, and Brad Liston, along with many other extended family, neighbors and friends too numerous to mention by name.

A celebration of life will be held June 27, 2020. The family will reach out when further arrangements have been made (search for Remembering Rod Allen on Facebook). In lieu of flowers, may we suggest that you take a moment to reach out and connect with someone you love. If so desired, donations may be made to the American Heart Association American Heart Association via Charity Navigator.

# Comments

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“ Four years ago I wrote Rod an unsolicited letter of recommendation (as if his resume wasn't enough) because I wanted to make sure he, and anyone interviewing him, knew exactly how I felt about him. I wanted to share the letter here:

February, 5, 2016

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Rod Allen. Rod did not ask me to write this letter, but because of all the hours of help that Rod has given me on my projects over the years I couldn't pass up this chance to recommend him.

I have had the privilege of working with Rod Allen for eight and a half years. During that time I have seen him demonstrate only the highest level of commitment to the company and his assigned projects including working through the night too many times to count, long spans of time on the road supporting high profile customers and events that were “too important to fail”, and many late nights and early mornings. Rod's talents and experience quickly became invaluable to our company. Any project that was management's top priority was assigned to Rod Allen to work on and to make “flawless” which he did time and time again.

Rod also demonstrated amazing flexibility. Even after dedicating weeks of work on a project if something higher priority came up and Rod got pulled off he was more than happy to set aside those weeks of work and jump in on whatever was deemed the new critical initiative.

Attention to every detail is Rod's hallmark, but what has been the most impressive thing to me is his ability to almost never forget those details. I have been in meetings with Rod where bugs were being discussed and Rod would pause and kindly ask the development team something like this “This problem sounds similar to that database issue that we (meaning himself) found and fixed four years ago, could this be related?”.

Rod really impressed me one day while we were onsite at an event when we needed to input a 12 digit security key to gain access to our onsite database. I would normally have to log into a different system to look up the security key and then copy and paste it, but Rod just asked if he could use my keyboard and he input the security key from memory. Rod knows that onsite every second counts so he memorized the 12 digit key to save critical time. Only Rod would do that.

No description of Rod would be complete without mentioning his unique human qualities. Rod is a kind and genuine person, who helps people with everything from personal software and hardware problems, and even car trouble (Rod is great with cars). Rod isn't selfish with his time or talents. He shares both of these freely with anyone who needs them.

If you have the chance to have Rod join your team I would suggest that you grab him, point him in the direction of your biggest pain-point and then watch as your most difficult problems start to fade away.

Sincerely,  
Ryan Thompson

Thank you Rod. I'm a better person because I know you.

**Ryan Thompson** - March 02, 2020 at 04:23 PM

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“ I worked with Rod for some time. He helped me learn and grow in many ways being a person working in IT. He was a fountain of knowledge that we all missed when he wasn't around anymore. His mind was truly an asset to everyone who knew him. Rod helped me instill confidence in my decision to pursue a career in Cybersecurity. I asked him about it, and as this obituary commends, he had an extensive knowledge on the subject. He was something of a mentor to me, and he will be missed dearly. Rest in peace, friend.

**Bryce S** - February 18, 2020 at 03:08 PM

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“ I grew up with Rod in Trumbull all through the young men's program and Scouts. I remember clearly the sunny day he came to church in his Bright Orange perfect show 69 Chevy. (pretty sure we missed our classes that day) You have never seen so many exited 16 year olds in your life (especially Rod). Up until that time I was the one with the cool sixty seven Mustang, but that was soon forgotten with the arrival of the Camaro.

He was always a hard worker and would do anything for you.

Rod was always very kind to all with a constant smile and we both ended up serving in Southern California on our missions. We both had paper routes but I couldn't ride a Unicycle. Although we had lost touch over the years I know he will be terribly missed.

My thoughts and prayers are with your family at this difficult time.

Sincerely , Cam Lichfield

Snohomish , WA.

**Cam Lichfield** - February 17, 2020 at 01:57 AM

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“ 3 files added to the album Younger Days



**Luone Ingram** - February 15, 2020 at 12:13 AM