



## Velda Leatham Peterson

May 23, 1923 - October 29, 2021

Velda Leatham Peterson, 98 years old, peacefully passed away on October 29, 2021, at her home in Eagle Mountain, Utah. She was the wife of Warren Walfred "Bud" Peterson. They were married for 57 years at the time of Bud's passing. They made their home in Hermantown, Minnesota.

Velda was born on May 23, 1923 in Shelley, Idaho in a shack that had been cleaned and formerly used as a chicken coop. She was the oldest daughter of Harold Garrett Leatham and Florence Anderson. She attended Shelley High School where she graduated in 1940. After high school, Velda headed to Salt Lake City, Utah where she worked as a researcher at the Geneological Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Velda was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She served a full time mission to the North Central States Mission headquartered in Minneapolis Minnesota from 1946-1947.

In 1948, she married her sweetheart in the Idaho Falls Temple. Together they served another mission to the Mexico Torreon Mission from 1981-1982.

After her marriage Velda continued working in her chosen field of retail clerk. She was employed by the local Target for many years and retired in 1980.

Velda served in many church callings while living in Hermantown, Minnesota. When she was Relief Society President for the Duluth, Minnesota Branch, she would often cook and bake for those in need. Missionaries would often grace their Sunday dinner table and/or holiday meals.

Velda loved gardening, quilting, and playing her organ. She will also be remembered for her stories of growing up on the farm.

Velda is survived by her four children. Kent (Christine) Peterson of Duluth, MN; Brian

(Sandra) Peterson Irvine, CA; Barbara (Eric) Chase Mountain Home, AR and Sharon (Brent) Lindsay Eagle Mountain, UT. She is also survived by 1 remaining brother, Douglas (Sharon) Leathem of Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Bud and Velda had 18 grandchildren and 44 grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband Warren Walfred Peterson, Her parents, Harold Garrett Leatham and Florence Anderson. 4 brothers, Marvin, Robert, LaMar, and Dale Leatham, and 1 sister, Carol Converse. Also 3 great-children preceded her in death.

The funeral service will be held Saturday, November 6th, 1:00 pm at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 4338 East Inverness Rd, Eagle Mountain, Utah. A viewing will be held prior from 11:30 - 12:45 pm.

Interment at Sunrise Cemetery in Hermantown, Minnesota. A celebration of life will be held in Duluth, Minnesota with a date to be determined.

# Comments

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“ In 1973, when I was a brand new convert to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the entire Peterson clan took me under their wings. Mom and Pop, Bud and Velda, Kent and Tina - I had dinner and Family Home Evenings with them and horsed around with Brian, Barb and little Sharon. Then, in May of 1973, my high school sweetheart Colby also joined the Church, and came to Duluth from South Carolina for a visit. I asked Colby to marry me, and she said "Yes!" Naturally, everyone opened their arms to her, as well. But Bud and Velda did more than that - they invited us over for dinner, then sat us down for a talk. Velda started without batting an eye - "So, do you want a First Class marriage, or a Second Class marriage??" Needless to say, we answered First Class. Bud explained that Temple Marriage was the only route to go. Even though there were only 14 Temples on the whole planet Earth, we made the commitment to follow their advice. On August 30, 1974, we were married for Eternity in the Manti Temple. Colby and I will always associate that miracle with Bud and Velda and this incredible family!

**Alec Stephenson** - November 06, 2021 at 12:53 PM

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“ My mother was converted to The Church Of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in 1947. We attended church at the Duluth, Minnesota branch where our testimonies of the gospel grew to become very strong. Warren (Bud) and Velda Peterson were the leaders in our branch and were the ones that my mother and her children looked up to so much. They were young and raising their own beautiful family and also leading our large branch. They were always smiling and serving everyone in the branch. My father didn't join the church, but he liked and respected Bud and Velda. Warren Peterson was either the Branch President or the District President for approaching 20 years. They, together, were the heart and soul of our great branch. One memory I have. I was probably 16 years old and walking down the hall in the church. President Peterson was walking towards me and asked me if I was happy. I probably said 'ya'. He then said, 'well then tell your face'. It was a good learning experience for me, I needed to smile more. Growing up in the Duluth Branch family was a wonderful part of my life and that of my mother, sister and brother. Velda and her husband are a big part of why I love the Church so much today. Their son, Kent, was my brother's best friend all of his life and has become a dear friend of mine.

Larry Johnston

**Larry Johnston** - November 05, 2021 at 03:45 PM

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“ Several years ago my mom wrote her life story. One da while trying to look for something on my computer, I stumbled onto the folder her story had been saved it in. I would like to share a few excerpts on one particular page that makes me chuckle. My mom wrote it as a teenager. Its titled “What I Expect of my Husband” and I quote “I want my husband to have good health and habits, not deformed or crippled wither externally or internally...I want him to have a good background, no insanity, etc... The important thing to me will be that everyone likes him and will praise me for picking such a nice fellow.” That’s my mom! Love you! Till we meet again.  
Barb Chase

**Barb Chase daughter** - November 01, 2021 at 11:31 PM



“ When Barb and I were dating I remember Velda always feeding me at their house. I really enjoyed her cooking. She was always kind to me and made me feel welcome. She always seemed to handle problems and setbacks much more calmly than I would have and after we moved to Arkansas she and Bud always came to offer support with the birth of each of our children. If we are to be judged on how we served others she will not be found lacking. I'm glad that her earthly sorrows are now at an end and she can be reunited with her husband and family. She will be missed.

Eric Chase, son-in-law

**Eric Chase** - November 05, 2021 at 05:09 AM