



Wendy C. Tidwell Archibald

October 4, 1958 - December 29, 2019

Wendy C. Tidwell-Archibald 1958-2019

Wendy Carla Tidwell Archibald died on Sunday, December 29, 2019, in Provo, Utah from complications associated with stage 4 melanoma. She was born in Nampa, Idaho on October 4, 1958 to Carl and Myrna Tidwell and grew up working on the family's dairy farm. As a child, she came across a stray dog and was shocked when told the dog had no home. She declared that all strays could come home with her. From that time, anyone who felt marginalized or excluded would always be welcome in her home.

This small-town girl went to Washington D.C. with her senior drill team and thinking she would never see anything like it again, chanted, "Remember—you have to remember it all!" Little did she know, her world would continue to expand as she earned a bachelor's and JD degrees from Brigham Young University, worked on Capitol Hill, was Vice President of a tour company, worked as a guardian ad litem, consulted with top business professionals, married, and raised two daughters.

As a testament to their love, Lyle and Wendy met while she was studying for the Bar. On their first date, Lyle had an inkling he had finally found the woman he would marry while Wendy was grateful to have a new "boy toy." True to form, Lyle patiently kept taking her out and providing study breaks. As the weeks rolled on Wendy finally said, "I love you, but don't take that too seriously. I love a lot of people." She often found a way to wring humor out of any circumstance. The first thing she uttered after 40+ hours of labor with her first child was, "How's my hair?"

She became the Dean of Students and Internal Relations at BYU Law School in 2008. In this capacity, she shaped the lives of hundreds of students as a guiding light, life-long mentor, and stabilizing influence. She responded to their needs Monday--Friday, weekends, on every holiday, and even in the wee hours. She embodied her words, "As we interact with each other in all aspects of our lives, both in those that we share in common and in those that set us apart, may we 'above all things, clothe ourselves in the bond of

Charity.”

She is survived by her husband Lyle, her daughters MacKenzie and Madison, and her son-in-law Jake. She leaves her mother, five brothers, and one sister: Myrna, Neils, David, Russell, Shawn, Scott, and Shelly.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, January 4 at 12 noon, preceded by visitations on Friday, January 3, from 7-9 p.m. and Saturday, 9:30 to 11:45 a.m. in the LDS Stake Center, 4560 North Canyon Road, Provo, Utah. Interment will be held at East Lawn Memorial Gardens 4800 N Eastlawn Drive (650 East) Provo, UT.

Comments



“ We will all miss her grace, her love, and her great concern for all of the law students; my mom passed away around the same age from cancer, and so I pray that her family will all be comforted in Christ.

Jacob Ong - February 04, 2020 at 07:50 PM



“ I met Dean Archibald at an event for prospective law students. She spoke with me very sincerely and shared experiences that helped me make the decision to attend law school. She was a light to everyone she came in contact with.

Marissa Martin - January 06, 2020 at 07:46 PM



“ Dean Archibald knew my name seemingly before I even stepped into the law school. She was, I realize now, like that with everyone--quick to know you, quick to love you, and quick to heal you in whatever way she could.

Her passing was honestly a surprise to me. I knew the danger of her illness, but after seeing her work so many miracles for us at the law school, I guess I just assumed her cancer would miraculously disappear. I realize now that Dean Archibald was and is the miracle, regardless of her cancer-status. She has always been a miracle.

Since I learned of her passing, this poem (one dear to me) has been on my mind:

God saw you getting tired
and a cure was not to be.
So He put His arms around you
and whispered, "Come to me."

With careful eyes we watched you,
we saw you pass away.
Although we love you dearly,
we could not make you stay.

A golden heart stopped beating,
hard working hands to rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.

Dean Archibald was the best. Her smile warmed the whole law school--and she wore it fearlessly even when I know it was tough. Her laugh was rich and relentless--and she used it to lift heads, hands, and hearts. And her eyes were true--she SAW everyone she met.

I am forever grateful for the influence she has had on my life, and forever indebted to her dear family for sharing her with us. God bless you, and God bless Dean Archibald.

Melissa Jo Townsend - January 03, 2020 at 10:02 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. Wendy was such a wonderful woman and I remember being invited to her home for her first dessert party as a Student Dean at BYU law in 2008. She was so spunky and inviting, even in her honesty that she wasn't "exactly sure what she was doing" -- but then neither did we, so we were all going to just figure it out together! She was so kind and supportive when I told I was expecting my first baby as I was finishing my 3L year (I graduated in December with her help) and her love and support of that crazy last semester was invaluable. She told me that I could do it and that we would figure it out -- and she did and we did. She held my baby and praised my final semester efforts and I could feel her love and passion for her students and their journey through law school. She was a fabulous light and delight and I will remember her kindness always.

Brittany Ratelle - January 03, 2020 at 08:16 PM



“ I was called to serve as secretary in the Young Women's organization when Wendy was President. From the beginning, I felt her love for the young women and leaders. I appreciated her sense of humor that could ease an awkward situation (especially at girls camp), her continued friendship after our releases and most importantly her testimony of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ.

While we were serving together, my son in law was attending law school. I mentioned in passing how my daughter was frustrated at times with his behavior. She laughed out loud and said, "He'll get over it in a couple of years, I did!" She went on to explain the teaching techniques in law school and how you are "trained" to be opinionated and argumentative. She expressed her love for Lyle for his patience with her. I passed this information onto my daughter and true to her word he did change. He is a wonderful husband, father and son in law. Your family has been in our prayers during this most difficult time. She was a remarkable woman.

JoAnn Garlock

JoAnn Garlock - January 03, 2020 at 01:32 PM



“ Wendy's smile and laugh were so very infectious, you couldn't help but be in a better mood, be a better person because of her. You will be sorely missed. Dinah Walker-Lord, VHS Class of 76.

Dinah Walker Lord - January 03, 2020 at 01:26 PM



“ Sorry you had the attic room at the Treehouse B&B in Nauvoo...especially when the A/C went out (twice).
Love you, Vicki

vicki - January 01, 2020 at 06:50 PM