

Marilyn Draper

1931 ~ 2016



Fountain Green – Our “sweetheart” wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt and “special” friend passed away on Thursday, September 22, 2016 in Provo, Utah after a short battle with small cell lung cancer.

Marilyn was born February 12, 1931 in Payson, Utah to Ralph and Edith Miller. As a young girl, her family moved many times while her father worked construction. They eventually returned to Nephi where she worked three jobs and developed friendships. She graduated from Juab High School.

On January 12, 1951, she married her soul mate, Richard “Dick” Draper in the Manti LDS Temple. Following Dick’s military service, they settled in Fountain Green, raised two children and enjoyed being “one” for 65 years. They always enjoyed togetherness – a great example for others.

Marilyn approached life with optimism, honesty and kindness. Her family “was the light of her life.” She sought peace in the home, was a take-charge kind of person, known for her to-do lists and “let’s get it done” kind of attitude. She saved birthday and “to my wife” Christmas cards. Marilyn willingly helped others, but was hesitant to receive similar help. She tried to understand those she met before offering support, wise words and encouragement.

Throughout her life, Marilyn was dependable and conscientious. She tirelessly and selflessly cared for her husband's grandmother and later her mother in-law and father in-law - a true angel caregiver. She worked outside the home as a school lunch manager for three schools in the North Sanpete School District. During her 30 years, she was also involved cooking meals for the district's Migrant Program and Teacher Camps. She had a reputation for her delicious meals.

Marilyn was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. With young children, she served in the ward Primary presidency, later as Cub Scout leader with husband (10 yrs), Stake MIA Secretary (10 yrs), Ward Head Librarian alongside husband (22 yrs), and Stake Church Service Missionary (4.5 yrs) with husband. A long-time resident of Fountain Green, she helped the city host the annual Old Folks Party (10 yrs) and together the couple assisted in the annual Lamb Day Parade and Breakfast (she flipped hotcakes).

Her husband, Dick, supported these many activities. Marilyn treasured the times they served and worked side by side. For years, they visited long-time friends in Florida and arranged for their grandkids to spend summers with them creating memories and a special relationship.

Survived by her husband Dick, daughter Kathryn, son Steven (Susan), grandchildren Chris (Cassie) Draper, Cami (Pete) Couture, great-grandchildren Haidenne, Gwen, Elliot, Addy, Bethany, two sisters Beryldean Olsen, Florence Howarth, extended family and friends.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at Anderson Funeral Home, 94 W 300 N, Nephi, UT. Family and friends may call Monday evening from 6-8 pm and one hour prior to the services at Anderson Funeral Home. Burial will be in the Fountain Green Cemetery.

The family greatly appreciates the "sweet and attentive" UVRMC staff for the care they gave during her short stay. She left this earth with grace, dignity and inner strength and will be missed by all who loved her.