



## Arlene Arnold

December 27, 1952 - September 23, 2017

Arlene Arnold transitioned from this life on Saturday, September 23, 2017. She came into this world, on December 27, 1952, and made it a much brighter, kinder place. As a child, she was such a tomboy and loved playing in the fields and orchards of Orem with her brother Calvin. They'd play cowboys and Indians down in the gully where present day UVU stands today. She was very athletic and loved playing softball, basketball and, her favorite, volleyball at Orem High.

Arlene was only nineteen years old when her sweet mother died, and it left a big hole in her heart that was never really filled. She immediately took over the cooking and cleaning in the home, trying to care for her father and younger brother, all while attending her first year of college and working. She never really got over missing her dear mother.

Arlene graduated from BYU with a BA in Physical Education and a teaching certificate in Physical Education & Health. She served a French-speaking mission for the LDS Church to France and Belgium.

Arlene had an amazing career, teaching P.E. and Health at Pleasant Grove Jr. High, including one year as Vice Principal. As a teacher, she always advocated for the "underdog", and taught her students to be kind and generous to those less fortunate. She was a beloved teacher with whom many students kept in contact long after they left her classroom and even to this day. She eventually got her Masters in Library Science from BYU, and began working in the Media Center at PG Jr. During that time she was awarded Media Teacher of the Year for the State of Utah. Arlene was always active in the Teacher's Union, serving at the local level as president of Alpine Teacher's Association, the state level as Vice President of Utah Education Association and at the national level as a trainer for the National Education Association. She finished her career as the Eastern Utah UniServ Director at UEA. She advocated for the teachers in 9 schools districts and was very well respected by school principals and district superintendents for her fair, objective, and equitable mediations and treatment of all parties.

Arlene met the love of her life, Loreen Major, at a national teacher's convention in San Francisco. On September 4, 1993 they had their own private commitment ceremony in the mountains, just outside Jackson Hole, WY. They pledged their love, and promised their lives to each other, never dreaming that one day they could actually make it legal. With that initial commitment, Arlene acquired an instant family, which included Loreen's four year old son, Lance, whom they raised together. Loreen's stepdaughter Julie also became like a daughter to Arlene. They had a beautiful life together, full of music, joy, and love. They traveled the US, camped, played out of doors and had many adventures together. They cultivated many friendships all over the country, and are very beloved by their many friends.

Arlene was such a hard worker. She could fix or repair anything, or she'd learn how. She loved working in the yard and gardening. They had the most beautiful yard in Orem, for many years, and she later transformed their Lehi property, after they moved. Arlene was an incredible cook, enchilada maker, pie baker, and margarita mixer. She made unbelievable dutch oven dinners. And did she ever know how to grill! She played the piano and had a lovely singing voice. She had an indescribable infectious laugh, and could get everyone around her laughing hysterically. She was great at telling stories and jokes. Her greatest talent though, was interacting with people. She listened, remembered peoples' names, gave great advice and made each person feel like they were the most important person in the world to her while she was with them. She always had wisdom and insight. She was honest and could cut to the chase, without offending people. Most of all, she had a way of getting into your heart. Her soul was loving and generous. Human connections were her legacy. She touched so many lives.

Arlene was diagnosed with breast cancer in January 2007. While in remission, the Supreme Court ruling made it legal for all people to marry, and on December 27, 2013, Arlene and Loreen, after more than 20 years of being together, were finally able to legally marry. In November 2015, they found the cancer had returned, this time as stage four breast cancer metastasized to the bones. Through medication and a positive attitude the cancer was stymied but a sudden development of pneumonia and acute heart failure took her from us.

Arlene is preceded in death by her dear parents, Benjamin Edward Arnold, and Alta Buckner Arnold, and fur babies Gigi, Idgie-Ruth, Oliver, Sasha, Annie and Frisco. She is survived by her sweet wife, Loreen Major, son Lance (Alisha) Major, daughter Julie (Jake) Carlile, grandchildren Kambree and Asher Carlile, brother Calvin (Vickie) Arnold, nieces Aleshia (Broc) Stutz, and Andrea (Bruce) Ingleby, and nephew Brian (Shelly) Arnold. Great nieces and nephews: Hunter, Iain, Jentzen, Keraghan, LillyAuna, Tanyon, Ava,

Cole, and Beckett, and fur babies: Aspen & Skye. Arlene adored her nieces and nephew. They were a huge part of her life from the time they were born. They, along with her children, grandchildren, and great nieces and nephews, were the little loves of her life.

The Celebration of Arlene's Life will be an open house, held Sunday, October 8, at the UEA building where she served so well, 875 East Pontiac Dr. Murray, from 2-6pm. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Arlene's Memorial Fund: <https://www.gofundme.com> and search for Arlene Arnold's Memorial Fund. Condolences may be expressed at <http://www.bergmortuary.com>.

# Events

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<b>OCT</b>	<b>Celebration of Life</b>	02:00PM - 06:00PM
<b>8</b>	<hr/>	
	UEA Building	
	875 East Pontiac Drive, Murray, UT, US, 84107	

# Comments

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“ Arlene you were like a big sister to me. Our years growing up in Orem were much better because of you and Calvin and your Mom and Dad. I send much love your way. Thank you. Thank you. Miss you.

**holly holst** - October 05, 2017 at 10:49 AM

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“ Gary and I will miss Arlene. She always greeted us with support, kindness and love.

Love,  
Millie Watts

**Mildred C. Watts** - October 02, 2017 at 11:22 PM

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“ Arlene and I were state NEA leaders from Utah and Wyoming. She provided me with kind support and reassurance when I was dealing with my own "...to thine own self be true" journey. I shall remember her as a fierce advocate, a proponent of public education and the profession. She had a wonderful sense of humor and made me laugh often. Loreen, know that I'm sending much love to you and all of Arlene's loved ones. I shall always be grateful for having known her. We carry her light forward.

**Jim Fotter** - September 30, 2017 at 04:37 PM



“ Thank you, Jim. She spoke so fondly of you! You were a good friend!

**Loreen Major** - October 02, 2017 at 07:21 PM

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“ Condoléances from Belgium Arlene is à good missionary a Big example for me . M'y prayer with you

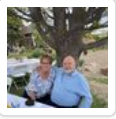
**Louisette** - September 29, 2017 at 05:27 PM



“ Thank you, Louisette. I don't know how you found out about her passing but it is wonderful to know you remember her after all these years!

**Loreen Major** - October 02, 2017 at 07:23 PM

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“ Oh, the stories I could tell. Arlene is such an amazing person. She and I worked in the local teachers' union for years and years. She was a hard worker and very dedicated to her work. Arlene was always one of the first ones to a place and one of the last to leave. She was, however, unceasingly dedicated as a wife, mother, and friend. Arlene sensed when things weren't right and acted on her intuition. She reminded me so much of my sister. One day I told her that she reminded me of her. Then I told her to thing that would really make her like my sister was if she showed up on my doorstep with a pack of smokes and a wine cooler. She didn't forget my comments because one night she came to the house with the wine cooler and smokes. I wasn't home so she put them back in her truck. Not long after that, one of her nieces found the cigarettes in her glove box. The niece told her dad that she thought Aunt Arlene had started to smoke. Arlene's joke turned into an explanation that she hadn't started smoking. Love and miss you Arlene! Love you too Loreen.

**Phyllis Sorensen** - September 29, 2017 at 05:13 PM



“ She loved you so, Phyllis! She spoke so fondly of her years working with you!

**Loreen Major** - October 02, 2017 at 07:24 PM

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“ I had the privelage of working with Arlene at Hartvigsen. What a fun a and amazing woman. My heart goes out to her wonderful partner and family.



**Rochelle Deeter** - September 29, 2017 at 04:08 PM



“ Thank you, Rochelle. We had a good time working there, didn't we? Best part was getting to know good people! So glad we ran into you recently!

**Loreen Major** - October 02, 2017 at 07:26 PM

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“ I met Arlene when we were both State leaders of NEA. Instantly we were friends and I cherished that friendship. Arlene, I just know you are sad beyond words, but my thoughts and prayers are with you. I know you will miss Arlene, but take comfort in the fact that she is no longer suffering. Keep in touch.

Love you,  
Pat Smart

**Pat Smart** - September 29, 2017 at 10:24 AM



“ Oh, Pat! It's been so long! I remember fondly the trip we took to Hawaii for an NEA training. That was 24 years ago! You were very dear to Arlene!

**Loreen Major** - October 02, 2017 at 07:27 PM



“ Arlene was such a great leader....while I was President of my local association, she guided me and was a great mentor. When I was a new member, one Saturday I was at SLCC for a UWP workshop. I came out to the parking lot and found I had a flat tire. I felt helpless but luckily Arlene walked by with Loreen, recognized me, and waved Loreen on while she proceeded to change my tire. I was so grateful and shocked that she even remembered me. Much later, she brought Loreen to an association dinner and came over to me to tell me that she and Loreen were a couple. She seemed shocked that I answered so easily, "Oh, I figured that."

Arlene was a rock as our Uniserv director. She was so loyal, all-knowing, and an ace when it came to association issues. She saved my job once.

I'm sad that she didn't get a chance to live out her retirement longer....which she so richly deserved. She will be greatly missed but now she is free of pain and can be that angel on Loreen's shoulder. I send my prayers to her family she so loved.

Love you bunches!  
Val Thurnell

**Val Thurnell** - September 29, 2017 at 10:12 AM



“ Val, she loved you so much! You always made her laugh and she loved working with you!

**Loreen Major** - October 02, 2017 at 07:28 PM



“ Arlene was fearless! She advocated for teachers and public education with passion, conviction, and truth. She will be missed.

**Sharon Gallagher-Fishbaugh** - September 29, 2017 at 09:50 AM



“ Thank you, Sharon.

**Loreen Major** - October 02, 2017 at 07:28 PM

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“ Arlene was a fighter. I am so glad she was a part of my life. I will miss her. She was a good friend. With love always Vicky.

**Vicky Aldridge** - September 29, 2017 at 08:16 AM



“ We were so lucky we got to spend a wonderful week with you this summer. Wonderful memories were made!

**Loreen Major** - October 02, 2017 at 07:29 PM

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“ Arlene and Loreen both played a strong supportive role during a very unexpected and difficult time in my life. Arlene was a very intelligent and wise person who often shared great advice. I loved talking to her and hearing her perspective. She had a great way of understanding the bigger picture. Also, she had a rather spicy and funny personality, and often had me laughing. She had a generous heart of gold. I watched her share her talents and expertise to improve the lives of many. I personally experienced extensive generosity and kindness I'll never be able to repay from both Arlene and Loreen.

My life has been very much improved from the association of both of them. It was a true honor to know Arlene. I admire so much her kind ways and her love of all those she came in contact with. I was very sorry to hear of her loss and what that means to Loreen and all her loved ones.

Love- Laurie Bowen

**Laurie Bowen** - September 29, 2017 at 12:44 AM



“ Thank you, Laurie. Arlene loved that we worked together because you helped me to enjoy work so much. I'm so glad she got to know you and you got to know her!

**Loreen Major** - October 02, 2017 at 07:31 PM

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“ I knew Arlene as a fighter. She fought for teacher rights throughout Utah. She fought for better pay and benefits for educators. She was an example to all and will be remembered and missed. To Loreen and all of Arlene's family, my sincerest condolences.

Mark Mickelsen

Mark Mickelsen - September 28, 2017 at 01:26 PM



“ Thank you, Mark. She enjoyed working with you!

Loreen Major - October 02, 2017 at 07:32 PM

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“ Arlene changed my life. As a young (ok, not young, but new) leader in the Utah Education Association, Arlene bolstered my confidence. She was steadfast in her commitment to public education and she held my feet to fire to do my part. Arlene was funny. She was a little quirky (aren't we all?) and she loved deeply. I feel so fortunate to have been supported and inspired by my dear friend, Arlene Arnold. Much love to all she impacted.

Heidi Matthews - September 28, 2017 at 12:14 AM



“ My sympathies go to all Arlene's family and friends. She was a wonderful person.

Robin Frodge - September 29, 2017 at 09:57 PM



“ Arlene is one of the best people I know. She was smart, funny, and always there for friends-especially if they were educators. There is a big hole in our universe now.

Marsha Forsgren - October 01, 2017 at 01:05 AM



“ Known Arlene since we were young. This brings back many fond memories. Life is too short!

Mindy Broderick Walsh - October 01, 2017 at 12:00 PM



“ Heidi, she was so proud of the leader you have become!

Loreen Major - October 02, 2017 at 07:33 PM