

Obituary

Gaye Merrill, 54



Rowena Gaye Merrill, 54, of Orem, Ut and formerly of Blackfoot, passed away Monday, May 24, 2010 at the Utah Valley Regional Medical Center in Provo, Ut, following a valiant battle with cancer.

She was born July 30, 1955 in Blackfoot, Idaho to Clifford Gibbs and Rowena Murdock Merrill. She was raised and attended school in Moreland, graduating from Snake River High School.. Following graduation she attended BYU Provo and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Athletic Training. She also earned her Maters's Degree at Indiana University. She excelled in sports in high school and college.

Gaye was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, serving in the Relief Society as a teacher, visiting teacher, and as sports director in her ward and stake.

Gaye was generous with her means to her nieces and nephews and the student athletes with whom she worked. She was a mother away from home to many. Her love for her family was second only to her love for her Savior and His gospel plan.

She worked as Director of Sports Medicine at BYU Provo for five years, she also worked for Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, PA.

She enjoyed outdoor sports, riding horses and reading.

She is survived by her father, Clifford Merrill, of Blackfoot, ID; her siblings: Annette (Richard) Bair, of Moreland, ID, Roger W. (Sheron) Merrill, of Jacksonville, FL, Sue (Blaine) Pharis, of Mountain Home, ID, Kent M. (Robin) Merrill, of Boise, ID, C. Brent (Deborah) Merrill, of Haughton, LA, Jerry (Marianne) Merrill, of Rexburg, ID and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Rowena Merrill and a sister, Peggy Lue Merrill.

Utah funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, June 4, 2010 at Stonewood 5th Ward, 450 S. 100 W., Orem, UT. A viewing will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. June 3, 2010 at Walker-Sanderson Family Mortuary, 646 E. 800 N., Orem, UT. Idaho funeral services will be held at 1p.m. Saturday, June 5, 2010 at the Moreland 5th Ward, 740 W. 175 N., Moreland, ID. The family will meet with friends and relatives from 11:45 to 12:45 prior to services at the church. Funeral services are under the direction of Hawker Funeral Home, Blackfoot, Idaho. Condolences may be sent to the family at condolences@hawkerfuneralhome.com or orem@walkerfamilymortuary.com.

Interment will be in the Moreland Cemetery on Saturday, June 5, 2010, in Moreland, ID.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Gaye Merrill Athletic Training Scholarship Fund, BYU Provo, 336 SAB, Provo, UT 84602.