



Sally Kay Ayres

February 24, 1956 - March 28, 2022

Sally Kay Ayres, 66, passed away on March 28, 2022, due to a suspected heart attack. Kay, as she preferred to be called, or Mimi, as she loved being called by her beloved grandchildren, is survived by her husband of 31 years, Carl Travis Ayres. Kay and Carl moved to Tallahassee in 2013 to be near her son, Jared Scott Gardner (43), daughter-in-law, Victoria Mary Gardner (37), and their five children: Genevieve Shiloh Dorthea Gardner (12), Elijah Richard Ozro Gardner (12), Zane Kirkpatrick Gardner (9), Emmeline Hansina Gardner (9), and Asher Joseph Gardner (6).

Kay was born in Jacksonville, Florida in 1956, and later moved to Salt Lake City, Utah with her mother, Sarah (Sally) Buhler (Schroeder), adoptive father, Ray J. Buhler (deceased), and her younger siblings: Kelly Buhler, James Buhler, Rod Buhler, Craig Buhler (deceased last year) and Mark Buhler. Her sister, Cyndi Buhler (Licausi), was born after the move.

Kay graduated from Murray High School in Murray, Utah. She also worked at the Church Office Building in downtown Salt Lake City. In Utah, Kay met and fell in love with Richard L. Gardner (deceased) who she married in 1977 in the Salt Lake City Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

In 1978, Kay gave birth to her son, Jared Scott Gardner. In 1983 the young family moved to Ypsilanti, Michigan where Richard took a job in management with the Ford Motor Company. Kay studied at Washtenaw Community College. While in Michigan, Richard was diagnosed with cancer to which he succumbed in 1988.

After Richard's death, Kay and Jared moved to Jacksonville, Florida to be close to family. In Jacksonville, she met and fell in love with Carl Travis Ayres whom she married September 9, 1990. Carl is a retired navy veteran and worked as a computer specialist on the NAS Jacksonville base until his retirement in 2013. Kay and Carl loved to travel together (especially to the beach) and enjoyed many trips with their close friends and family. Kay obtained her certificate as a medical assistant and worked in a doctor's office in Orange Park, Florida.

Later in life, Kay was grateful to get to know her father Paul Webb (since deceased), his wife, Marilyn Webb, and Kay's brothers Bryan and Mark Webb. Kay loved being a mother and a grandmother. She went out of her way to make each day special. Every holiday she used her talents for baking and decorating to turn her house into a magical wonderland. Mimi would do her best to outdo the Easter Bunny and Santa Clause and make each child feel cherished. Kay loved to travel and was the organizer of family trips, who would push her family out of their normal routine in order to make lasting memories. She made it her mission to be there for every milestone and was completely adored by her five grandchildren.

Kay was a light to those around her, and an example of Christ-like love. She kept in touch with those from every chapter of her life, and freely offered support and encouragement. She enjoyed performing compassionate care through her church by arranging for meals and assistance for those in need or those suffering loss. Kay leaves behind a legacy of family and friendships and will be dearly missed.

Kay always said "Family is Everything," and she was the heart of it.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to the American Heart Association. for those wishing to view her service via zoom the link is: <https://zoom.us/j/5167663549?pwd=aTBlamczb3l2RUYwVW5FQXVBdGRPUT09>

Todd Wahlquist with Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193, www.bevisfh.com) is assisting the Ayres family with their arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Tallahassee National Cemetery

5015 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Previous Events

Burial

APR 7. 2:00 PM (ET)

Tallahassee National Cemetery
5015 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Tribute Wall



“ The zoom link is <https://zoom.us/j/5167663549?pwd=aTBlamczb3l2RUYwVW5FQXVBdGRPUT09>

Victoria Gardner - April 06, 2022 at 06:40 AM



Memorial slideshow Memorial slideshow <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=lik0FsQ2w8l&feature=youtu.be>

Victoria Gardner - April 08, 2022 at 02:16 PM



“ Catherine Gardner purchased the *Your Light Shines* for the family of Sally Kay Ayres.



Catherine Gardner - April 04, 2022 at 09:31 PM



“ Catherine Gardner purchased the *Enchanted Cottage* for the family of Sally Kay Ayres.



Catherine Gardner - April 04, 2022 at 09:16 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Sally Kay Ayres.*



April 04, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Sally Kay Ayres.*



April 04, 2022 at 12:48 PM



“ *Kay & I worked together in the same physicians office & have been friends for many years. She always was eager to help me when my workload became too heavy. We were each other's moral support during long & difficult days at work. Her patients loved her & she really cared about them. We enjoyed our trips to the mountains & beach trips with our husbands. Kay had a talent for decorating and she would decorate our office for Christmas & made it beautiful. I always told her she should have been an interior decorator. We always talked about our grand kids & how they kept us feeling young. Kay was a beautiful soul & I will always cherish our friendship. Will love you forever my beautiful friend.*



Doris Grindstaff - April 02, 2022 at 07:01 PM

BW

“ Kay was my sister in my heart. We enjoyed traveling together with our husbands; and always had new adventures on the horizon. She could make me laugh more than anyone(and we loved the way she laughed at herself - not taking herself so seriously. Kindness, compassion, and love were in her very being. She lived for her family, especially her grandchildren, and she will always be with us.



Beverly White - April 02, 2022 at 01:32 AM

TH

“ Ms. Kay, I will always remember you as the sweet and kind lady you were. We sat and talked to many times while Evie, Elijah and Levi were playing. I remember several years ago when I was in desperate need of child care the next day. You told me to bring Levi to you and you would keep him. He had such a blast that day! You were such a lifesaver. I will truly miss you. I am keeping your family in my prayers. ❤️

Tammy Harris - April 01, 2022 at 06:49 PM

LM

“ Kay and I worked together at Family Practice in Orange . She was such a joy .always willing to help others with that big smile . Working everyday together you start to feel like family over the years . I was Blessed to know her and the great love she had for her family. She will be missed so much . In memory of a beautiful lady inside and out . RIP Kay 🙏🙏❤️

lillie Morrow - April 01, 2022 at 02:07 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sally Kay Ayres.*



April 01, 2022 at 01:13 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Sally Kay Ayres.*



March 31, 2022 at 11:08 PM



“ *Thoughts and prayers to my cousin, Sally, and family. So enjoyed our visit in November where we learned more about Grandfather And Grandmother Birchwood. So sorry for your loss.*
Mary and Mark



Mary Lawson - March 31, 2022 at 04:17 PM