Tristan, Age 2

Festival of Trees proceeds help patients like Tristan, who weighed one pound two ounces when he was born 13 weeks premature. Tristan was flown to Primary Children’s Hospitals once doctors discovered a hole in his small intestine.

Scan the QR code to read and watch Tristan’s story on the Festival of Trees website.
Welcome to the 2021 Festival of Trees

We’re so glad to have you with us

Now in its 51st year, the Festival of Trees is a magical holiday tradition celebrating children’s health in our Utah community. The grand annual tradition presented by Intermountain Foundation is brought to life by a dedicated volunteer board of 80 individuals, who enlisted the talents of thousands of families, organizations, and businesses throughout Utah and neighboring states.

This year, volunteers have donated more than 350 beautifully decorated, themed trees for the silent auction, as well as stunning wreaths, hand-crafted gingerbread houses, and so much more.

In these pages, we invite you to browse the stories and dedications submitted by our tree designers sharing their reasons for participating in the Festival of Trees.

How to bid, win, and pay

To register for the auction, text “Primary” to 76278 or visit http://Primary.givesmart.com to register online. You will receive a text with your personal bidding link. You will be asked to enter your personal information and credit card. (This link is tied to your cell phone and your personal information, so please do not share it for others to use.) Clicking on the link will bring you to the auction website where you can bid, auto bid, or watch an item:

**Bid vs. Auto Bid** — You can place a bid on any available item, and you will be notified via text if you are outbid, or you can place an auto bid. An auto bid will ask for your top price and once it is entered, the system will automatically bid up until that amount for you. If you are out bid on your auto bid, a notice will be sent to you via text message.

**Watch Item** — This can be selected to monitor an item without placing a bid.

**Buy Now** — This option is used for items that aren’t sold during the auction. Once bidding is closed, items will be listed with a price to purchase. (There is also an option to bypass bidding on some items and pay for them at 3x the value at any point during the auction. Please find foundation staff for more instruction.)

The highest bidder at the time the auction closes wins the item! Bidders can pay for their purchases using their credit card online, or they are welcome to ask a foundation staff member to pay by invoice/pledge. Please check out online or make other plans with foundation staff by 8:00pm on 12/2 or the credit card on file will be charged automatically.

Thank you for supporting patient care at Primary Children’s Hospital and Children’s Health services throughout Utah and neighboring communities!
You Are Braver Than You Think
Kelly Pettersson
M-22/71472

This tree is donated in honor of Emily, who spent nearly a week at Primary Children’s in 2019. She is our hero who battles daily with many autonomic nervous system issues (POTS). Nothing much has changed with her physical issues over the past two years, but she has changed her attitude. Emily struggles some days just to get out of bed. She suffers with severe migraines, fatigue, digestive issues, high heart rate, poor respiration, and bruising, among other challenges.

But Emily hides her fight behind her beautiful smile. She has a stunning soul! She does her best to cheerfully endure. She trusts God and his timing and has faith in good things to come. Emily, you are “braver than you believe, stronger than you seem and smarter than you think,” like Christopher Robin says.

A Lego Christmas
Alanna Whetsel
J-38/71484

Jack and Cameron were friends in first grade when Jack passed away after being in a car accident. A few years later, Cameron saw a flyer for the Festival of Trees and asked his mom if they could donate a Lego-themed tree in honor of Jack. Cameron knew how much Jack loved Legos, and the resulting two-year project to create Lego ornaments for the tree was a labor of love. Cam invited a few of Jack’s friends and family to help build the ornaments, which turned out to be a great way for the kids to entertain themselves during the pandemic lockdown in early 2020.

Many of the ornaments were designed and built by children under the age of 16, and the tree includes over 40,000 individual Lego pieces. Friends and neighbors have lovingly contributed their time and resources to make this tree possible. It shows that true friendship is never forgotten, and Jack will always hold a special place in our hearts.

Baby Mine
Sonnee Alden
C-21/71502

Two years ago on December 7, we lost our angel boy, Fynn Riley. Although we didn’t get to keep him for long, we will never forget what it was like to have him. The beauty of elephants is that they never forget, and neither will we. This tree was a great way to show you a little of what we will be missing this Christmas. But know that it is in our hearts that he will always be our baby boy.

Love you to the moon and back.

Call of the Wild
Kendra Richards
K-25/71515

Carl Trent Western
1970–2021

Avid hunter, coyote caller, extraordinaire BBQ master and cook, woodworker and carpenter was our husband, father, son, brother, and friend, Carl Trent Western. Trent joined his two brothers, Dana and Greg, in heaven on January 11, 2021, after a six-week courageous battle in the ICU with COVID-19.

He married Shannon Snow in the St. George Temple in 1994. That marriage transplanted him to St. George where he often stated with a smile, “That was as far away from Arizona as I want to get.” Together they have raised and enjoyed five children: Colton (Marissa), Tanner, Dallin, Shelby, and Rylee.

The thing Trent loved most in this world other than his family was to hunt with his family and friends. He loved to hunt coyotes most of all and attended many competitions over the years. He was quiet, shy, and reserved in most areas in his life, but he shined when it came to talking about hunting and guns.
Caroling Songbirds
Anna Myers
K-29/71518

The Festival of Trees has been part of our family traditions since 1997 when our youngest daughter/sister underwent multiple heart surgeries at Primary Children’s Hospital. When we learned about the benefits of the Festival of Trees, we decided that it would be a great idea to help other families like we have been helped. At first the tree was a celebration of life and gratitude for Primary Children’s Hospital. Over the years the focus has changed from a family tribute to one that focuses on raising money for other families.

Twenty-four years later we continue to give. The Festival of Trees is near and dear to our hearts, and we will continue to be involved in one aspect or another.

Cash’s COVID Christmas
Linda Mullins
K-27/71520

Our darling Cash was born with a rare genetic disorder, Rhizomelic Chondrodysplasia Punctata Type 1. This condition shortened his life and we only had him for 10 months.

Cash was born during the pandemic. He spent the first 51 days at the hospital. Visits were restricted to just his parents. His life was fraught with challenges and difficult decisions for his parents. They were charting unknown territory for themselves, and for their doctors as well, with each decision.

We will never forget his sweet spirit! We will never forget his soft laugh! We want to memorialize him with this tree. The tree includes blue butterflies that symbolize life, love, and joy. We love you, Cash! May the angels watch over you until we are together again!

Love, your family

Christmas in Radiator Springs
Sadie Carrillo
G-27/71532

Our sweet Lucien touched our lives with so much light for three and a half years before he was called back to heaven. One of his greatest joys in life was the Disney/Pixar film Cars. Walking into our home, one could always hear the movie or the music playing. He loved Radiator Springs; we think he could feel the love in the town.

Lucien also loved to make others feel happy. He was friends with everyone he met and did whatever he could to include others. We know that a ‘Christmas in Radiator Springs’ would bring Lucien so much happiness, and he would turn right around and share it with others.

We are hoping to share this tree with a family who wants to feel that love and light this holiday season. Our wish is that they feel the love of Radiator Springs through these gifts and know there is a sweet boy in heaven who is sharing his light.

Kids Around the World
The Second Grade at Lakeview Academy in Saratoga Springs
K-31/71523

At Lakeview Academy, our mission is to develop capable, confident, and contributing members of society through learning experiences. As a second grade, this has been a great opportunity for us to take what we are learning in our classroom and make a difference in our community.

One of our standards is: students will both recognize and describe how people within their community, state, and nation are both similar and different. As students have looked at traditions from around the world, they have connected them back to traditions they have in their homes. They have also participated in making the ornaments that are displayed on the tree. They have enjoyed watching the tree come together and know that they are making a difference by donating this tree to make money for children in need. It has been an exciting experience at our school.
Cheyenne was a beautiful homemaker and made her house a home. Sylvia was always looking for ways to repurpose items. She made stuffed animals that were sold at Mormon Handicraft from old Levi jeans. She taught classes on how to remake old into new. She also taught her children and grandchildren how to be frugal and make old into new. The items under the tree have been made by her children using her sewing and crochet patterns.

Every year she looked forward to Christmas so that she could make block Christmas tree ornaments for her family. The blocks on the tree
are very similar to what she made for each child and grandchild for over 20 years.

She was also very proud of her Scottish heritage, so we used her love of scotch plaid in our tree. Only Christmas red and green were used in her Christmas decorations, anything else was not acceptable for a Christmas decoration.

Christmas was a joy for Sylvia as it is a celebration of the birth of the Savior, and she truly loved Him.

I’ll Be ‘Gnome’ For Christmas
Jan White
B-11/71599

This tree is dedicated to our dear Mom, Ann Grimmett Parker, who passed away February 28, 2020, just before everything shut down for COVID. This tree is in her honor!

Here are a few of her favorite things:

Being a mom of six children, being a grandma, being a great grandma, Christmas (as long as her daughters decorated the tree!), chocolate and making chocolates, candy, making great almond toffee, making donuts, traveling, yearly sister reunions, family reunions at Bear Lake, family, and more chocolate!

Love you Mom!

Jax Woodland Friends
Trent Butler
J-7/71603

Jax Steimle arrived prematurely into this world May 28, 2021. His mom contracted COVID-19, and due to complications, he arrived via C-section at 3lbs 12oz. He spent 37 days in NICU where he was a little fighter. On July 4, he received his Independence being released from NICU and was allowed to be reunited with his very loving parents. He was a true bundle of joy!

Sadly, on August 1, 2021, Jax was taken home to Heaven because of SIDS. We are grateful for all the medical professionals along Jax’s short journey on Earth. We are grateful for the time we were able to spend with him. He will always be in our hearts.

We are thankful for the Festival of Trees organization and Primary Children’s Hospital. We’ve been donating for about 20 years to the Festival of Trees. We believe in the good the charity performs. Sadly, this is the first year we have done a dedication. We know Jax is watching over us.

What you’re reminding them is that you remember that they lived, and that’s a great, great gift.” —Elizabeth Edwards
Jayda’s Tree
Abby Bryner
C-17/71604
In her short 43 hours on this earth, Jayda Elizabeth Bryner taught us more about life than most of us learn over the course of many decades.

Our first beloved daughter, Jayda, beat all the odds by making it to birth. With an extremely rare congenital coronary heart anomaly nearly impossible to detect in utero, Jayda became one of only two babies on record ever to be born alive with her condition. We believe that God provided a series of miracles that allowed us the opportunity to meet Jayda because she had an important mission to fulfill and an everlasting influence to instill deep into all of our hearts.

As her would-be 8th birthday approaches, we reflect on the numerous experiences we’ve had over the years where we’ve felt Jayda near. Although our Heavenly Father needed Jayda for divine purposes on the other side, she continues to be an important and integral member of our family. She is missed daily, loved deeply, and never forgotten.

We are eternally grateful for the 43 cherished hours we had to look into our sweet girl’s big bright eyes, kiss her adorably chunky cheeks, stroke her naturally golden highlighted hair, and feel the immense love in her heart that was so big and so pure that her own pulmonary infrastructure couldn’t support it. They were 43 hours when everything was perfect, 43 hours we’d do anything to get back, and 43 hours that changed our lives forever.

We love you, precious Jayda girl.

A True Hero
Alison Roberts
D-33/71618
At 41 years old, our loving husband and father, Chad Moore, was diagnosed with colon cancer. His body went through many physical, mental, and emotional battles. He had multiple surgeries, five rounds of chemotherapy, and two radiation bed therapy treatments. Unfortunately, this past summer, his body failed him, even though his spirit never gave up. He fought valiantly, with courage and strength for three years.

He was a hero to all who knew him. He joked that he was Steve Rogers before he became the strong and muscular Captain America. His humor helped not only himself but all his loved ones cope with his many health struggles.

He was optimistic, happy, hardworking, loyal, dedicated, and a devoted husband and father. He is his family’s true hero! He loved Disneyland and spending time with his loved ones. Making memories and truly enjoying life meant everything to him. Chad’s wife and three young boys miss him dearly!

#mooresrong #familiesareforever

Let It Snow-Man!
Stephanie Moulding
J-15/71619
Makenzie was born in January 2011, and was transferred to Primary Children’s Hospital less than a week after she was born. She was a brave little fighter who struggled with undiagnosed issues.

Although the cause for Makenzie’s condition was never determined, the staff at Primary’s worked very hard to treat her symptoms and make life better. After four months at the hospital, with a pump and a feeding tube, a tracheotomy and oxygen, and the tireless loving efforts of nurses, doctors and family, Makenzie got to a position stable enough to come home.

We had two wonderful months with Makenzie at home and got to experience all the joy of
having a baby in the house. She succumbed to a sudden, unknown ailment and passed away. She left this life on July 26, 2011 at Primary Children’s Hospital.

Makenzie was the sweetest and most wonderful little human being. She was always happy despite all the tests and procedures and equipment. She had an amazing effect on everyone who ever met or held her, and they were captured by her sweetness. Whenever she woke, she would do so with a wide-eyed look of wonder. She taught us all that love comes without condition, and that happiness is available to all. Her family will always be very grateful to the loving, caring, and skilled employees of Primary Children’s who helped make it possible for us to have the time we had with this very special little girl.

Live Love Laugh
Ashley Penrod
F-7/71622

Paula Baldwin was a special light in this world. She was an aunt, a mother, a grandmother, a wife and an amazing friend. Paula would walk into a room with a huge smile on her face and make every single person in there feel like a million bucks. She was always the greatest champion to all that met her.

Paula was made in a special mold and put on this earth to enrich all of our lives. She loved Christmas time and loved sharing gifts with all her family. She would love that her gift of love is being passed on in helping others.

So Grinchy
Lisa Lee
D-22/71634

“Now you listen to me, young lady! Even if we’re horribly mangled, there’ll be no sad faces on Christmas.” —The Grinch

This is what Kayson Shane Smith lived by: no sad faces! The smiles he brought to everyone’s faces with his teasing, joking, silly, but loving manner was proof of that. He loved to make people smile!

Kayson had a love for his Mom and her “Grinch” tree, hence the reason for the Grinch-themed tree this year. Kayson would tell you “Don’t be a Grinch!” So, for those of us left behind, we will be all smiles this Christmas in honor of him. We hope this tree brings a big smile to your face this Grinchmas!

“Cheer up, dude. It’s Christmas.” —The Grinch

Nate The Great, Setting Up Camp
Katy Smith
F-22/71642

On Saturday, October 3, 2020 the earth wept for the loss of a great man, Nathan Russell Carr. Despite the heroic efforts of his co-workers and medical professionals, Nate passed away due to injuries sustained in a tragic construction accident.

He was born on July 2, 1984, the youngest of six children, to Michael and Leslie Carr. Nate graduated Spanish Fork High in 2002. In 2003 God blessed him to meet the love of his life, Stephanie Eyre, while working at Supersonic Car Wash. They were later married in the Mt. Timpanogos Temple. Together, they have five of the most adorable kids you’ll ever meet: fifteen-year-old Andrew “Knucklehead,” eleven-year-old McKynlee “Sis,” nine-year-old Hailey “Dees-ta,” five-year-old Corbin “My Dude,” and four-year-old Audrey “Little Lady.”

Nate was a man of many trades. He did anything and everything to provide for his family. Some things that define Nate are his love of his family, the Gospel, the outdoors, and Dr. Pepper. His family was always his number one priority – nothing came before them. He was a dedicated member of the LDS church and was always willing and wanting to serve. Nate was the type of man to give you the shirt off his back and the shoes off his feet. He was passionate about the outdoors. He loved hunting, camping, hiking, spotting deer, and sitting around the campfire under a starlit sky, especially with his family.

Words cannot begin to express how much we miss Nate and his quick-witted humor, his sarcasm, and how laid back and chill he was. We long for the day to be back with Nate around the campfire. Until then we will “Hold
the Vision and Trust the Process” and honor Nate by keeping him present in our lives and in our hearts.

Nutcracker Christmas
Susanne Snow
L-21/71648

Adam was born to Christine and Terry Re’ on May 12, 1974 with a congenital heart defect.

He was seriously ill and/or hospitalized for the last 15 months of his life. When he was hospitalized in the Children’s Hospital in Seattle, on two different occasions Seahawk players came to visit him and were thrilled to meet them.

He loved GI Joe figures and had a huge collection. He loved Christmas, and when his Great Uncle Harold passed away, he gave Adam his Purple Heart. He had three brothers and one sister. Adam passed away on September 25, 1986 at 12 years old.

Princess Christmas
Polly Kirton
G-24/71667

Kristen was diagnosed with leukemia (ALL) at the age of three. She endured two years of treatment. She relapsed at age seven and again had two years of treatment. She was cancer free for 10 years.

At the age of 21, Kristen was diagnosed with a different kind of leukemia (AML). The oncology team at Primary Children’s Hospital wanted to treat her even though she was 21.

Treatment was tough. She spent weeks and even months in the hospital. She again reached remission; however, it only lasted a few months. In January of 2010, Kristen received a bone marrow transplant at the hospital. Her brother, Ricky, was the perfect match. We know we, with the help of the doctors, did everything humanly possible to save Kristen’s life.

Kristen peacefully passed away on July 20, 2010. Kristen was full of laughter, light, and joy. She was and continues to be a light in our lives.

We will be forever grateful to the oncology team at Primary Children’s Hospital. Over the past 12 years, Kristen has had over 30 trees dedicated to her at the Festival of Trees. Kristen continues to be “Our Angel.”

DoNUT Give Up
Elizabeth Fullmer
F-35/71689

Claire Elizabeth Fullmer was diagnosed with Medulloblastoma (brain cancer) at the age of four. She immediately underwent brain surgery and was able to remove the golf ball sized tumor. After a short surgery recovery, the family relocated to Seattle were Claire was sent to undergo 32 proton radiation treatments. We were hopeful that the cancer was officially gone.

Upon return she started her first round of high dose chemotherapy. During a routine MRI, we found new growth. We changed chemotherapies; however, her cancer was not responsive.

After the dreadful news that Claire was terminal, she had a terrible seizure. She lost the ability to talk, lost partial hearing, and was dealing with Trigeminal Neuralgia (nerve pain). We decided to move forward with additional photon radiation. She improved, but the doctors insisted we take her home to pass. We then discovered that the cancer had spread to her bones and to her liver. She fought cancer for 16 months, until she passed away at our home in the arms of her parents.

Claire’s soul was angelic and she touched everyone who came in contact with her. She fought valiantly through her cancer battle. We decorated our tree with the saying “doNUT Give Up” because she loved doughnuts and she wore a shirt through treatments with this saying on it.

A special thank you to all her nurses, therapists and doctors at Primary Children’s Hospital. A big thank you to you, for purchasing Claire’s tree. Through the Festival, we are able to feel Claire’s spirit and give back.
Silly Old Bear
Aubri Bale
L-25/71695

Thanksgiving Day, November, 27, 2014 was a special one for Amanda and her family as that was the day Koven James Bale was born. Koven was born at 4:04am and came into this world a fighter. In Koven’s 5 short months on Earth, he brightened his family’s world.

He loved to play blocks with his cousin Micah, or rather try and eat the blocks and steal Micah’s binky. He loved to spend his winter days snuggled up watching Donald Duck and eating pureed peaches (nothing else) with his momma, and spent his spring days basking in the sun chomping down grape otter pops and watching the family of bunnies that lived under our porch. Koven had the most contagious laugh and was always smiling. He was the happiest of babies and you rarely heard him cry. Koven looked at the world as if he was in constant awe of everything around him.

On May 5, 2015, Koven was found unresponsive in his crib and had to be life flighted to Primary Children’s Hospital. While the hospital staff did everything they could, Koven passed away the evening of May 7, 2015. Koven was able to donate some of his organs through Gift of Life. Koven’s heart was given to a little girl just two weeks older than him who was able to spend her fifth birthday at the beach.

Once I Made a Snowman
Noah Robert
K-11/71714

Our tree “One Night I Built a Snowman” is based off the snowmen books by Caralyn and Mark Buehner. In the books, the young boy imagines all of the things snowmen might do when no one is looking.

Our tree is dedicated to a small boy named Noah and his wonderful parents. His sweet mother has Type 1 Diabetes. During her pregnancy, she had complications with the diabetes that almost took her life. Unfortunately, when Noah was born on January 20, 2020, they realized that the difficult pregnancy really effected little Noah. It gave him many medical complications — the largest of which is damage to his brain that effects everything else in his body. In the fall of 2021, he has already been hospitalized twice, once for a common cold that made him the sickest child at Primary Children’s Hospital, and once for ear infections that caused multiple seizures.

Just like the small child wondering what a snowman would do, if able, we wonder what Noah would do if he was able. But we do know what he can do. He has ways of letting everyone in the room know that he is there. He brings joy, sweet joy to his family that tend to and love him. He brightens the day of anyone around him. He reminds all of us that we are God’s children and he loves us for what we can do and for the joy that we bring to others.

Take Me Out to The Ballgame
Sandra Draper
F-23/71721

Jack Young is my dad and Vaughn Lewis is my brother-in-law. We lost my dad two years ago and we lost Vaughn last year right before Christmas.

Both Dad and Vaughn were avid baseball supporters and loved to attend the baseball games of their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Even when it became difficult for my dad to drive and walk up to the baseball field, he used to ride his Jazzy from his house up to the high school just to watch the games.

No matter the weather and how bad his joints were aching, he was always there to support. He even petitioned the school board to install a sidewalk leading up to the baseball field so he could ride his Jazzy up to the field without having to four-wheel-drive across the lawns.

Vaughn was the same way — no matter how much pain and suffering he was feeling, he made every effort to go to see his boys play ball. They both took so much pride and joy in this activity, I thought what better way to honor their memory.
Tis The Season
Denice Aagard
E-21/71751

Ashley Aagard passed away in a car accident at the age of 21 in 2008. She was a cosmetologist who loved giving little kids their first haircut. She was also a preschool teacher and children were drawn to her like a magnet.

She loved the outdoors, four-wheeling, scrapbooking, and photography. She had a great sense of humor and a big heart. She is deeply missed and we love honoring her memory with a tree each year during her favorite holiday.

Wren's Gnomeland
Micki Ahrens
K-7/71779

Wren Ahrens is eight years old and has been a patient at Primary Children's since before she was born. She was diagnosed at 16 weeks gestation with a Congenital Pulmonary Airway Malformation. At five months of age, she had two-thirds of her right lung removed. At 10 months of age, she had another surgery to place a Gastrostomy tube (feeding tube) in her stomach. She celebrated the removal at five years old! She has endured more than an eight-year-old should be allowed with four surgeries, several hospital stays, and countless respiratory illnesses. She’s also acquired additional diagnoses along the way.

Today, Wren continues to see three specialists at Primary Children’s, and if you meet her you would be greeted by a very personable, happy, energetic and healthy little girl. Wren loves art, skiing, soccer, and has started a dog-walking business.

Primary Children's outstanding care has played a huge part in her current health! In 2019, she was privileged to be named the Festival of Trees Poster Patient and through that she and her family saw the impact the Festival of Trees has regarding charitable care given at Primary Children’s and wanted to continue to support it by getting involved.

We Must Be Over The Rainbow!
Craig Clifford
E-13/71791

Claudia Beth Richens Blackburn
May 16, 1953 - July 6, 2020

Claudia's masterful skill at choosing which of her many unique talents she'd employ individually blessed so many lives. This special bestowal of love was shown a myriad of ways, almost always evidenced by serving others. She truly embodied Christlike love!

She and her husband Jim loved to watch The Wizard of Oz whenever it aired on TV. One of their favorite scenes from this cinematic treasure is a poignant exchange between the Wizard and the Tin Man. While presenting him with an over-sized pocket-watch in the shape of a heart, we hear the Wizard’s Wise Words (quoted from L. Frank Baum's original text):

“A heart is not judged by how much you love; But by how much you are loved by others.”

Claudia was loved by so many! She employed her amazing sewing talents to bless my kids’ lives with an abundance of joy and wonder. It’s hard to believe but it’s been almost 20 years to the day that Claudia arrived at our home with the first of many treasures created specifically for us.

She created beautiful baby quilts for each of our children, from wizards, to zoo animals, to little princesses. Our kids were literally wrapped in her love! Claudia also delighted in making dresses with some of her favorite dress patterns for our long-awaited girl.

When we’re reunited with Claudia in our Heavenly Home, this popular phrase will take on new meaning: “There’s no place like home!”

As Sweet as Angels
Kindergarteners at Channing Hall
L-7/71793

Kindergarteners and an angelic theme fit together well. Some had never painted like this before, and they loved making something that involved a permitted mess in the process!
A group of fourth graders helped glue the parts together. A fourth grade Junior Art Ambassador (in the fourth/fifth grade Art Club) drew and painted the tree topper.

**Christmas Candy Land**  
Channing Hall Middle School  
L-11/71794

Middle schoolers are into sweets, and have fun creating ornaments made from candy. The ornaments aren't made of real candy, but students got to imagine it as they sketched their design to fit the theme, then made their sketch into its 3D manifestation. Many of them created an ornament with the inspiration that it was molded from chocolate, including colored, white chocolate.

The graphic design class designed their ornaments in software called TinkerCAD, then 3D printed them, and painted them with acrylic paint. The sixth grade art class sculpted theirs out of ceramic clay. Enjoy the diversity of these students’ talents!

**Christmas Cookies**  
Channing Hall Third Graders  
L-9/71795

Sculpting the Christmas cookie ornaments out of clay was a fun endeavor for the third graders. They look forward to helping raise money for the children at Primary Children’s Hospital.

As a team, they each painted cookie-colored glaze (ceramic paint) around the edges of their ceramic cookie. They then painted different colors on the center of their design to look like the frosting. The tree topper was designed by a Junior Art Ambassador (in the fourth/fifth grade Art Club).

**Free Of The Cookie Cutter**  
Channing Hall Fourth Graders  
L-10/71796

Sculpting the Christmas cookie ornaments out of clay was a delight for the fourth graders. They are excited to help raise money for the children at Primary Children’s Hospital. The three fourth-grade classes brainstormed ideas for a theme.

After each class came up with the idea of Christmas cookies, the art teacher knew it was the right fit for them! They picked cookie cutters to cut out cookie shapes from slabs of clay. Then they added their individual touch. A group of fourth-grade students created the tree topper as a team.

**Classic Red Truck Christmas**  
Jody Rowser  
G-18/71808

We would like to bring more awareness to depression and mental illness especially among teenagers. Our tree honors our dear friends’ son Spencer. His mom’s words follow.

Our beloved Spencer chose to go Home unexpectedly soon, after what we are finding out was a lengthy battle. Underneath the exploratory and excited exterior lurked the unseen nemesis of depression. The hole that has been left in our lives will never be filled, but we learn each day in both tears and happy memory, what it means to honor and to love.

To all those fighting similar battles, we encourage you to reach out, speak up, and stay. You are loved!

**Cottage Christmas**  
Cortney Humphrey  
L-33/71809

Quinn was born via C-section on April 28, 2016 and was immediately taken to NICU to be resuscitated as she was not breathing on her own.

She was intubated, placed on a respirator, and soon examined by a geneticist who determined that she had a rare genetic condition called Campomelic Dysplasia. Campomelic Dysplasia affects collagen strength. In severe cases, like Quinn, this leads to a floppy airway that collapses on itself when breathing tubes are removed. In addition, Quinn had severe compression of her spinal cord due to
malformation of her cervical vertebrae. This caused her great pain and rendered her with very limited movement of her body.

After 25 days in the NICU, Quinn came home to spend what little time she had left with her family. Those few hours spent at home together were the greatest gift Quinn’s parents could have asked for. She must have known that was exactly what they needed.

We are so incredibly thankful for the remarkable NICU staff of Primary Children’s Hospital who loved and cared for Quinn during her stay and who made those cherished hours at home possible.

Fairy Wonderland
Kaylie Chabries
K-13/71811

This would have been little Hazel’s third Christmas.

In March 2018, we were anxiously preparing for the arrival of our little girl, who would be making her appearance in a couple of days. It had been a good pregnancy with no problems. That Sunday evening, I realized that I hadn’t felt any movement from her for quite some time. We made the trip to the hospital, where we were informed that our baby had no heartbeat. The ultrasound image of her is branded on my heart.

We were transferred to a different hospital, where our perfectly formed little girl was born, with jet black hair and chubby cheeks. We got to spend 24 hours with her. When our time was up, my breath caught in my throat as the nurses took her from my arms. We made a little fairy garden outside our front door in Hazel’s honor. I tend to it and imagine her as a tiny fairy, living a magical life, where all is love and happiness.

We dedicate the tree to her, as she dances in her fairy wonderland.

Freeze Time
Gimena Palmer
E-30/71814

When I was nine years old, we couldn’t afford a Christmas tree at my house as some other years. I remember feeling so sad that year because I really love Christmas because of the music, people looked happier, and the best part: my mom would be with us for Christmas Eve.

That particular year when we couldn’t have a tree, my mom got back from work on Christmas Eve morning and asked us to go with her to a little hiking trail closer to our home. We hiked for less than two miles and she pointed at a little bush tree that looked kind of like a pine tree. She said, “That will be our tree.”

So we cut it down. It wasn’t hard to cut because it was kind of dry, and we went home, put some lights on it, and decorated it with ornaments and cotton balls that my mom got from the hospital she worked for. That night before Christmas Day, we were woken up by my mom because there was a fire in our living room. Our tree had burned down completely.

That Christmas Day, I felt upset not just for our tree but also by looking at my mom’s face filled with disappointed that she couldn’t give us a Christmas tree. She didn’t know that for me, it was an experience that I have carried my whole life. I learned to appreciate little moments in life and most importantly, I have felt the need to put up trees in some people houses to bring them joy.

This Christmas tree this year is dedicated to three boys that will be missed by their parents, family and friends this Christmas.

To Jackson, Seth, and Ezra.

Winter Wonderland
Channing Hall Fifth Graders
L-15/71816

Beadwork is tricky for anyone, but the fifth graders handled this like busy elves! Students focused on learning radial symmetry by creating naturally unique, symmetrical patterns for all the snowflakes, having been inspired
by the uniqueness of real snowflakes. To unify all the diversity, they shared the same color scheme of beads with each other.

Four Junior Art Ambassadors (in the fourth/fifth grade Art Club) created the tree topper to match.

For Mattix
Mandy Randall
B-3/71818

Mattix Dougherty was born October 21, 2015. He spent most of his short life at Primary Children’s Hospital while doctors struggled to find a diagnosis for him. Test after test came back inconclusive and after 80 short days, he passed away from liver failure.

Ultimately it was discovered that he had Neonatal Hemochromotosis, an extremely rare disease that stems from pregnancy, where the mother’s body attacks the baby’s liver, causing it to develop incorrectly.

His life was short, but Mattix had a lasting impact on all who knew him. He is a constant reminder to his family to love each other, cherish the time you have together, and serve those around you.

This tree was decorated and donated in his memory by his mom, grandma, and aunts.

#ForMattix #MattixBucketList

Home For The Holidays
Jeanne Fry
F-13/71828

Eighteen years ago, as our son left on a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, we decorated our first Festival tree as an expression of gratitude for the care that he had received at PCMC. Now it has become a cherished tradition for our family as each year we have been able to decorate another tree and begin our holiday in such a joyful way.

This year as I’m writing, I feel impressed to share the story of a hero, Dr. Herbert Ruttenberg. Although he is no longer with us, I doubt that there has ever been a more beloved pediatric heart doctor at Primary Children’s. He knew not only how to heal the heart of the child physically, but also how to heal the heart of the mother emotionally. He could walk into the room with news that would make your stomach drop and by the time he left it have lifted your spirits and renewed your hope.

I can still hear his words as he would walk out the door, “Don’t worry, we’ll fix it.” And he did. He cared for Matt and kept him alive until he found a doctor at Boston Children’s who had developed a new surgery for his heart defect. He made all the necessary arrangements including the free airfare to get us there and he came to my rescue when I found myself alone on the phone in a strange place needing a comforting word.

I wish everyone could have known him as we did. This year, I find comfort in his memory and the knowledge that real heroes exist and work at Primary Children’s Hospital.

Sonata Dreams
Lisa Bytendorp
M-14/71831

Renee Harris quietly devoted her time and talents to her family, neighbors, friends, and piano students. She influenced all through her love of music. She started singing at age two, she started playing the piano at age five, she played the piano and organ at church forever, and she taught piano students for 62 years! Her influence cannot be measured.

She was an elegant, classy lady with a great sense of humor. Being diagnosed with cancer in January 2020, she quietly slipped away on April 12, 2020, just a few short months later. She faced her challenge with grace and her usual humor, all the way to the end.

Her neighbors in Sandy, Utah miss her, and thus we honor her by submitting this tree. Sweet dreams, our friend, Renee. Sweet Sonata Dreams.
Kade’s Mickey Mouse
Denise Allen
K-16/71833

Kade Wetzel’s was born with Cerebral Palsy due to a brain injury at birth. His condition left him tube fed, wheelchair bound, and breathing from a trach.

Even though Kade’s life was a continuous uphill climb, he was always happy. He made sure he smiled at everyone that passed him in the grocery stores. He loved looking into the faces of those who held and cradled him. He enjoyed car rides and listening to music as well as soaking in warm water.

Even though Kade was only five years old when he passed away, he left a long-lasting impact on people through the love he gave others and the strength he showed though the hardest of times.

Merry Christmas Ya’ll
Charlotte Smith
C-3/71853

Merry Christmas Ya’ll! Giddy up! Grab a cup of hot cocoa, cozy up with your favorite blanket and let’s enjoy the ride!

Our precious Kyley rode the gift of life with spunk. We hope this tree captures the warmth and love Kyley unconditionally gave to each person she met. Decorated by Kyley’s father, sisters, and a herd of extended family lassoed together in love. Although, Kyley’s time on earth was short she will continuously be our example.

Here’s to endless beautiful and happy trails! Kyley, your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure. You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.

Christmas Candy Dreams
Danica Richins Jenkins
L-3/71856

In memory of our beloved daughter, Ingrid Marie Jenkins, who was prematurely born and passed away on January 27, 2015. She spent three precious hours with her parents before she peacefully passed away in her mother’s arm. Her life was a beautiful gift to us, and we will remember her always. Her mom will especially remember that little spiff of blond hair on her head. Our family carries on with her in our hearts, having family adventures in her spirit. In loving memory of our beautiful daughter Ingrid. We miss you! See you in our dreams. Love, Mom, Dad, Axel & Tiril.

Hooked On Daddy
Ryan Ferre
J-36/71857

In celebration of Charles Alma Ferre, our father and husband, we share these thoughts. Although this may sound as if a luring “Fish Tale,” it is about a man who touched our lives and others.

A tall dark handsome man full of life and vitality to the very end. We fell instantly in love at first sight with his mesmerizing charm. Like a school of fish, we followed knowing good things would surely come. Singing those “fish” songs to bait the big one in taught us the importance of creativity. A loud voice would remind us to take advantage of our life’s circumstances. Always heeding, “jerk, you’ve got a bite.” To the rescue he’d come when entangled in life’s snare, a swoop of his life-saving net would pull us into safety near his side. Teaching us to wait with patience while on life’s path, to reel in our catch slowing as to not disturb what was meant to be. Encouragement given throughout the process.

A strand of sun-bleached golden-brown hair used to tie a fly taught us to be resourceful and frugal. Dad would say, “If you want something, don’t buy it. If you need something, buy it.” Singing the Ferre family birthday song was more cherished than the gifts. Always being happy for the little things. Most of all, simply being together as a family was his secret sauce that would capture a posterity of “Happily Ever After” children, grandchildren, and his sweet wife, all “hooked on Daddy.”
The Everlasting Family Christmas Tree
Audrey Perea-Hivner
F-34/71876

The evergreen tree has a history, rich in the spiritual symbols of immortality and eternal life. Synonyms of the word evergreen include endless, enduring, indestructible, timeless, and constant. In comparison, these words can also be relatable to the love and cherished memories of beloved family and friends. Just as the majestic evergreen’s leaves persist and endure throughout the cold of winter, our love, and their memory, sustains through the passage of time.

Woodland Christmas
Judy Hunter
K-9/71889

Our daughter Dianna (the second of 11 children) was diagnosed with osteosarcoma when she was 13. After going through four surgeries and numerous chemo treatments at PCMC, Dianna passed away at age 14 on February 10, 1990.

Five years later, our eighth child Katy (then six years old, and who had been born during Dianna’s chemo treatments) fell from the balcony at the Utah County Court House during her oldest brother’s wedding reception and passed away the following day due to brain death.

Our family and children were devastated with grief. The Festival of Trees has been a tradition for our family to come together and celebrate, remember, cherish, and honor our daughters ever since that time.

We can remember them with joy when we share their lives by giving an opportunity to other children in need at Primary Children’s Hospital.

We donated Katy’s heart to a little boy from China that was at Primary Children’s at the time of her death along with her kidneys and liver to other people.

Donate Life
Daynene Snyder
L-34/71893

My name is Daynene. My son Jayden passed away on July 17, 2020 in St. George, Utah. He was in a tragic car accident at 20 years old. Jayden was a donor and would go on to be a hero four days later. He saved four lives (heart, liver, and two kidneys) and the sight of two people was restored.

In our journey of being a donor family, we have met some incredible families. One being the Shakespear family. Erica and her family have become great friends. Our boys knew we would need each other to get us through our grief.

Jayden being a donor has brought us an avenue for our grief. It has become a way for us to keep Jayden’s memory alive. We have done many fundraisers and events in Jayden’s honor and to raise awareness to organ donation.

A Woodland Christmas
Amy Johnson, Grandeur Peak Global Advisors
L-23/71894

“A Woodland Christmas” is a tree to celebrate the beauty of the earth and world around us today and the hopes we have for all children to be able to enjoy nature in the future. We’ve chosen natural materials (wood, paper, fruit, pinecones, burlap, wool, etc.) to be sustainable in our choices.

During the pandemic, many of us were able to escape to the outdoors as a refuge. Breathing in fresh air, having clean water to drink, taking in a view from a mountain top are all ways to keep our bodies and our minds healthy. Just as the nurses and doctors and staff are charged with caring over their patients, we challenge everyone to do their part to take care of the natural creations around us so our children and their children can enjoy them too.

To all of our friends at Primary Children’s, we hope that when your care is over, you’ll have a safe and beautiful world to explore for years to come.
Forever Plaid
Lois Wille and Tana Henderson
E-10/71906

Two years ago, I saw a great box of ornaments that were plaid. It reminded me of all the old songs I love and quartet singing. Since this last year has been a hard one with loved ones passing, although not from COVID, we dedicated our tree for friends to know that they will be missed.

Our tree is a plaid theme, fun, and thoughtful. Plaid represents the togetherness of clans, or family. Each plaid in Scotland designates a certain clan, no one else will have that plaid on them.

So plaid honors those we count as family, even if not by blood. The laughter, long talks, sharing of ideas, helping someone in need are those things that make us a unified family to count on whenever we have needs. To our friends who now look down upon us and wish the best for us, here's to plaid!

Little Boy Blue
Yvonne Hansen
B-12/71907

Our “Little Boy Blue,” James Robert Hansen, was faithful and true as the little toy dog and valiant and brave as the little toy soldier, as he fought the ravages of Wilm’s Tumor.

Discovered in 1974, at the age of 15 months old, he bounced through surgery and underwent radiation and chemo treatments.

Just before Christmas in 1974, he was a patient at Primary Children’s Hospital to undergo a biopsy. His anxious parents, waiting for the procedure to end, were allowed to wait in Primary’s school room, where they finished a special Christmas present for James.

James sojourned through weekly outpatient check-ups and treatments at the University of Utah’s Pediatric Oncology Department and submitted to radiation and x-rays as needed. During long drives to the hospital (about 250 miles round trip) he was always pleasant or asleep.

The tumor metastasized to James’ head, lungs and bones; a week after his third birthday, the doctors felt that the treatment was worse than the course of the disease. He was hospitalized overnight. We learned to give him pain injections and we brought him home to our small town to prepare for his heavenly transition.

Friends and neighbors rallied around our family and James, giving us a special, sacred time. The doctors called daily for an update, and to give comfort and advice.

One month and ten days after his third birthday, he was awakened by “his Angel’s Song” and received into the arms of his Savior.

Melody of Angels
Charlotte Jensen
L-22/71908

In Memory of Carol Whitaker Jensen
April 7, 1954 to January 28, 1999

Carol was the mother of nine children. Our loving mother became a Christ-like angel on a January night. We miss her selfless and patient understanding with caring unconditional. She cared for us continually no matter what the need with a funny, no-nonsense love, forgiving us our faults and showing us the right path. Although she could be stubborn, it was always to the right. She held us to a higher standard in order to help us grow. Mom wanted us to be happy and strive to lead the way. She loved the Lord and was a great example of how to follow Him. She showed us how to pray and study His holy word. Our family was a loving one with many wonderful experiences. Our friends could feel the love Mom shared and loved to be around her. So even though we did not have much materially, the happy loving spirit invited many to stay.

Mom’s quiet faith was very strong and gave us the support we needed to build our own spiritual foundation. She expected us to choose the right and strove to keep us there. Every time we would stray, she’d push us back on the right path again. Although gentle, she was also firm and would hold her ground. Expectations high, she was kind to all, even those who were not so kind to her. And many of these were touched by the unconditional love that Mom showed to them and came to say goodbye.
The effect that Mom had on those she encountered cannot be quantified. Her example will ever be felt. And although she wasn’t perfect, she was the perfect mom for us.

We love and miss you Mom and can’t wait to be with you again. You are our guardian angel. Love you forever.

Sarah Strong
Jonique Dyer, Friends of The Frei Family
This is the Place/71921

In July 2020, 17-year-old Sarah Frei became paralyzed from the waist down and lost both of her legs as a result of a head-on collision with a drunk driver.

Sarah and three of her friends were heading home through Logan Canyon after a fun weekend together in Bear Lake. Sarah was sitting in the back-passenger seat but sustained the most severe injuries. Sarah was initially taken to Logan Regional Hospital where it was determined that she was internally bleeding and couldn’t feel anything below her waist. She was given several blood transfusions to stabilize her then was transferred by Life Flight to Primary Children’s Hospital where she was immediately taken in for emergency surgery to control the bleeding.

During that initial surgery, the surgeon removed 30% of her intestines that were bleeding. It was also determined that her back was broken, spinal cord was severed, she had damage to her abdominal aorta and was not getting blood flow to her legs. Sarah’s parents were told that both of her legs would need to be amputated. Sarah was transferred to the University of Utah for this specialized surgery and care.

Sarah was hospitalized for three months and endured 20 surgeries. She has adapted to her new life and has remained strong and positive. Sarah is currently a freshman at Utah State University. She believes that no matter your circumstances, everyone has the ability to make the world and better and brighter place.

#stronglikesarah

Snowbody Like Lynne
Christine Kitchen
M-6/71938

This tree is dedicated to our friend, Lynne Henry. When Lynne was in her mid-50s, she had a massive brain aneurysm which had a wide range of side effects. She had to relearn to walk and talk, and she had to retrain her brain to restore the hand-to-eye coordination she had lost.

Lynne soon took up china painting to help in her recovery and discovered that she had a talent for it. Lynne painted a variety of china pieces. In this display, you can see an example of her painting — a Christmas plate displayed in the wooden box. I am in awe of her talent.

Lynne and her husband Barney were the kind of neighbors you want living next door. Down to earth and always willing to help in any way possible. If you liked chocolate then you and Lynne would have been the best of friends, and if you liked Cheetos, you would have been even closer friends.

She walked a little slower because of the brain injury, but she enjoyed being out of doors and working alongside her sweetheart. She loved shoes! She also liked to dress nicely and have her hair done just right. Turquoise jewelry made her happy.

Lynne’s health began to decline in the summer of 2018, and she passed away December 6, 2018. We celebrate her zest for life and for the city girl that lived alongside her country girl spirit.

Our Angel’s Gifts
Kathie Woodruff
L-37/71943

Our sweet angel Jill Hollingshaus loved Christmas. Giving gifts was her favorite thing, but mostly, she gave the kind of gifts that money can’t buy!

Losing our mother at age eight triggered severe mental illness for her resulting in numerous and lengthy hospital stays. In her 30s, inspired doctors prescribed stabilizing medications and with additional help from
skillful therapists, Jill was able to make the decision to begin work cleaning buildings for Valley Mental Health. Within a short time, she was supervising over 30 buildings and 100 workers with mental health issues of their own. Her kindness and compassion gave others hope and purpose. She was known for her quick wit and amazing sense of humor. In 2004, she was honored as Valley Mental Health’s Volunteer of the Year.

In 2006, Jill received Governor Leavitt’s Points of Light ACE Award as an individual, and KUED did a special on her inspiring story. When Valley Mental Health closed, Jill was hired by the University of Utah to answer calls on the “warm line” listening to those struggling to survive mental illness. She received the Employee of the Year Award along with countless Employee of the Month Awards. She selflessly served and positively impacted thousands of troubled individuals.

Diagnosed in 2019 with breast cancer, she endured chemotherapy, surgery and radiation, while continuing to work. She knew that others needed her! Cancer returned, and she passed away in August 2021. Jill’s contributions and unconditional acceptance of any who suffered will never be forgotten!

Avengers Assemble
Tiffany Parker
M-5/71944

I began decorating a tree every year for the Festival in the year 2000. At first, this was just a fun hobby because I love Christmas, but in 2008 it became much more personal. My son was born with a rare condition called Noonan’s syndrome and was taken to Primary Children’s after he was born.

Since being in the NICU, he has had 11 surgeries at Primary’s in the 13 years of his life, including open-heart surgery in 2012. He is doing very well right now but awaiting another surgery on his spine. He is such an awesome kid, and I don’t know how we would have managed without the wonderful staff at Primary Children’s.

He loves the Avengers and he asked me if I would do the Festival Tree “Avengers Assemble” this year.

Christmas Magic is for Children
Kristin Farnsworth
F-38/71949

That magical time of the year is here! It’s the most wonderful time of the year! The best way to end such a year. This year, we have watched children sent across the American border, children handed off to soldiers in Afghanistan, and children in Utah who have left this earth in tragic ways. Children are precious and bring joy to our hearts.

Zaydanielys “Zai” Rodriguez Irizarry was one of these children. At the age of 7, she tragically died from a bullet that came through a wall in her apartment. She was the oldest of three children. She loved playing softball and dancing. She was said to have a great smile and personality and was loved by all living around her. Zai’s death made us so sad. We can’t imagine the sadness her family will feel through the Christmas season this year without her and hope her family feels Zai’s love from heaven this Christmas.

May the families who have lost a child tragically this year know that angels watch over them as the angels at the top of this tree watch over children.

The Farnsworth family decorated this tree with Zai and all of those children in mind. Imagining the “ooh’s” and “aah’s” when children look at Christmas lights and decorations and gifts with pure delight!

Perhaps it rubs off on us, too, for aren’t we all children? May children all over the world believe and experience the magic of Christmas this year!

Disney’s Frozen
Anne Hillstead
E-31/71953

Jane is the sixth child in our family. We nicknamed her “the cherry on top” for her pretty red hair and the absolute treat it was to have her.

We took Jane to Trolley Square one night where she found a stroller on display at
Pottery Barn Kids. She loved it so much she wouldn’t let go of the handle, so we splurged and bought it for her. She happily pushed that stroller around the Old Spaghetti Factory while we ate dinner, making everyone smile. Jane also loved riding her blue mini scooter around the house, paddling her cute little leg, and was just learning how to steer. There is a new stroller and scooter just like hers under this tree.

The weekend before she passed away, the movie *Frozen 2* came to theaters. Our family went to see it both Friday and Saturday night! Jane danced to all the songs and ate lots of popcorn.

A few days later, she became ill with croup and a rare infection called Bacterial Tracheitis. She passed away on Thanksgiving Day 2019.

Following Jane’s passing, snowflakes became a symbol of our love for her. When the snow falls, we think of her. We had already gotten her a few *Frozen* toys for Christmas, some of which have been placed underneath this tree with love.

Our hope is that this tree and these gifts will bring joy to another little girl and her family.

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**Santa, A Right Jolly Old Elf**  
*Janet Newbold*  
*E-6/71964*

This tree is dedicated to Norm Newbold, a man who absolutely loved life. Norm loved his Savior Jesus Christ and he loved his wife, children, grandchildren, extended family, and friends with his whole heart. This great man also loved and looked forward to Christmas every year.

In the poem “Twas The Night Before Christmas,” there are words penned that remind us of our beloved Norm:

> His eyes — how they twinkled! His dimples how merry,  
> His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry  
> He had a broad face, and a little round belly  
> That shook when he laugh’d like a bowl full of jelly;  
> He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,  
> And I laugh’d when I saw him in spite of myself.

Norm was a “right jolly old elf,” just like Santa!

He had the best laugh and brought smiles to all that he associated with. He was giving and helped people in need whenever he could. He worked hard and he played hard. He gave the best guidance and counsel to others and he had a vast amount of knowledge that he enthusiastically shared with anyone seeking to learn more. We think of him constantly and miss him every day. His legacy lives on because of the good and wholesome life that he lived.

The Norm Newbold family wishes the recipient(s) of this “Santa, A Right Jolly Old Elf” tree a merry Christmas! May you enjoy Christmas and love life as much as Norm did.
It Takes A Village
Katie Pirraglio
K-5/71965

This year, our family chose to dedicate this tree to our father, Marty Meifu, with the theme of “It Takes a Village.” Marty was a dedicated husband and father of four children before suddenly passing away in 2001.

His legacy however was not limited to the impact he had on his family, but it extended to so many people of the West Jordan Community. Marty believed it took a village to raise a family. For our family, that village was in athletics. Sports would teach us so many important values of life such as teamwork, competitiveness, sportsmanship, how to overcome adversity, and many others. As a coach, Marty was able to surround our family with people that shared those values. He was also able to teach many kids within the community those values.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Marty’s passing. Our family has grown with 12 grandchildren, and each one of us has followed our Dad’s footsteps one way or another. Past players Marty coached still keep in touch and have started their own families now. He would be happy knowing he had a positive impact on their lives and would be proud to know the village he left us with helped raise us when he couldn’t.

To all the relatives, families, friends, neighbors, parents, players, coaches, teachers, and colleagues, we thank you from the bottom of our heart.

9 3/4
Donielle Baxter
B-10/71967

On the night of September 24th, 2020, our lives were shattered forever. Kaden J. Baxter had just moved to Salt Lake City, full of excitement to begin a new journey of living on his own and experiencing all that college had to offer.

In an instant, all of that changed, when a drunk driver decided to get behind the wheel of a car and head down State Street. Five times over the legal limit, she hit Kaden at a speed of over 80 mph, killing him instantly. He was only 20 years old. Nothing can describe the pain and emptiness that now fills our lives as we struggle to find answers to this avoidable tragedy.

As we try to fill up space in this world, we find solace in all the things that remind us of Kaden. The first thing that always comes to our mind, was his love for all things Harry Potter. This tree was decorated and donated by his tribe. Every ornament tells a story, shares a memory or brings a tear. Though we are all still broken, this tree has helped us heal, if only just a bit. Our hope is that this tree will bring a sliver of happiness to somebody who has forgotten to turn on the light.

“Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light” —Albus Dumbledore

A Pioneer in Women’s Rights:
Memorial Tree For Beverly White
Emmaree Josephson
D-9/71971

Our dear mother, Beverly J. White, passed away May 24, 2021. Bev, as everyone knew her, was the middle child, born between two brothers to Helene and Gustave Larson on September 28, 1928 in Salt Lake City. Her early years were spent frolicking on Dresden Place near Trolley Square. She graduated from Tooele High School with her “Horrible 13” girlfriends. There, she met Floyd and they were married in 1947.

The original “multitasker,” she wrangled five young children from birth to college graduations and marriages, a never-ending church schedule, and was always passionate about her politics. She helped elect Floyd to the Tooele City Council and her father-in-law, Bish White, to the Tooele County Sheriff’s office several times.

She was proud to be a Democrat and there has never been a moment in her life she hasn’t loved this great country. An American flag has flown in her front yard for decades. The neighbors affectionately called her home “The White House.” She became Utah’s longest serving woman legislator in the House of Representatives. During those 22 years, she was chairwoman of the Social Services Committee and sponsored the ERA Amendment in Utah.
She was Utah's first woman to be appointed to the Board of Pardons at the Utah State Prison. Bev was the first Utahn to receive the distinguished Eleanor Roosevelt Award in 1994.

Bev has attended more National Democratic Conventions than any person in Utah’s history. She became an expert on everything from hazardous waste to the hospitalization needs for all Utahns. She later helped establish Utah State University's satellite university in Tooele. They awarded her an Honorary Doctorate's degree in 2017. Bev championed every worthy cause!

Tradition-Al Christmas
Misha Palza
E-34/71990

Sunrise, Sunset,
Sunrise, Sunset
Swiftly Flow the Days

And they did it! Sheesh, took my family long enough — it’s not like there was a pandemic in the way, but anyway I’m off track.

Hello, how are you? I would say pretty good, but I ain’t pretty, nor good. Even though I made it to heaven, must’ve been a mistake (shh, don’t tell Peter). My name is Dennis Palza, but you can call me Denco, and my wonderful family decorated this tree in my honor. They knew my love of tradition, family, charity and a good musical.

Fiddler on the Roof was a personal favorite of mine. Keeping traditions, wishing I was a rich man, wanting to hide my daughters in the house all their lives, and scarifying the wits out of my wife — what’s not to like? I also seemed to live my life precariously perched on a roof where one false move could mean disaster. I mean I was a carpenter! Miracle of miracles, it’s my life story, how did Mr. Stein know?

As in this beautiful story, no matter how we try to stop it, life changes, children grow, and we must make new traditions. I may be far from the home I love but forever cherished in the hearts of my family. Happy Holidays from my family to yours and may this be a new tradition for you.

A Teacher’s Christmas
Carol Whittaker
C-8/71994

Retired teachers put this tree together to honor their friend, Cheryl Stott, but also to honor all teachers. Altruistic teachers have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic as they have chosen to help youth at all costs.

We all know teachers who spent 60 hours a week reaching out to students when they could earn more money for less time in another profession. A Teacher’s Christmas strives to honor those dedicated teachers.

Eli’s Tree
Katy Ives
L-2/72016

We created this tree in honor of Elijah Cutler. He was born with severe heart defects that required multiple surgeries throughout his life, starting at only three days old. In November of 2020, while receiving treatment for his heart, Eli was diagnosed with aggressive cancer that had metastasized throughout his body. He passed away in July of 2021 at the age of 17 after a difficult and painful journey.

As a child, despite his heart defects, he grew to be a strong and sturdy kid. He had an infectious, gap-tooth smile and an active imagination. He was always surrounded by friends, including his best friend, his big sister. As he grew older, his talents in many areas blossomed. He had a prominent online presence showcasing his beautiful fine art, hilarious skits, love of video games, silly dance moves, and funny voices on TikTok. He loved crazy, colorful clothing and was never shy about standing out.

Eli was so fun to be around. He was upbeat, thoughtful, and so talented, always putting others before himself. He brought love and laughter to all who were lucky enough to have known him.

Eli loved Christmas, especially his mom’s colorful Christmas tree. We decided to recreate this beautiful tree with a twist: hidden ornaments representing things that Eli loved. It’s an “I Spy” game for Eli’s favorite things.
Reach for the Stars
Skyridge High School Unified Falcon Friends Club
F-33/72048

In 2018, the Skyridge Falcon Friends Club was founded on the premise of friendship, inclusion, and opportunity for all. We believe in the power of dreams to change the world and the lives of individuals for the better, and that everyone, regardless of circumstance, deserves the opportunity to chase their dreams.

Each wooden star on this tree represents the dreams and goals of an individual who, despite challenging circumstances, is nevertheless among the dreamers. Their collective hopes remind each of us to dream big, believe in one other, and reach out to others in love and encouragement. We believe great things can happen as we unitedly “Reach for the Stars.”

Christmas at the Cabin
Chelle Mangum
C-12/72077

In the early 1970’s, my stepfather, Frank, built a cabin for my mother, Bethany, who was a writer. Frank was a building contractor in Salt Lake City, Utah, so he built most of the cabin himself. The last part he worked on were the stairs, which were steep. No banister. Open to the main floor on one side. Mom insisted that Frank rebuild them. So he did. Exactly the same way.

Mom accepted them as the best he could do because now it was apparent to everyone that Frank was not himself. He would eventually be diagnosed with Alzheimer’s Disease. But he held on long enough to finish Mom’s beloved cabin in the woods. We always said he built it to stand for eternity. And it has! Forty-five years later, there has been minimal maintenance and hundreds of people have enjoyed it.

Recently, I found an old, stained mug while prepping the cabin for sale. I kept it because it represents Frank’s life — quietly providing all the good things we needed . . food, shelter, safety, security, good literature, fine music, religion, and stability in a rather plain, unassuming package.

Frank gave all of us this cabin where we could go to reset our priorities, enjoy beautiful surroundings, and contemplate the meaning of life while staring at stars without number. Frank is still providing for all of us as we pass the cabin on to a new family. May God bless them with many years of happy memories, s’mores, and hot chocolate!

Forever Angel
Kristi Wilson
M-19/72092

Our sweet angel, Renae Florrie Morris, got her wings on September 28, 2021, after being born at 36 weeks and living for only nine short hours.

Renae’s parents found out at the 20-week anatomy scan that there were possible heart defects with their baby girl. Knowing that the road ahead of them would be rough, they still decided to continue the pregnancy and keep letting their baby grow. Throughout the pregnancy, the Primary Children’s cardiology program did echocardiograms of Renae’s heart. Unfortunately, they found there were parts of her heart missing that surgery could not fix.

Renae got to meet all six grandparents at Primary Children’s before passing away after nine hours of life in her parents’ loving arms.

Note from parents to Renae: Twinkle twinkle little star, how we wonder how you are. Like our diamond in the sky, you’re the sparkle in our eye. Twinkle twinkle little star we will miss you near or far.

Celestial Rose
Cindy Ross
J-34/72111

Luna Rose Brown of Rockingham, VA passed away peacefully on November 11, 2021 after
a brave battle with brain cancer. She was diagnosed early in June 2021 with a brain tumor but of uncertain specificity. It wasn’t until after weeks of unsuccessful chemotherapy that doctors were able to confirm the true nature of her condition: ETMR.

Embryonal tumors with multilayered rosettes (ETMR) are rare small round blue cell tumor of the central nervous system and are one of the most aggressive brain tumors usually encountered in children.

With the tumor being inoperable, her odds of living past a couple months to a year were 0%. She endured endless tests, painful treatments, numerous procedures, and long hospital stays. Eventually she returned home for the last month of her life surrounded by her parents, extended family, and best friend-kitty cat, Saturn.

Luna loved being outside chasing chickens, throwing rocks, or playing at the park. She would dance and sing for hours on end and, naturally, pink was her favorite color.

Gold is the color that represents childhood cancer and we thought rose gold would be the perfect color on a tree representing sweet Luna, hence our tree’s name in Luna’s honor is called Celestial Rose.

Reason for the Season
Marci Schouten
E-2/72121

Alexandria Nicole Herbert (Ali) was four years old when she was diagnosed with very high risk Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. She battled for almost six years, relapsing six times before she went to heaven just a month after her 10th birthday in November, 2020.

Ali’s favorite colors are pink and gold. She adores all animals—especially her two dogs and her cat, Mylo. She loves shopping, cheerleading, soccer and all things girl. But she also loves fishing and hanging with the guys. Ali’s faith in her Savior is what helped her through her life, and she helped so many others by sharing her testimony with them.

Although her road was hard, cancer didn’t define Ali. She showed the world that even when hard things happened, you could still find joy. She loved life and all it had to offer. Her love and light shined bright to everyone. Even as an angel she shows others how to be brave, beautiful, happy and kind . . . just like her!

Grumpy the Gnome
Marla McCafferty
C-2/72123

Hey friends, how are you guys doing? I’m up in heaven smiling from ear to ear at each of you. I have accomplished a lot in my 65 years I had been on earth. I have had two jobs in my life: Utility Trailer in Clearfield, Utah and National Elevator Local Union 31 in Houston, Texas where I have since retired. Oh, how I miss my friends there, but don’t worry, I am with you. I have traveled the world, seen things that left me in awe and made memories that I am holding onto up here. I have recently fought colon cancer and lung cancer this last year and a half, which left me with no more options but to go to a better place. But I fought the good fight.

I have loved and been loved unconditionally by many. Also being a “Grumpy” old Grandpa was the highlight of my life. I thought it would be time for me to give happiness and joy to some sick kids that have a chance to have a better future and show this world how strong you are. I am having this “Grumpy the Gnome” tree done in my memory and the proceeds can go and help children fighting cancer or heart problems or other health ailments.

In memory of Kevin “Rusty” Box, also known as “Grumpy.”

Patti Peterson Travel Tree
Janis McClellan
B-19/72160

Our tree is dedicated to Patti Peterson and the many years she donated her time and talents to the Festival of Trees. We had the privilege of painting the new Elf Emporium in her honor.

We thought it would be fun to decorate a tree about the things she loved doing to put in front of this amazing structure that her loving family built for her. Patti immediately called me to express her excitement and gratitude.
about our idea. She loved traveling around the world throughout her life. We found ornaments from Poland, India, antique paper ornaments from Germany, antique Santas from around the world, many flags and much more.

We hope you enjoy seeing it as much as we’ve enjoyed putting it together.

Heather’s Favorite Things
Mary Ann Marchant
E-23/72175

On August 30, 2021 we were heartbroken by the passing of the beautiful and radiant Heather. She was blessed by so many gifts and talents, but a few of the ones she truly excelled at were dance, playing the piano, and her extraordinary understanding of math, science, language, and art. She dreamed of one day starring on TV as she shared “Weather with Heather.”

Heather was a bold advocate for Sam, and all people with autism. She also bravely supported her son, Tyler, with his Type 1 Diabetes. She never stopped trying to make their lives better. She truly loved her family and friends with the most genuine and caring heart.

While we will always remember Heather for her remarkable beauty inside and out, it is important that we speak of the pain that stirred within her mind. Depression is a real illness. It made it difficult for Heather to see the beautiful life she and Matt had created, regardless of the many measures she took and tried to combat it.

We will never know the scope of her influence for good in this world, but we can see it in the eyes of her husband, Matt, and children, Sam, Tyler, Lilly, and Charlie. We invite you to go forward with faith, to mourn with those that mourn, to comfort those that stand in need of comfort, and to be mindful of those in your orbit. We never know what extreme, private battles even the most capable and beautiful person is fighting.

Chillin’ With My Snowmies
Lonni Jerome
E-9/72186

We love to collect snowmen! We’ve been collecting snowmen for about 22 years. Each snowman in our collection is unique and most of our snowmen have a story to go along with them.

They range from tall metal snowmen, to beautifully hand painted ceramic snowmen, to small chubby stuffed snowmen. Some are very special because they have come from family members, including great grandparents. We also have received snowmen from coworkers, neighbors, and friends.

Our snowman collection is such a fun and happy part of winter in our house and we look forward to setting up the display each year! We wanted to share our love of snowmen with you. We hope you enjoy “Chillin’ with my Snowmies.”

Pray For Snow
Barbara Olsen
D-20/72204

Scott loved the winter and all winter sports and activities. When he was a junior in high school, we had very little snow. So the next winter he and his friends made “Pray for Snow” their motto. He made a sweatshirt with hands praying and “Pray for Snow” written under them. When he was on his mission the next winter, he ended every letter with PFS, which soon became Pray For Success, or Pray For the Spirit, and evolved to PFSS “Pray For Success and the Spirit.” He died at the age of 29, still Praying for Snow, Success, and the Spirit.

We hope that whoever buys this tree will have success and be filled with the Spirit of Christmas all year long!

Winter Sleigh Ride
Janett Bradshaw
C-100/72228

Robert Hyrum Lee was born in Glendale, Utah, but moved with his family to Beaver when he
was two years old. He lived in and loved Beaver until his death on November 3, 2019, less than a month from his 90th birthday. He married Colleen Cox, also a life-long resident of Beaver, in the St. George Temple on September 7, 1949. They brought five children into the world.

A year after they were married, Robert served in Korea with the “Triple Deuce” National Guard unit. When he returned home, he went to work for the Beaver branch of the Milford State Bank where he worked until his retirement in 1992 as Vice President.

His tree was inspired by his love for the outdoors and wildlife. He was an active hunter and fisherman, which earned him the nickname of “Fish” early in his life. He enjoyed the snow and the beauty of nature this time of year.

Robert was active in the community all his life. He worked with the Lions Club, which was instrumental in establishing and building the Beaver Little League, the golf course, and the racetrack. He served on the Beaver Valley Hospital Board where Colleen worked as a pink lady for many years. He was also Mayor of Beaver City from 1983 to 1991. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served as ward finance clerk for many years, as well as in other positions.

Angels Among Us
Michele Crump-Hart
J-24/72313

This tree is dedicated to Karen Baldwin. A midday gathering with her daughter Kim, telling stories of her mother, was the inspiration for this tree. Karen was a guiding presence in the decorators’ lives, as well. Karen was a highly sought-after Spiritual Guide/Medium in Utah and throughout the world. She was born on Christmas Day. Karen worked as a truck driver, then changed careers when she moved to Utah.

At the age of 44, she had a near death experience (NDE). A fatal accident at her employer in the early morning hours took the life of Karen. Paramedics arrived and resuscitated her numerous times during her transport to the hospital. The injuries sustained caused her lungs to be chemically burned. Over the next 15 years, she received a double lung transplant.

After her NDE, she was blessed with mediumship and clairvoyance. She used these gifts to help many people throughout her lifetime with compassion, gratitude, and grace. As a medium, she helped people connect with their loved ones, as well as helping to solve ongoing criminal investigations.

Karen was always willing to find the best in people. She always walked the path of light in a truly profound way. Her legacy of compassion, willingness to help, and her laughter will not be forgotten, by those who loved her. The gifts provided under this tress allows one a comfortable environment to settle in and read her biography Awakened: A True Story of a Near Death Experience Survivor. So please, get comfortable as you learn about this amazing “Angel Among Us.”

Rock
Jessica Sampson
D-35/72368

Rock was born with a rare genetic disorder called OTC deficiency. Rock taught us to believe that miracles can happen even when all odds are against you. He loved to be with his family and taught everyone around him how to never give up and to always keep fighting no matter what.

Rock was so lucky to have so many amazing doctors and nurses take care of him and love him at Primary Children’s. Rock blessed us with almost eight months of life and now he will be our guardian angel forever! Merry Heavenly Christmas Rock! #fightlikerock

Samantha’s Beautiful Sea of Elephants
Debbie Cambell
G-17/71678

Samantha Michelle Fairbanks was diagnosed with Stage 4 brain tumor in April 2019 at the age of 12. Samantha was close to her Savior and had a fearless faith. She fought a courageous fight for over eight months and passed away on December 20, 2019.
Remembering Rose
Keeli Taylor and Ronda Ewing
M-18/72200

This tree is dedicated to my mother, Rosemond Nicholas — my Rose. My mother was a faithful and strong woman. Her life was not all roses however, as she faced many thorns or trials along her journey. But despite the obstacles always thrown in her path, she put her determination ahead of her emotions and trudged forward with hope. She lost everything at one time, including six sons, her home, and her security. Only to be left with a car and a will to live. When I came into her life, she found a reason to go on. She made me her whole world. She was an incredible mother who loved beyond measure.

She passed away November 22, 1989 at the age of 63 from pancreatic/stomach cancer. Her final test. But I’m sure she is blooming in heaven and sharing her beautiful soul with those that are there.

She planted her garden here and I have tried my best to represent her. She gave me her name Ronda Rose. I now have two daughters and four granddaughters that bear her name. We honor her. We love her.

Grandma’s Garden
Mindy Healey
B-1/72099

Grandma loved to be out working in her yard, whether it was with her flowers, up in her trees picking fruit, or in her garden picking vegetables. You would always find her outside somewhere. She loved it and her yard showed it too.

Christmas Elves
Polly Kirton
G-23/71886

Patti Evershed Peterson is an example of everything that is good in the world. Patti has been volunteering for Festival of Trees for several years. She lives in Las Vegas and has enlisted many friends and family in the community in her efforts to provide handmade items for the Festival. She has delivered truckloads of beautiful items to be sold in the Elf Emporium.

Last year Patti joined the executive board of Festival of Trees. Since the Festival was virtual last year, Patti set up an online shop and was able to donate thousands of dollars to the hospital. Patti continues to be an inspiration to everyone who has the pleasure of meeting her. You would never know that she is battling terminal cancer.

From Chemo to Crown
Ciearra Everill
B-18/71543

From Chemo to Crown is designed to shine light, love and awareness to children battling childhood cancer and other life-threatening illnesses. These colors represent their battle.

Hope
Vanessa Schott
B-20/72201

This tree represents the light we all have within. The services we provide at PATH help our clients find their light again and allow it to shine out of the darkness. We hope our tree brings light and hope to all who view it.
Missa’s Tree  
Megan Knudsen  
B-23/72194

On February 22, 2021 our beautiful Melissa concluded her battle with cancer. She is our beloved aunt, sister, mother, wife, and friend. She left two beautiful young children behind in the loving care of her husband and family.

We love you, Missa.

Onaqui Wild And Free  
Susan Paul  
C-18/72364

In July, over 300 Utah Onaqui wild horses were rounded up and are waiting to get hopefully get adopted. Our hope is this Wild Horse Tree will help educate people that we have wild horses here in Utah and give the 300 a second chance on finding a new home.

Rachel’s Love of Music  
Rachelle Florence  
C-25/71671

Rachel had a beautiful Alto voice. She spent 11 years as a musical missionary in the Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square. She passed in May 2021 from cancer. We donate this tree, in her memory, to celebrate her love for music and the Christmas season.

Past, Present, Future  
Jarvie Curtis  
C-33/71916

Irreverent Warriors and the Blue Star Mothers of Utah are teaming up to decorate trees for the Festival of Trees. One tree focuses on pre 9/11 military, one for 9/11 to present, and one tree for the future.

Be of Good Cheer, Learn All Year  
Josie Thacker  
D-1/72074

Our Dad encouraged learning and would read to us daily. His greatest dream was for his children to graduate college. His favorite book was the dictionary. Continuous learning, love for his Heavenly Father and his family was his motto.

A Legacy of Love  
Heidi Jones  
D-5/71483

Bart Peterson left behind a beautiful legacy of love that lives on through his wife, children, and grandchildren. Everything Bart did for others was done with love. We will continue sharing his legacy of love for generations. His love changed our world!

Home for the Holidays  
Jeanne Fry  
F-13/71828

Last year, many, if not all of us, were prevented from going home and spending the holidays with family. This tree will be all about home, family, and cherished traditions, like the Festival of Trees!

Simply Having A Wonderful Christmas Time  
Holden Curtis  
F-26/71697

Holden was a vivacious four-year-old who loved Christmas. He claimed everyone he met as one of his friends. He loved playing with his Uncle Ty. Holden’s life was cut short one morning by a drunk driver while out for a walk with his mom.
Snow Day
Linda Meier
F-100/72127

This is our 30th year donating in memory of Nicole Meier. Through her battle with cancer, our family came to understand how Primary Children’s Hospital is not only a place of medical help, but a place of love, caring, and compassion.

A Sparkling Christmas
Julie Phillips
G-6/71993

My son was chronically ill and received care at Primary Children’s Hospital. When my son was 16, he started to help us decorate trees. He passed away in 2019 and we are carrying on the tradition for him.

Polar Express
Amanda Seamons
G-26/71665

This is the 11th year we are donating a tree in honor of my daughter Kai. She was at Primary Children’s for her entire 21 days of life. She had a rare condition known as Alveolar Capillary Dysplasia (ACD).

Thank you, Primary Children’s Hospital.

The Bells on Christmas Day
Sarah Plummer
G-100/71738

This is our 18th tree in honor of lovely Lucy, who lived almost four months at Primary Children’s Hospital. We’re forever grateful for the love and care she received. We donate these trees to provide hope and resources for families in need. We love our ladybug.

Sweet, Inside and Out
Chelsey Call
J-2/72134

Grandma married a Hinckley boy at age 17. Together they marched through life’s adventures for 75 years. We honor her selfless full-of-love life even through her 27-year battle with cancer, and continue her tradition of donating to the Festival of Trees.

Gnome for Christmas
Michelle Conder
J-17/71836

In 2019, my daughter spent six weeks at Primary Children’s Hospital and still receives monthly infusions there. She’s always looking for ways to give back to the hospital and asked to do a tree. We filled the time at her treatments this year by making the ornaments.

Where Are You Christmas
Meg McInnes
J-18/71770

When Porter was 16 months old it was discovered that he had a 3”x4” cyst that covered the left frontal lobe of his brain. Because of the skilled workers and loving care he received at Primary Children’s, Porter is a healthy and happy 13-year-old.

Sock Monkey Fun
Ethan Wells
K-33/71835

My nephew, Ethan Wells, passed away in April. He was born with Dandy Walker Syndrome. My sister had always wanted to do a tree for him, and I thought this would be nice to do a tree in remembrance of him.
Until Then Lil’ Cowboy  
Verna Jo Hollingshead  
M-9/71933

Our family has decorated trees and wreaths for the Festival, off and on, since 1987. In 2020, my grandson, Stetson, was at Primary Children’s Hospital for the first five months of his life. He passed away at nine months. Our trees now are in honor of him.

Forever Angel  
Kristi Wilson  
M-19/72092

Renae Florrie Morris was born on September 28, 2021. She was able to spend nine hours with her family before passing away that evening. Our angel baby is watching over each one of us.

Cowboy Boots to Sunday Suits  
Julia Findlay  
B-27/71548

This tree is named for the areas of service given by Delano Saxton Findlay.

A man with unconditional love, willing to help anyone he meet. Spending his life in service to family, friends, willing to protect and defend. Always willing to serve in his church. Loved singing and writing poetry. He would help anyone who came his way as an attorney. He spent much of his career doing pro-bono.

As a youth, he was full of fun and mischief. His red hair and freckles often getting him in trouble. He worked hard on the family ranch in Bloomington, Idaho. He could be heard as saying, “Heaven and hell are fighting over who gets me.” He lost his fight for life during the COVID pandemic, due to prostate cancer.

Single items on the tree are representative of his life experiences.
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Samson, Age 3
Born as a micro preemie and diagnosed with cerebral palsy, Samson has been recovering from multiple surgeries, along with a 109 day stay in the NICU.

Scan the QR code to read about Samson's story on the Festival of Trees website.