



## Tanya Mae Maeser

May 3, 1977 - October 22, 2018

Tanya Mae Maeser passed away on October 22, 2018, returning home to her beloved Savior. She fought an incredible battle with leukemia, pushing through physical suffering and setbacks with calm determination. When it became clear that she would not win this fight, she faithfully accepted that it was time for her mortal life to end, giving her final days to her family. She talked glowingly about becoming an angel and all the heavenly things that she would see and learn when she passed through the veil. She leaves us heartbroken but inspired by her strength, her faith, courage, and peace in living life and facing death.

Tanya was born in Jerome, Idaho and moved to Houston, Texas at age 6. As the fourth of six children, she tended to feel forgotten in the mix, but always knew she was loved. She had unique loving relationships with each of her siblings—they fought and laughed, looked out for each other, and loved each other. Throughout life she was always especially close to her younger sister Mandy, who served as her stem cell donor in 2013.

Tanya had her rebellious teenage years, as she struggled to find who she was and where she fit in the world. And while these years involved some pain and difficulty, she always considered them formative to who she became, and brought into her life some very dear lifelong friends.

In 1998 she moved to Arizona to take a job with the ANASAZI wilderness therapy program. This was an experience that was absolutely transformative for Tanya. She continued to work in wilderness therapy off and on for several years, and her love for the wilderness never dimmed.

Tanya served a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Durban, South Africa. She often talked with great love about her experiences there, the people of South Africa, and her fellow missionaries.

After returning home she moved to Utah to go to school. After various starts and stops,

and changes of location, she eventually graduated from Southern Utah University in Sociology, where she was her department's student-of-the-year. After graduation Tanya worked as a housing case manager at The Road Home, in Salt Lake City. She loved the people that she worked for and with while there, and in this capacity she displayed her wonderful ability to serve those in need.

In March 2011, after a crazy and whirlwind courtship, she married Nate Maeser for time and eternity in the Salt Lake City Temple. Soon afterward the couple moved to central Australia for a year, and then to Omaha, Nebraska for four cherished years. Most recently, the family has settled in Midway, Utah for the past two years.

In October 2012, Tanya was blessed with her beautiful, good, and sweet son, Nathan. It was her truest dream to be a mommy, and she threw herself fully into motherhood. She is a great mom. A parent never loved a child more than she loves her boy.

At every step along her wild, wonderful, winding path, Tanya touched lives and developed true friendships with all who were willing and lucky enough to truly know her. She continued to share with her friends a deep love and devotion even as years and great distances separated them.

Packed into her quiet voice and gentle ways, Tanya was a spiritual force we have been so blessed to experience. She loved with passion the gospel of Jesus Christ, and always served with great effort and diligence within the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, including attending and serving in the temple as often as possible. Additionally, she had a passion for natural and alternative medicine and healing, which she felt went hand in hand with her spiritual life and was an essential source of community and support for her.

Tanya, we miss you. We miss your sweet, gentle voice. Your energy, fire and determination. Your insight and wisdom. Your silly wit. Your perfectly unique style. We love you truly, deeply, and forever.

She is survived by her husband Nate, and son Nathan. Her parents, Randy and Chris Ellis. Siblings Spencer (Shelley) Ellis, Chalice (Jhonny) Marcano, Ginger (Erik) Lathen, Mandy (Jason) Geserick, Jacob (Liangzi) Ellis, many nieces and nephews, and countless dear friends who love her.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, November 3rd at 11 AM at the LDS chapel at 1102 South Center St Midway, Utah 84049. A viewing will be held November 2nd from 6 to 8

PM, also from 9-10:30 AM prior to the services both will be at the LDS chapel.

# Cemetery

## Midway City Cemetery

700 W. 500 S.  
Midway, UT, utah

# Events

**NOV 2**   **Viewing**   06:00PM - 08:00PM

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Deek Creek Ward Building  
1102 S Center St., Midway, UT, US

**NOV 3**   **Viewing**   09:00AM - 10:30AM

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Deek Creek Ward Building  
1102 S Center St., Midway, UT, US

**NOV 3**   **Service**   11:00AM

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Deek Creek Ward Building  
1102 S Center St., Midway, UT, US

# Comments

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“ Everyone in my left. You stayed. You listened. You hugged me. I love you.

**Travis Marriott** - November 23, 2018 at 10:08 PM

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“ Tanya was a blessing and answer to prayers in my life. She was a friend who was uplifting, kind, gentle and patient at a time that I really needed a friend like that. Every time I left from hanging out with her I felt happy and uplifted. I loved her honesty and purity. Tanya was an amazing example to me, especially in the way she mothered Nathan. I am forever grateful to have had Tanya as a friend. I will miss her.

**Janna Ang** - November 03, 2018 at 10:15 PM

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“ She was my best friend during those rebellious years.. we took on the world. Thank you Ellis Family for raising me, and thank you, Mandy, for being my little sister.

**Nadine Hunt** - November 02, 2018 at 07:13 PM

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“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Tanya Mae Maeser.



November 02, 2018 at 07:10 PM

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“ And thank you to Nate and Nathan for filling her soul.

**Nadine Hunt** - November 02, 2018 at 06:51 PM

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“ Sweet Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Tanya Mae Maeser.





November 01, 2018 at 11:09 AM

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“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Tanya Mae Maeser.



October 31, 2018 at 04:40 PM

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“ Tanya and I met at SUU, we were both Sociology majors and loved the outdoors. She was older than me and I remember thinking that I hope I grew up to be more like Tanya. We had some great times together including a beautiful, but cold, backpacking trip in Capitol Reef and a conference we attended together in Oakland CA. She always made me laugh and I enjoyed making her laugh, such a beautiful sound! We saw each other a few more times, I went to her wedding reception and read her blog religiously while she and Nate were living in Australia. She was so smart, candid and wrote with such vulnerability and curiosity. I took for granted that I'd see her again someday in this life. I wish I had. Tanya, I admire your courage in the face of death. May you rest in peace and enjoy all the many things you deserve.

**Hayley Coombs Neff** - October 31, 2018 at 03:34 PM

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“ I have not ever met Tanya but in reading her obituary, I feel inspired. Thank you for sharing these beautiful details. Her life and light are being magnified.

**Korinne** - October 30, 2018 at 11:27 AM

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“ Tanya was my roommate & Cedar City, Utah for most of a year. It is hard to lose people who you just naturally expect to see again. I felt that she had something special that I had lost when we lived together. A weekend in Provo that we spent together really confirmed that & I feel that I have more fully become that person since then. I wanted to see her again in this life & see if she still carried that something. I imagined that if she didn't, maybe I could help reignite it. So, there's little I can do about that now but hold to what she helped to remind me of. Sending love, Tanya.

Thanks for adding sincerity to my life while you were here.

**Marie Quist Palmer** - October 29, 2018 at 10:45 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Tanya Mae Maeser.



October 29, 2018 at 06:03 PM

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“ The Ang Family purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Tanya Mae Maeser.



**The Ang Family** - October 29, 2018 at 02:45 PM

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“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Tanya Mae Maeser.



October 29, 2018 at 12:45 PM

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“ Tanya, thank you for your strength, your faith, and your courage. I would often search you out on facebook to see where you were in your journey. Because of you I've taken longer moments with my boys, even when they were being stinkers, I've slowed down, and I celebrate the gift of life. I'm glad we knew each other!

**Kerri** - October 28, 2018 at 11:07 AM

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“ I met Tayna through book club and we bonded through stories of our children and our shared hopes for more. She was truly a unique and wonderful woman and I am lucky to have had her in my life.

**Sarah P** - October 27, 2018 at 12:15 PM

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“ The summer before both of us got married I asked her if she would take a beginning marathon running class with me. She agreed and we ended up waking up at 6 am to follow a coach on runs around the University of Utah campus. She said she wasn't a runner but she kept up with me. Only a true and wonderful friend would agree to wake up early and do something she wasn't fond of, to support a friend. We had a great summer.

**LaNova** - October 27, 2018 at 11:09 AM

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“ I just received the news today... when we lived in Salt Lake City, Tanya was one of my dearest friends. We lost contact for a while because something I did hurt her but she didn't want to tell me what it was. She wouldn't take my calls. A few years later, she contacted me and we went to the park to take a walk reconnect. We were surrounded with autumn leaves of every color. We picked up beautiful leaves and showed them to each other. Then she stopped and looked at me and said, "I'm sorry. I could have reached out and cleared this a long time ago." It was such a precious moment in our friendship.

A year after that, I visited her in Omaha and she hosted me and had a wonderful time together. I got to meet her family. I am so deeply grateful for our time together. Tanya, thank you for being so genuine and so real with me. Thank you for exploring and asking questions and reflecting on the parts of life that really matters. I love you.

Emily Potter

**Emily Potter** - October 27, 2018 at 10:37 AM