



Timothy M. Watabe

February 7, 1968 - October 21, 2017

Timothy “Tim” Masanobu Watabe, age 49, of Dublin, Ohio, passed away on October 21, 2017, in a rappelling accident. He is survived by his wife, Joleene Tower Watabe, children Jacob, Kristen, Ian, and Nalani Watabe; parents Masahisa and Faith Watabe; siblings Wendy (David) Peterson, Rebecca (Peter) Lundberg, Emi (Jared) England, Rachael (Christian) Colman, Nathan (Michelle) Watabe, and Jayson (Courtney) Watabe and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins. Tim was born to Masahisa and Faith Watabe on February 7, 1968, in Glendale, California. He was the second of what would increase to seven children. After several international moves including to Japan and Germany, Tim graduated from James Madison High School ('86) in San Diego, California. This is where Tim developed a deep love and connection to the ocean which expressed itself in the form of surfing, fishing, and coastering.

Tim served as a full-time missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for two years in the Denmark Copenhagen Mission where he touched the lives of those he taught and those he served with. He returned home and earned a Bachelor of Science from Brigham Young University ('93) in finance. He married his sweetheart and fellow San Diegan, Joleene Tower, in the Los Angeles LDS temple on August 17, 1991. After earning his MBA from Brigham Young University ('97), he went to work for Procter and Gamble in Kobe, Japan. Tim and Joleene welcomed four children into their family-- Jacob Masakatsu ('95), Kristen Louise ('97), Ian Masaki ('02), and Nalani

Nikki ('10). Career opportunities brought the family back to the US, first in Cincinnati with Procter and Gamble, then Dublin, Ohio, with Scotts Miracle-Gro. Tim was a lifelong member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Over the years he served in many capacities, but mostly in areas involving the youth. For four years he taught a youth scripture study class starting at 6 a.m. every day before school, giving his class a scripture-based, spiritual start to their day. But more than the words he said, the students in his class remember how he was genuinely happy to see them each morning and how much of himself he put into every lesson. He also served as a scoutmaster for the Boys Scouts of America for many years, merging his love of the outdoors with his positive influence on youth. He helped many boys earn their Eagle Scout award. Most recently Tim was called as the bishop of Dublin 1st Ward. He served the members of his ward with all his heart and energy without financial compensation.

Everywhere he went, Tim brought a sense of youthful mirth. He was both a prankster and a master story teller. He was an outdoor enthusiast, who took his friends and family on frequent camping, fishing and backpacking trips, and a conservationist who longed to live "off the grid." His hatred of wastefulness drove him to such lengths as bathing in his kids' bath water, clearing food from everyone's plates at dinner, eating the top layer of spilled popcorn at a ballpark, and living out of his van during periods of extended commuting. Tim saw goodness and value in every person he met and had a gift for noticing those who are often overlooked. He approached every relationship with compassion and understanding. He was truly a "friend to the friendless and father to the fatherless." Funeral services will be held Saturday, October 28, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints building at 7135 Coffman Rd, Dublin, OH 43017. A viewing will be held Friday, October 27 2017 at the same location from 4pm until 7 pm. Memorial services will also be held in Utah in mid-November as well as in San Diego, California in late December. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to humanitarian fund of

the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or the GoFundMe account to help with Tim's children's mission and college funds. Arrangements by Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell. To send condolences to the family, please visit www.rutherfordfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **27**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Dublin Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
7135 Coffman Road
Dublin, OH 43017

Funeral Service

OCT **28**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Dublin Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
7135 Coffman Road
Dublin, OH 43017

Tribute Wall



“ Timothy M. Watabe

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ I just learned of Tim’s passing yesterday (talk about living off the grid). It makes me sad to think of a world without Tim in it. I was Tim’s “finance person” when he was leading Devices Purchases (which we renamed “DMC” which stood for: Devices, Metals and Cells and we secretly referred to as “Run DMC”) at P&G. I have such fond memories of Tim and I thought I would share a few here for Tim’s family.

First, for Joleene...if you haven’t been already, go to the Morgan House on Glick Rd. When Tim told me you were moving to Dublin, I told him you would love shopping there. He told me there was no way he was going to inform you of a new place to shop!

When working at the Mason Business Center, a group of us were contemplating going out to lunch. Sergio Garcia said his wife packed him lunch but he didn’t really feel like eating it so he would join us at a restaurant. Tim said, “If my wife packed me a lunch, there is no way I wouldn’t eat it. Even if the sandwich tasted like ass, I would eat it!”

Tim loved, loved, loved his children so much! I remember how happy he was when Joleene was pregnant with Nalani.

Tim was so full of life and fun. Every Friday he would open YouTube on his computer and play Rebecca Black’s “It’s Friday” with super-clever lyrics like: “...yesterday was Thursday...tomorrow is Saturday...”

Tim was one of those special people whose being shone the light of God. He was a living witness to the love God meant for this world.

Michelle Hayden - July 28, 2018 at 09:25 AM

ST

“ I never thanked Bro. Watabe for the love that he showed my family and I during a period of time my father was not around. I also never thanked him for all of the fun and character building experiences that he organized or created. It's more than a little late but thanks Tim for your example and your service. Until we meet again. -Sean Thompson

Sean Thompson - October 30, 2017 at 09:40 AM

TJ

“ Tim was a co-worker from P&G. Always gracious with kind words and quick smile. I am praying for God's comfort and grace during this tough period.

Toi Clarke Jones

Toi Clarke Jones - October 28, 2017 at 02:24 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Timothy M. Watabe.



October 27, 2017 at 06:27 PM



“ Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Timothy M. Watabe.



October 26, 2017 at 11:40 PM

DJ

“ Dear Jolene and Family,
Sister Jacobs and I send our most heartfelt condolences on your great loss. We served with Tim for the first year of his Mission in Denmark as his Mission President pair. He was a great missionary, as you can imagine. Every fine quality you have seen as his Eternal Companion and Children was exemplified on his mission. We loved him and love him yet. We know he will be watching over you during these difficult days, months and years ahead.

Curtis Sessions, one of Tim's missionary friends let us know. We have passed on the sad news of his accident to our missionary network and also been in touch with President and Sister Greer with whom he served the second year.

The Obituary said there will be a memorial service in Utah in November and one in late December in San Diego. We would very much appreciate knowing where and when for both services as we live in Utah and will be in San Diego in December. We would also be most grateful for a phone number or E mail address for Tim's parents.

Our love, thoughts and prayers, Dee and Kay Jacobs, deekayjacobs@yahoo.com 925 407 7468 Provo, Utah.

Dee V. Jacobs - October 26, 2017 at 08:59 PM

JW

“ My name is Jonathan Wentworth-Ping and I am a sales director with a publishing firm that covers the fertilizer and agricultural chemical markets.... which explains how I knew Tim. Tim has been my client for about 4-5 years. In all that time, in fact in all my time as a salesperson, I don't think I have ever looked forward to conversations and exchanges with any client as much as I did with Tim. My (English) sense of humour clicked with his joie de vivre and we laughed and joked about things inevitably unconnected to our jobs. Of course he was smart as a whip too and so there was always healthy exchange of wisdom (95% his) on our professional lives. We met at conferences and events all across the USA and he was always someone with whom you wanted to hang around. I just want to say to his wife, his family, his friends that I will miss him a lot and hope that we meet again in that great farm in the sky.

Jonathan Wentworth-Ping - October 26, 2017 at 09:26 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Timothy M. Watabe.



October 25, 2017 at 11:13 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Timothy M. Watabe.



October 25, 2017 at 08:02 PM

KN

“ *Kym Lew Nelson purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Timothy M. Watabe.*



Kym Lew Nelson - October 25, 2017 at 05:23 PM

BF

“ *Baker Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Timothy M. Watabe.*



Baker Family - October 25, 2017 at 03:25 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Timothy M. Watabe.*



October 25, 2017 at 02:03 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Timothy M. Watabe.*



October 25, 2017 at 12:21 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Timothy M. Watabe.



October 24, 2017 at 08:37 PM

SM

“ Tim always came to my Monday night Cycling class and Wednesday night PiYo classes at the Scotts Fitness Center. He LOVED making it to these classes. He even tried out a dance class! His crazy pants and random handstands will always be remembered. In the past couple of months we have had a couple of heart to hearts after class - and it was so nice. It's the best feeling when you can connect with a member and class participant like that. You feel like you know them so much better - and he was an AMAZING human being. No one can compare to him. There is nothing bad to say about Tim. He is someone I looked up to and truly admired.



I also remember one time I was out looking to buy a fish - and I saw him out with his kids looking for fish to buy as well. I remember thinking - oh I won't run into anyone in Dublin that I know! But sure enough - there Tim was. Cracking jokes, so easy to talk to, and bringing a sense of calm and positivity. :)

So many memories will live on here at the fitness center at Scotts. His spirit will always be in the gym and at the classes. Every Monday and Wednesday night class will be in honor of and dedicated to Tim.

-Sarah McGlinchy (Health Fitness Specialist, Scotts Fitness Services)

Sarah McGlinchy - October 24, 2017 at 06:40 PM