



## Fiona Jean Burdick

August 23, 1967 - January 8, 2020

Fiona Jean Burdick, age 52, of Manassas, Virginia, passed away on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, at Inova Fairfax Hospital in Falls Church, Virginia.

She was born on August 23, 1967, in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, the youngest daughter of Jesse L. Harding and Mary F. (Walters) Harding. Fiona was raised in Taber, Alberta and graduated from W. R. Myers High School in 1985. She attended Brigham Young University where she met her husband, David, during her first month of college. By the end of the school year, they were engaged and later married on December 20, 1986, in the Cardston Alberta Temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Fiona and Dave made their first home in Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where Dave served as an Army Field Artillery Officer and Fiona continued her education at Cameron University. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology and sociology in 1989 and was employed by Cameron University as an admissions advisement counselor, and the university's representative at Fort Sill.

In 1991, Fiona and Dave relocated to Germany where Dave continued his Army career and Fiona worked as a career transition counselor, helping soldiers that are leaving the Army develop resumes and interview skills for obtaining jobs in the civilian sector. She began a 27-year federal civil service

career in 1992, working in Army Child Development, Addiction Recovery Counseling, and Army Community Services at various sites in Germany. While in Germany, Fiona obtained a Masters of Education degree from Boston University and began a Ph.D. program in Organizational Leadership with the University of Oklahoma, one of 30 students selected from over 200 applicants for the inaugural cohort. Fiona and Dave left Germany in 2002, and settled in Manassas, VA, where Fiona became the registrar for the Near East South Asia Center of the National Defense University. She later served as a Senior Family Programs Instructor at the U.S. Army Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Academy, and then served on the faculty of the Army Management Staff College, as a Professor of Civilian Leadership.

Fiona left the Department of the Army in 2012, to take a position in the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement of the Department of Interior, where she served as a Leadership Development and Employee Engagement Program Manager. Four years later, she joined the Department of Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service as an Instructional Systems Designer in the Leader Development Programs Branch, the position she held when she passed away.

Fiona was a devoted wife of over 33 years to her eternal companion, Dave, and a loving mother to a son, Scott (Brittany), and a daughter, Regan, the joys of her life. She was happiest when she was with her family, and the kids remember with great fondness her reading aloud all seven Harry Potter novels to them while on road trips in Europe and across the U.S. and Canada. She is also survived by her sister Sheila (Brent) Gibson; and her nieces, Kirsti (Dwight) Forsyth, Jillian Gibson, and Hayley Gibson; all from Alberta, Canada. Fiona was proudly Canadian, and instilled in her husband and children a love of Canada, and particularly her home town of Taber, Alberta. Her weekly phone calls with Sheila helped her maintain her connection to her family and heritage, and she returned home every few years throughout her life.

Fiona was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, where she served in many volunteer positions with youth and women's programs. One of the highlights of her church service was the three-year service mission she fulfilled with her husband helping adult learners begin or resume college education. She enjoyed crafting, quilting, crocheting, reading, movies, and travel. Fiona was proud that she recently completed visiting all 50 states, most of them on road trips with her family. She also traveled extensively throughout Europe, and visited South Korea and Japan. A favorite destination was Salzburg, Austria where she enjoyed visiting sites where "The Sound of Music" was filmed. She enjoyed attending concerts, plays, and opera with her family, with the National Memorial Day Concert at the U.S. Capitol and "Opera in the Outfield" at Nationals Stadium among her favorite annual events.

Her family and friends will remember her as a very loving, compassionate person, who went out of her way to serve anyone, and who brightened every room she entered. She tackled every challenge with enthusiasm and strived for perfection in her work, her hobbies, and her service. She faced her brief battle with anaplastic thyroid cancer with tremendous courage and faith, determined to win the fight. However, she accepted the Lord's will in all things and has now joined her parents in serving once again in the world of spirits, awaiting the glorious resurrection and promise of life everlasting with her eternal family.

The family will receive friends on Monday, January 13, 2020, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, at Pierce Funeral Home, 9609 Center Street, Manassas, VA. A funeral service will be held on January 14, 2020, at 10:00 am, in the Centreville Chapel of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 14150 Upperridge Dr, Centreville, VA 20121. Interment will follow at Quantico

National Cemetery, Quantico, VA. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home or donations may be made in Fiona's honor to the American Thyroid Association, [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org).

Condolences may be sent to: [www.piercefh.com](http://www.piercefh.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Quantico National Cemetery

18424 Joplin Rd  
Triangle, VA 22172-1636  
(703) 221-2183

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **13**. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home  
9609 Center St.  
Manassas, VA 20110  
(703) 257-6028  
pfh@piercefh.com  
<https://www.piercefh.com>

## Service

JAN **14**. 10:00 AM (ET)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
14150 Upperridge Drive  
Centreville, VA 20121

# Tribute Wall

SC

“ My sincere condolences to the family, friends, and co-workers of Dr. Burdick . She was a wonderful light in the world who's flame spread to so many with her work. It was a great pleasure to have met and learned from such a kind and loving spirit.

Sabrina Costa - January 16, 2020 at 12:24 PM

JP

“ "Feedback is a gift," she would say. Those words have been powerful to me and many others. She changed our perspectives and our lives.

Jason Pickart - January 14, 2020 at 04:27 PM

BS

“ Fiona will be truly missed and I feel fortunate that our paths crossed, even though it was only for a few years. Always a smile and a good word, always caring. Rest well.



Bonita Soley - January 13, 2020 at 09:30 PM

CB

“ I truly thank GOD our paths has crossed. You are an Amazing woman whose smile will live on in me. Rest in Heaven 💕💕💕

Catherine Bailey - January 13, 2020 at 08:33 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Fiona Jean Burdick.*



---

January 13, 2020 at 08:18 PM



“ *Dave, Scott (Brittany), Regan and family  
I was a co-worker of Fiona's while she worked at DCPAS as an Instructional System Designer until I retired on October 31, 2018. She supported the DoD ISD community, with a passion, and will be sorely missed in the DoD Leadership Development community. I would like to extend my sincere condolences to you and your family.*

*Lee Wexel (Lee.wexel@gmail.com and 443-844-7345)*

---

**Lee Wexel** - January 13, 2020 at 05:13 PM



“ *Sacred Garden Spray was purchased for the family of Fiona Jean Burdick.*



---

January 13, 2020 at 02:50 PM



“ *Simply put, "The League of Extraordinary Women" will not be the same without you. Thank you for helping me and so many others dig deep to access the very best of who they are. You will be missed but your legacy will live on!*

---

**Tiffany L. Carter** - January 13, 2020 at 02:16 PM

VG

“ *Such a sweet sweet spirit. From the very moment she joined our team at DCPAS, her smile, her gentle voice and laughter captivated me. As we traveled abroad to South Korea she faced every challenge of the cold, big hills to climb and very long days with a smile. When we transitioned to Hawaii, she slowed just a bit but never lost her tremendous zeal to help others get through the challenges of the journey. While I am saddened deeply, I am eternally grateful that God allowed our paths to cross on this side. I'll hold fast to the songs we sang in the office and the hearty laughter bringing us to tears-- memories I'll treasure forever. I know you are at peace nestled in His bosom until the great day when we will unite with our Savior. Thank you Dave, Ragen and Scott for sharing her with the world. My sincere condolences but know you'll unite again on the other side.*



---

**Vanessa Glascoe** - January 13, 2020 at 11:20 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Fiona Jean Burdick.*



---

January 13, 2020 at 11:16 AM



“ *Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Fiona Jean Burdick.*



---

January 13, 2020 at 11:13 AM

DH

“ *What a wonderful, wonderful, wonderful lady, friend, scholar, inspiration and Joy!!!! This saddens me enormously - such a loss from this world of ours. If there is any comfort it is that Fiona was a person of strong faith and goodness - and she would want us to smile, miss her (and possibly have a "Dr. Pepper") while recounting her laughter, her smile, her enthusiasm, her creativity and goodness. I love and miss her. David, my most heartfelt condolences for your family. Thanks for sharing this great lady with us all. Sincerely, John Harrison, AMSC faculty partner.*

-----  
**Dr. John Harrison** - January 13, 2020 at 10:36 AM

BH

“ *Fiona, we were so happy to meet you last year at our Christmas party... we will treasure the cookie jar you gave us and hold those memories close. Dave, you are in our prayers.*

-----  
**Bonnie and Jay Henn** - January 13, 2020 at 07:01 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Fiona Jean Burdick.*



-----  
January 13, 2020 at 07:00 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Fiona Jean Burdick.*



-----  
January 12, 2020 at 09:28 PM

LW

“ *Larry & Rosemarie Westberg purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Fiona Jean Burdick.*



---

**Larry & Rosemarie Westberg** - January 12, 2020 at 07:05 PM

LW

“ *I will always miss your beautiful laughter as we shared war stories at the end of a long day. What was the ROI in that practice? I don't know but it always cheered me up as we ended another long day. That was who you were and always will be.*

*I know you are in a better place now. Please put in a lot of good words for me. We both know I need it!*

*Love Always, Larry*

---

**Larry Westberg** - January 12, 2020 at 06:59 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Fiona Jean Burdick.*



---

January 12, 2020 at 06:46 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Fiona Jean Burdick.*



---

January 11, 2020 at 08:50 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Fiona Jean Burdick.*



---

January 11, 2020 at 08:25 PM



“ *My dear sweet Fi! I still can't believe you are gone. So many memories are whirling in my mind. Our trip to Scotland was definitely a highlight but there have been so many wonderful times spent with you & your family! I love you Sis & will miss you... Rosie*

---

**Rose Strohschein** - January 11, 2020 at 07:46 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Fiona Jean Burdick.*



---

January 11, 2020 at 07:37 PM

KF

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



---

**kirsti forsyth** - January 11, 2020 at 04:11 PM

KF

“ I will always remember being a young teenager going to Lethbridge with aunt Fi to watch A Walk To Remember several times-we loved that movie. She was always kind of like the big sister I never had and I always enjoyed spending time with her. I will never forget her.

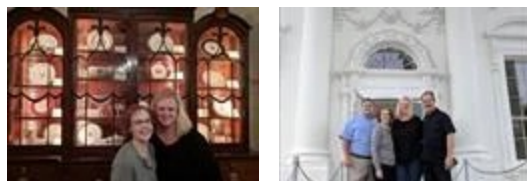


---

**kirsti forsyth** - January 11, 2020 at 04:06 PM

LB

“ I will never forget the first time we met Dave and Fiona. We were instant friends and we loved being around their sweet family. My daughter married her son and with him we got forever friends. She will be missed so much.



---

**Laurel Bruner** - January 11, 2020 at 03:22 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Fiona Jean Burdick.*



---

January 11, 2020 at 03:14 PM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



---

**Jillian Gibson** - January 11, 2020 at 02:50 PM



“ *I will miss Aunti Fi's laugh. It was so uniquely hers and so contagious. If she was laughing, you were too! I loved having her in Canada for her many visits: drinking slurpees and playing games. She is the best Aunt I could have ever asked for, and I will miss her so terribly much. She was so brave and strong at the end, and I know she is now with her parents awaiting the day we can all be together again.*

---

**Jillian Gibson** - January 11, 2020 at 02:43 PM

KF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



---

**kirsti forsyth** - January 11, 2020 at 02:34 PM