



Mary Blyth Hiatt

July 7, 1954 - January 23, 2026

Mary Wanlass Hiatt, age 71, passed away peacefully on Friday, January 23, 2026, in Etna, California, following a short and courageous battle with cancer. She was surrounded by love and faith at the close of a life defined by devotion to God, family, and music.

Mary was born on July 7, 1954, in Shelley, Idaho, to Leslie and Rayola Wanlass. Her childhood was marked by rich and varied experiences, as she grew up in several places around the world, including New Zealand; Huntington Beach, California; Toquerville, Utah; and Idaho Falls, Idaho. These experiences shaped her steady character, deep appreciation for people, and lifelong sense of purpose.

Mary devoted her life to her family as the mother of ten children, a role she embraced wholeheartedly. She found great joy in being at home raising her children and nurturing a household rooted in love, faith, and firm values. Music was another central thread of Mary's life. A gifted pianist, she taught piano lessons for most of her adult years, blessing countless students with both musical skill and quiet encouragement. Later in life, she began composing and publishing her own music and produced multiple albums of her original compilations—a lasting expression of her creativity and testimony.

On November 2, 1973, Mary married the love of her life, Richard John Hiatt, in the Idaho Falls LDS Temple. Together they built a life centered on faith and family, and were blessed with ten children—six daughters and four sons: Noelle (Travis) McKay, Joshua (Jennifer) Hiatt, Kayleen (Brett) Washburn, Adriel

(Chris) Jenkins, Jennifer (Michael) Kennett, Laurel (Joe) West, Lindsay (John) Labate, Jordan (Carly) Hiatt, Jarom (Annaleisa) Hiatt, and Jared Hiatt. She was also the proud grandmother of 37 grandchildren, each of whom held a special place in her heart.

Mary was a faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, where she served in many callings throughout her life. Her faith in Jesus Christ was central to who she was. She lived with quiet conviction and was known for her unwavering integrity. One of her often-quoted sayings- "What's right is right, and what's wrong is wrong"-reflected her steady moral compass and lifelong commitment to truth.

Above all, Mary was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend. She cherished time with her children and grandchildren, loved sitting by her backyard swimming pool, and took great joy in tending her flowers and trees. Her home was a place of peace, music, and belonging.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents, Leslie and Rayola Wanlass; her brother, Jeremi; her sisters Emily and Cecily; her daughter, Noelle McKay; and her son, Jared Hiatt.

She is survived by her devoted husband, Richard, eight of her children, and her 37 grandchildren, who will carry forward her legacy of faith, love, and righteousness.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, January 30, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the Etna LDS Chapel, with committal to follow in Etna Cemetery. A viewing for family and friends will precede the service at 9:00 a.m. at the church. A Zoom link will also be available for those unable to attend in person.

Mary's life was one of quiet strength, deep faith, and enduring love. Her influence will continue to be felt in the lives she shaped, the music she shared, and the testimony she lived every day.

Tribute Wall

SS

“ I didn't know Mary for a long time, just a few short weeks; But from the first day I met her I knew that If we had met years ago , we would of been great friends. She was so warm and welcoming and overwhelmingly Kind. I met her husband Richard and some of her children and you could see the loving effects she had on all of them. I am so very sorry that I missed her service, I did not know the date. I will think of her often and smile!!! Nurse Susan

susan sorenson - February 02 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Amazing woman! She added so much light and love to my family! My life is better with her in it, we miss her dearly already-

Michelle Johnston - January 31 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ My heart goes out to the family during this difficult time 🙏❤️

Kerilynne Heisinger - January 30 at 12:00 AM

WW

“ Rip Mary condolences to the family

Wendy Whittaker - January 29 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ RIP Mary, condolences to the family.

Karen Ross Brown - January 29 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ RIP. So sorry to the family

SusanLarry Henninger - January 29 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ So sorry to hear this! Condolences to her family and close friends.

Alison Lang - January 29 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ So sorry to hear.

Jeannie Bennett - January 29 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ What a beautiful, talented, loving, solid disciple of Christ! How much I admire her!

Shirley Smith - January 29 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ Mary and Richard are known and loved in this Valley. R.I.P. Mary💜
Family, friends and This Valley will help Richard carry on💜

Sandy & David Everton - January 29 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ Mary, was a valiant woman! She was faithful and determined. She once had me record one of her Christmas songs she wrote. I'm not a singer, but Mary had faith in me. Her love of music touched so many lives💜💜

Amy Cann - January 29 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Girdner Funeral Chapel

A Memorial Tree was planted for Mary Blyth Hiatt - January 29 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ With deepest sympathy,

Anonymous - January 29 at 12:00 AM

DM

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Debbie March - January 29 at 12:00 AM