MORRILL SPENCER FARR MEMORIAL SERVICE
TALK BY DAVID J. FARR
Tuesday, January 30th, 1996



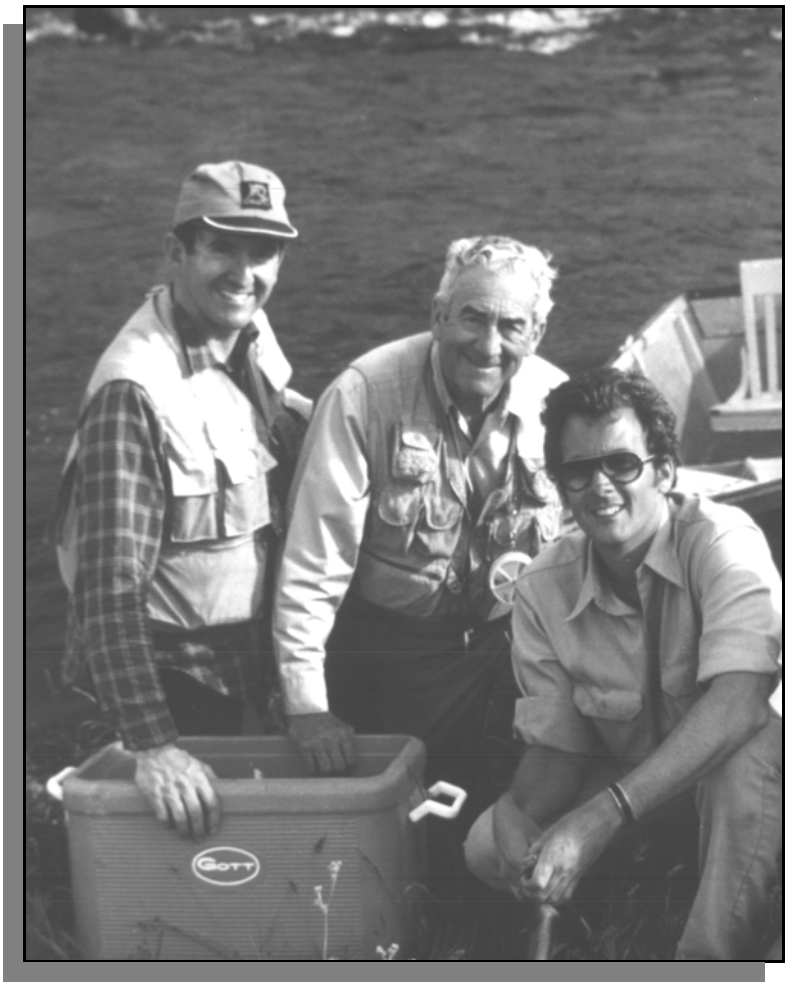
It would be difficult in a short speech to paint a complete portrait of my father. To do that would take the efforts of everyone who knew dad in the individual experiences, remembrances, impressions, memories and interactions throughout his life. I can only put brush strokes to the highlights of his significant and memorable personal portrait. In preparing this, I prayed and thought about what he would want me to say to you.

First and foremost he would thank his wife and mother of his four children, Thalis Jackson Farr, for 59½ years of wonderful marriage. Dad was a dominant and strong personality in this relationship, often demanding, but also loving, kind and grateful for my mother's remarkable gifts of love, patience, support and soothing personality. Mother was a behind-the-scenes strength to dad. In so many ways he was supported by her strength of character. At Thanksgiving time, it was our practice to go around the table and express our gratitude for what was in our hearts. Dad invariably, with tears in his eyes, would say how grateful he was for my mother's influence in his life. He would thank his Jackson family relatives for their warmth and loving support through the years. He never left his house or returned to it without kissing our mother. They had a special loving relationship.

He was grateful for his association in business and in life with his Farr relatives. He enjoyed their family gatherings in Holiday Park. Aunt Frannie wanted to be here today, but due to her physical health she was unable to do so. She wanted all of us to know she is here in spirit.

He would thank his mother and father for the close association he had with them. His father, Morrill Newton Farr, had a profound influence on him. Together they hunted, fished and vacationed at their Utah mountain retreat - Holiday Park - in the Uintah mountains near Park City. His father and grandfather would fly fish on the Weber River and in the mountains, coming back with huge baskets of fish. In those days there were no limits. Dad grew sick of eating trout but always loved to fly fish for them in the rivers, streams and lakes of the western United States. He also fished some of the great rivers of Europe and New Zealand. His love of hunting continued thru to the last year of his life, as he

hunted ducks with friends weekly in Oxnard. I was privileged to enjoy a great fishing trip with him on the Snake River in Idaho last June. I stood in the front of the boat and dad sat in the back, casting into the river as the guide took us around rocks and through #3 rapids, seeking the elusive trout. He was thrilled to pull in a 19 inch cutthroat trout, which he then released so another might enjoy the same experience. I am so glad I took that trip with dad. I almost declined with the press of other business. I did not realize it would be our last fishing trip together.



David, Spencer and Alan
Henrys Fork, Snake River 1982

I always felt a great love for my father, for the personal interest and encouragement he gave. I am glad I told him of my love often and that I felt comfortable in embracing and kissing him . The tradition of hunting continued with his sons. He would take Alan, Jerry and I hunting frequently - either alone or on occasion all together. Jim Farr, his grandson, mentioned how much he enjoyed being with grandpa on the hunting trips he went on. In recent years there were a couple of hunting trips where we all went together to hunt grouse and pheasant in Montana. Trips like this helped us grow closer together.

My sister, Teresa, didn't hunt or fish, but she grew very close to dad as only a father and daughter can. He loved her to sing for him, as she is blessed with great musical talent.

Dad's health decline began with a heart attack he suffered while quail hunting with his long time friend, Bruce Strathern. A challenging few months followed as he suffered a stroke. Unable to speak, yet comprehending, he spoke with his eyes and with nods. All of the family were able to see him and express their love for their special relationship with him. It gave us time to prepare for his final loss. This was especially true for my mother, his loving companion of 59 years.

Dad's mother, Jean Spencer Farr, was a strong influence in his life. She was influential in teaching principles of character and the teachings of Mormon heritage were ingrained in her. It was through BaBa, as she was lovingly called by her family, that dad's children received religious training and influence. Although dad was not always an active church-going man, he was spiritual and loved his Mormon heritage. At one time in the Westchester Ward, he served as the Ward Finance Chairman. His long-time Bishop, Donald Barraclough, said that he was the best finance chairman he had ever served with. Mom and Dad were active and involved long enough to be married in the temple and were able to witness my marriage to my wife, Patricia.



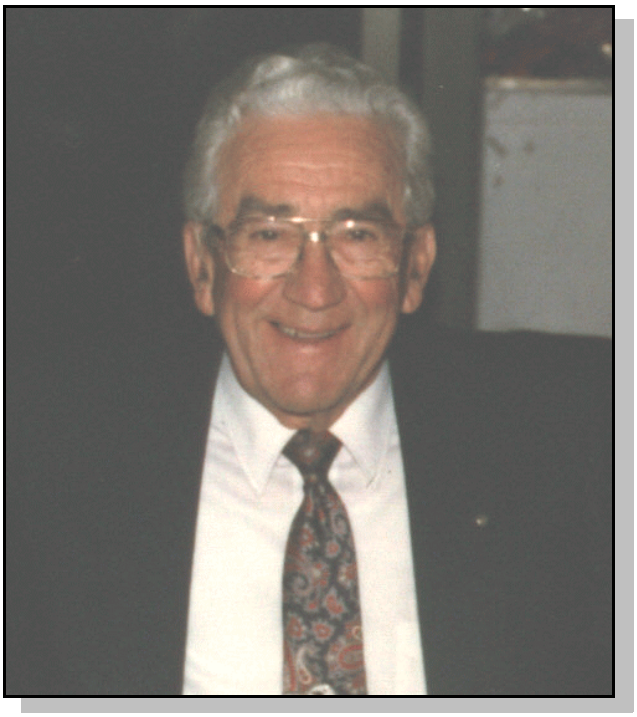
Jean Farr holding Dick with Spencer and Frances

Dad enjoyed serving in the community. He served as head of the southwestern region Explorer group for nine years. He received the 'Silver Beaver' award for his long service with the Boy Scouts of America. He was active in both the El Segundo and Los Angeles Chapter of the Rotarians and served one term as president of the El Segundo branch. He also served for two years as chairman of region four of the United Way and enjoyed being on the board of the American Educational League. Dad loved this country and was proud to be an American. He made many friends in his service. He loved people. He had an outgoing and warm personality. He and mother made and kept many wonderful friends they met through golf, church, civic organizations, hunting, fishing and charities.

Dad's greatest joy and work was with his family. He had a profound influence on all his children, their spouses and grandchildren. He believed in holding the family together. Our annual trip to Montana has been a great factor in keeping our family relationships going as the family has moved to live in many different places of the country. He made special provisions to provide for ongoing trips to Montana to strengthen family ties in the future. He enjoyed witnessing his grandchildren's activities in sports and other accomplishments. He encouraged us to do our best and believed that we could.

My summer job at our home in Westchester was to give the six foot high fence around our ½ acre property two coats of paint. That fence got a lot more paint than it ever needed. Painting the fence was a rite of passage for the Farr boys. Alan and Jerry followed me in that summer opportunity.

We received good advice growing up and sound advice after marriage. Some of my happiest memories were the many family parties held at our Westchester home. Our parents made sure we had a swimming pool, a basketball court and a large grass area for many activities. Our friends were welcome and frequent visitors. Other happy family memories included our annual summer vacation at the family cabin in Holiday Park, Utah. We enjoyed fishing, riding horses and hiking in the beautiful mountains of Utah. That is another tradition we will continue with our families through dad's efforts. We enjoyed the relationship of so many wonderful families in Utah - including the Freeds, Snows, Pratts, Felts, Eppersons and many more. Dad, and his longtime friend and cousin, Dave Freed, shared a poignant moment last September as they recalled their close and warm relationship. Friends since 1919, it was almost as if they were saying goodbye for the last time here on earth.



And so all of us will miss our relationship with dad, but I assure you it will continue, when it later is our time to cross over into the spirit world.

Dad was descended from a devoted Mormon heritage. His great grandfathers included Brigham Young, Lorin Farr, Daniel Spencer and others who were prominent in the trek of the Mormon pioneers west and the development of the Utah territory. They had a firm belief in God and the ultimate destiny of man and woman as sons and daughters of God.

Brigham Young, quoted in the Deseret News, December 16, 1868, said of Daniel Spencer at his funeral, *"I say to the family of Brother Spencer, there is no cause to mourn. This body is sown in mortality. This tabernacle is from the elements of the earth. We are of the earth, earthy, yet this tabernacle through faithfulness whilst here in the flesh has the promise of a glorious resurrection. If the spirit brought into subjection the whole man, bringing every portion of the flesh subject to the law of God, it has the promise of resurrection. All the component parts of this body, which now lies before us, will be resurrected, and be prepared to enter into the presence of the Father and the Son. Some have supposed that it matters not what particles we receive again. In this they are mistaken. The parts which have been honored by the faithfulness of the spirit in this life will be joined in the life to come."*

In the scriptures our Lord said, *"I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead yet shall he live."* Out of the Book of Mormon we read, *"The spirit and the body shall be reunited again in its perfect form both limb and joint shall be restored to its proper frame, even as we now are at this time; and we shall be brought to stand before god, knowing even as we now are at this time;*

... now , this restoration shall come to all, both old and young, both bond and free, both male and female, both the wicked and the righteous; and even there shall not so much as a hair of their heads be lost; but every thing shall be restored to its perfect frame, as it is now, or in the body....I say unto you this mortal body is raised to an immortal body, that is from death, even from the first death unto life, that they can die no more; their spirits uniting with their bodies, never to be divided; thus the whole becoming spiritual and immortal, that they can no more see corruption." (Alma 11:43-45)

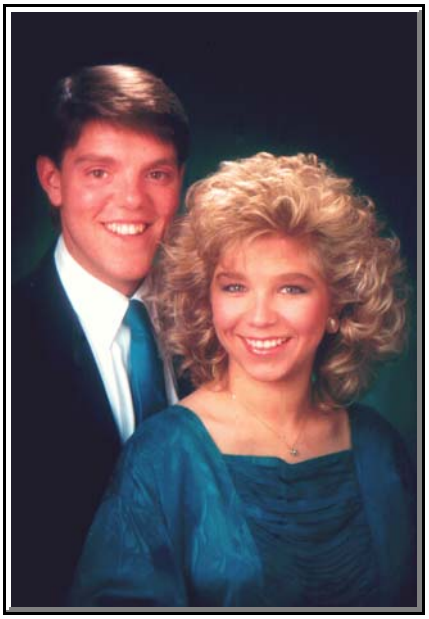
We have abundant support of the scriptures through the personal experiences of those who have suffered near death experiences in numerous books now published. The commonality of experience includes a tunnel, light, feelings of peace, recognition of family and friends. Many of those experiencing this did not want to return to earth.

And again the scriptures tell us speaking of the life hereafter, that the same sociability that exists with us here on earth will be with us in the eternal world, except our experience there will be coupled with eternal glory.

And Paul, the Apostle speaking of the resurrection, said, *'O grave where is thy victory, o death where is thy sting.'*

I am confident that dad is with his loved ones and friends renewing his relationships and will continue to learn and grow and love.

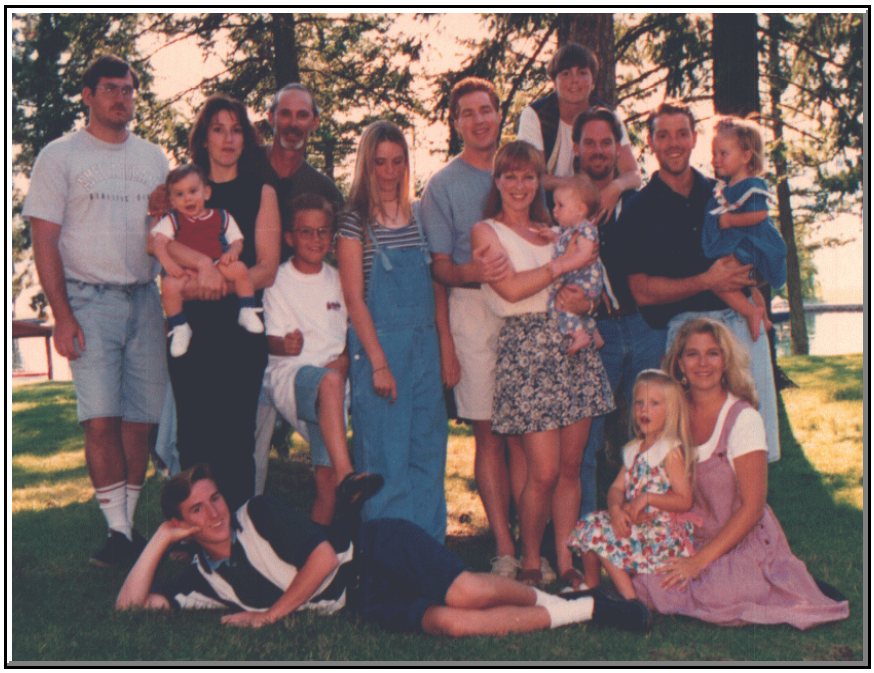
MORRILL SPENCER FARR
MEMORIAL SERVICES
TALK BY STEPHANIE FARR BOYD



Jamey Boyd & Stephanie Farr Boyd

I have been asked to speak on behalf of the grandchildren. With the passing of my grandfather I have felt a great sense of loss and have been in much need of comfort, as I am sure you have also. I have been comforted by the scriptures, one of which I would like to share with you and it is my hope that it will bring you comfort also:

<u>Alma 40: 11-12</u> Now, concerning the state of the soul between death and the resurrection - Behold, it has been made known unto me by an angel, that the spirits of all men, as soon as they are departed from this mortal body, yea, the spirits of all men, whether they be good or evil, are taken home to that God who gave them life. And then shall it come to pass, that the spirits of those who are righteous are received into a state of happiness, which is called paradise, a state of rest, a state of peace, where they shall rest from all their troubles and from all care, and sorrow.

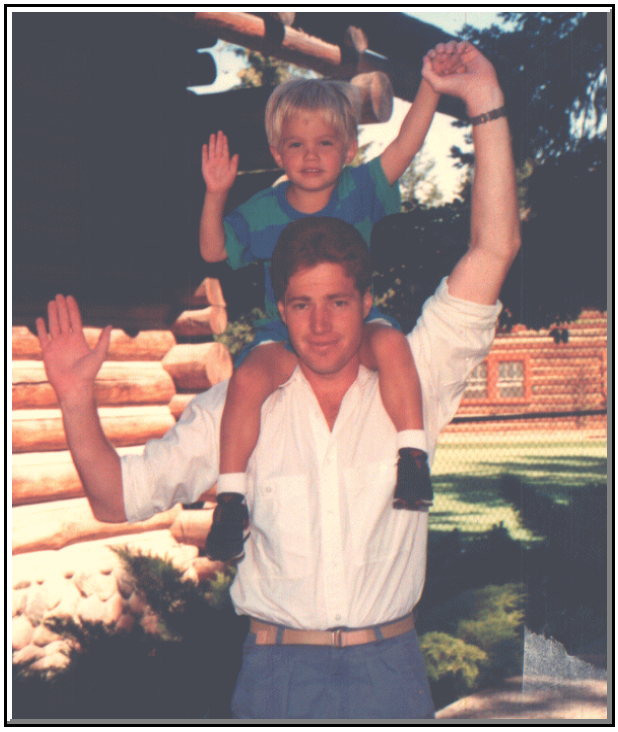


Back Roy L to R: Michael Farr, Alison Farr Brisker and Evan Brisker, Mitch Brisker, Tim Farr, Melissa Farr, Jim Farr, Mary Anne and Katie Farr, Alisa Farr Harper, Stuart Harper, Jamey and Brianna Boyd
Front Row L to R: Jason Farr, Ciera Boyd, Stephanie Farr Boyd

I am comforted in knowing he is in a state of peace and rest and that he is with his Heavenly Father and surrounded by loved ones.

I have pondered much of the things that I wished to express to you today. I felt it only fitting to voice each of the grandchildren's thoughts. As I spoke with each of my cousins and siblings, I have gathered many thoughts, feeling and memories of our grandfather. May I tell you what a beautiful experience this has been for me to hear the depth of love and gratitude each of us had for our

grandfather. Through my words I hope you might see him as we did. I could sum it all up in a comment that Tim made when I asked him why he felt Grandpa was so special. Tim said, "Because HE WAS HIM!" As I heard this statement, I thought - that was perfect. HE WAS HIM, and that is why we loved him, respected him, adored, him and enjoyed our grandfather beyond measure. We were truly blessed for we have had the example of a perfect grandfather. I believe it was my Uncle Jerry that said, "if you looked up the word 'Grandfather' in the dictionary, you would see a picture of MORRILL SPENCER FARR. My brother Jason said Grandpa had 'lived the American Dream'. As Jim and Alison accurately stated, he WAS the PATRIARCH of our family and our ROLE MODEL of what a father and grandfather should be.



Cousins Tim Farr & Jim Farr

Grandpa possessed a GREAT WORK ETHIC. Be it at Farr Company, at home, or at the cabin in Holiday Park and he LOVED to get others working right along with him. At Holiday Park there were many fences to be fixed, weeds pulled, and rocks moved to and fro along with other tasks to be supervised by Grandpa. Grandpa's cabin had the best looking front yard, so to speak.

I remember Thanksgiving 1988 when we were at their house. I had been speaking of my difficulty in finding a job since Jamey and I had been married. I commented that I had thoroughly searched everywhere. Grandpa looked me square in the eye and asked me if I had been to McDonalds. I said "no". He then told me that I had not been everywhere. This was a great lesson to me.



Melissa Farr

Grandpa had a great SENSE OF HUMOR. I remember that Grandpa used to get a kick out of the fact that I did not like to handle and prepare raw chicken for meals. He would tease me about this. Christmas 1988, Grandpa presented me with a box and when I opened it I found 100 surgical gloves to assist me in my cooking ventures.

Missy and Tim spoke of Grandpa's CARING and HELPFUL heart, which allowed him to win friends and confidants wherever he went. Many of you are here today because of the character traits



Alisa Farr Harper and nieces, Ciera, Brianna and Jenna Boyd
Flathead Lake Lodge craft room

Missy and Tim mentioned, that you saw in our Grandpa as well.

Grandpa had a tremendous amount of energy. There were many cold, early mornings at the dude ranch that Grandpa would get up at 7:00 A.M., with the rest of us, to go on a breakfast ride.

HE LOVED LIFE AND LIVED IT WITH SO MUCH ENTHUSIASM. He loved hunting, fishing, walking, golfing and much more. Last Summer, in Montana, I wish you all could have seen him at the rodeo, riding down to pen a calf. He rode with great determination. It was an incredible sight to see and we all held our breath for fear of him falling off.

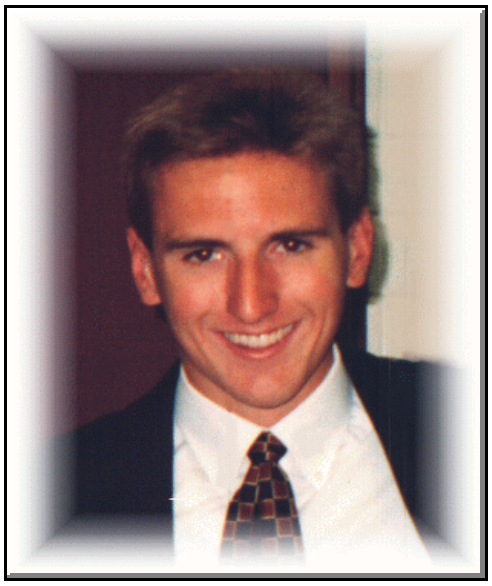
Alisa spoke of how SUPPORTIVE Grandpa was. Always going to basketball and soccer games, drill team performances, horse shows and other activities whenever he could. We talked of how we enjoyed him being there watching and knew he was proud of all the things we did. Alisa told of a time when Grandpa had attended the 1984 Olympics and received an Olympic flag and had it framed. He gave it to Alisa because he knew if she wanted to she could become an Olympian. Grandpa believed in us.

Michael told me of Grandpa's great compassion and how much it meant to him that Grandpa was always asking how Mike was feeling and when he was not well, Grandpa had him stay with them. He so enjoyed the many nature walks he took with Grandpa in Holiday Park and also being taught how to play Solitaire by Grandpa.



Michael Farr

Grandpa was GENUINE and that's what Jason loved about him. He said he always loved Grandpa's smile, and enjoyed looking into his loving face. On the program is a great portrait of his sweet loving smile that we so loved. His greetings were always accompanied by a kiss (on the lips) and a hug. He made SURE that we knew that he loved us.



Jason Farr

As Alison and I spoke the day of Grandpa's passing, it was a beautiful conversation. We talked of the great legacy that our loving grandfather left for us. A close and loving family was perhaps the most important thing in his life. He began to establish the value of a close family years ago on Arizona Avenue with his many Family pool parties. We thought it quite unique and rare that we not only knew and associated with our first cousins, but our second cousins as well. Grandpa provided us with many opportunities to unite through the years in Holiday Park, almost 12 years at Flathead Lake Lodge in Montana, family parties and much more. Foreseeing this eventual day, Grandpa provided means by which his family would continue to create memories in Montana and Flathead that Grandpa held so dear - enjoying the outdoors and being together with family.



Alison Farr Brisker & Alan Farr

On Thanksgiving of this year, as many of us flew in to be with Grandma and Grandpa because of his stroke, we met for our Thanksgiving Dinner. After dinner we retired to the living room and began looking at the great history of photos he and Grandma had assembled over the years. It was very heartwarming. There was an overwhelming feeling of love and gratitude for each other. I have thought about this often. Little did we know that a beautiful chapter in the Farr family history was coming to a close. I feel that in his wonderful life here on earth he had accomplished what he set out to do at a very early age, to have a family united in love. It was and is important in our lives to be together as a family and we love each other. I feel that this is the greatest tribute that I could give to our grandfather.

I have asked my brother Jason to come up and read a poem that he authored which represents our Father and Grandfather....

"The Cycle of the Tree"

The snow fell on the mountain top
and stuck there to the ground
Its frozen, white and icy text
remained without a sound

Then spring appeared all bright and new
The sun shone on the snow
And like a noble, princely man
a spruce began to grow

For years and years the tree lived on
It increased in its size
Its branches spread out from its trunk
They were its favorite prize

And to a hiker passing by
the tree appeared so proud
It was the biggest tree around
It stood above the crowd

It made it through the toughest times-
the snow, the wind, the rain
It overcame the blizzard's wrath
although it caused much pain

Until one day a fire came
to cleanse the forest land
That proud, accomplished, loving tree
accepted nature's hand

It knew that life was cyclical
and though that meant he'd die
It knew that its demise would help
another tree grow high

To all of you may I suggest
that Spencer did not die
His spirit can be seen today
within his loved ones' eyes

-Jason Spencer Farr