



ERIN MENDENHALL
Mayor

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Catherine Elaine Elliott served as Head Coach of the University of Utah Women's Basketball Team from 1983 to 2010—an extraordinary 27-year tenure that remains the longest in program history and helped define an era of Utes athletics; and

WHEREAS, Coach Elliott led her teams to 16 conference championships across the Western Athletic, Mountain West, and High Country Athletic Conferences, while guiding Utah to 15 NCAA Tournament appearances, including a Sweet Sixteen in 2001 and a memorable Elite Eight run in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Coach Elliott mentored generations of student-athletes—four of whom were drafted into the WNBA, including two who went on to represent Canada on the Olympic stage in both the London and Rio Games—and guided 16 All-Americans and two FIBA U19 World Championship competitors along the way; and

WHEREAS, with 582 career wins and 20 seasons of 20 or more victories, Coach Elliott remains the winningest head coach in University of Utah history across all sports; and

WHEREAS, Coach Elliott's contributions to sport, leadership, and community have been recognized through induction into the Utah Sports Hall of Fame, the Utah Summer Games Hall of Fame, and the University of Utah Athletics Hall of Fame, and by becoming the first woman inducted into the Boise State University Athletic Hall of Fame—a trailblazing achievement befitting a career spent opening doors; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of a career that brought pride to the University of Utah, raised the national profile of women's basketball, and gave this community countless reasons to stand, cheer, and believe, a banner will be raised in the Jon M. Huntsman Center to permanently mark Coach Elliott's lasting legacy; and

WHEREAS, those who played for Coach Elliott describe a leader who understood that excellence and care for people are not competing values, but inseparable ones—who valued the work that does not always appear on a stat sheet, and who built teams and programs where individuals were seen, supported, and trusted, not merely evaluated; and

WHEREAS, through her example, Coach Elliott showed that life is bigger than basketball—that authenticity matters, that loving and supporting others through both triumph and hardship is a mark of true leadership, and that pursuing one's passions with joy can shape not only great athletes, but grounded, generous human beings long after the final buzzer sounds.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Erin Mendenhall, Mayor of Salt Lake City, do hereby proclaim February 14, 2026 as:

ELAINE ELLIOTT DAY in Salt Lake City

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "E. Mendenhall", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Erin Mendenhall
Mayor