



## Rheta Fay Heer

January 20, 1934 - September 5, 2025

### RHETA FAY HEER

Rheta Fay Heer, 91, of Soap Lake, Wash., passed away on Friday, Sept. 5, 2025 at Brookdale Senior Living in Moses Lake, Wash.

She was born in Moorhead, Iowa, in January of 1934, to Samuel and Bertha Dai. Her family came into the Columbia Basin after her father developed Buerger's disease following his service in the war as he sought the healing waters of Soap Lake.

Rheta attended Ephrata High School, where she met her husband, Richard Heer. He played basketball. She was a cheerleader. Rheta married Richard in 1953 and later moved to the Heer's dryland wheat farm northwest of Ephrata, where she raised two sons and a daughter. Rheta worked as an x-ray technician at McKay Memorial, as a secretary at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, and as a secretary at the Ephrata junior high school.

When Rheta and Richard handed the farm down to their sons, they retired to the Methow Valley, where they enjoyed snowmobiling and horseback riding in the mountains. They returned to the Soap Lake area in 2004.

Rheta enjoyed spending time with family, gardening, and hosting Christmas dinner for the family. She was very active in the Ephrata Foursquare Church. Rheta is survived by two sons, Mike and wife Dawn Heer and Tom and wife Sue Heer; a daughter, Teri Heer; and seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Rheta was preceded in death by her parents, Sam and Bertha Dai; husband

Richard W. Heer; and brother Roger Dai.

A memorial service will take place on Friday, Sept. 12, at 1:00 p.m. at the Desert Church in Ephrata.

Express your thoughts and memories for the family at [www.nicolesfuneralhome.com](http://www.nicolesfuneralhome.com). Arrangements are under the care of Nicoles Funeral Home of Ephrata, Wash.

# Cemetery Details

## Valley View Memorial Park

20174 Rd A N.E.  
Soap Lake, WA 98851  
(509) 754-4150  
bea.white@nicolesfuneralhome.com

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

SEP **12.** 1:00 PM (PT)

Desert Church  
716 Basin St NW  
Ephrata, WA 98823

# Tribute Wall

DB

“ *Don Bean lit a candle in memory of Rheta Heer*



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**Don Bean** - September 11, 2025 at 07:46 PM

JB

“ *My condolences to the entire Heer family. I hope you can find some comfort in knowing what an exceptional person that Rheta was and that she made the world a better place for the people she touched. My thoughts are with you all,  
Josie Bean*

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**Josie Bean** - September 11, 2025 at 06:36 PM