



Leona Rahr

May 9, 1924 - February 10, 2021

After 96 well spent years, the call Grandma had patiently and prayerfully yearned for came. On February 10, 2021 she was taken home where she will joyfully be reunited with family and friends; card games will be plentiful, and the coffee will always be on. She will be in a place that is never lonely, the mailbox overflows with hand-written letters, and the food is delicious. There will be no political discord or family feuds, health never fails, and love abounds. The church pews will always be full, and there will never be goodbyes.

Leona Louise Bryson was the 5th child of Percy and Lula (Kramer) Bryson. She was born on May 9, 1924 at her family home in Ollie, MT at the hands of the neighbor. She attended school in Ollie and graduated as the totality of 'The Class of 1942'. She would tell you with a grin, she was the smartest person in her class...and the dumbest. She attended Normal College in Billings, MT and naturally became a teacher. She taught in rural schools in Dawson County and later taught kindergarten out of her home.

In 1944 she met a tall, handsome fellow who she did not initially recognize as her soulmate. But with a little charm, some dancing, and an unforgettable laugh, Jim Rahr swept her off her feet. True to her no-frills way of life, she went downtown to buy a dress and was married the next day to her soon-to-depart soldier in her sister's home, surrounded by family on June 12, 1945. Their marriage was blessed with five children. They celebrated 54 years of marriage prior to Jim's passing in 1999.

In 1950 Jim and Leona moved to their home on Deer Creek. Leona spent her life being a homemaker, a mother, and a grandmother. She looked forward to visitors stopping by and she always had a home baked treat in-waiting on the counter, often, chocolate sheet cake. She had a miraculous ability to unexpectedly feed a crowd at a moment's notice and she was always the last one to take a seat at the table. She created traditions that were looked forward to year after year. If she were not in the kitchen, you could likely find her in the sewing room putting together a quilt or sewing 'cat heads' for the hospital auxiliary. In her downtime she read countless books, lost thousands of games of solitaire (and won a few, too), and was a faithful fan of Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy.

Leona was active in the Homemakers Club, a devout member of Our Savior Lutheran Church and taught bible school, a 4-H Leader, and was one of the original volunteers at The Attic.

She was most proud of her family and considered them her greatest accomplishment. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren made her glow. Leona leaves behind a family who will eternally celebrate the way she lived her life, the love she so abundantly gave, and the lessons she left behind. She is survived by her daughter Linda (Marvin) Butters of Riceville, IA, daughter Margie Rahr of Twin Falls, ID, son Bob Rahr of Glendive, daughter Peggy (Alan) Dunn of Morrison, CO, and daughter Mary Jo (Jim) Gehnert of Glendive; grandchildren, Tammi (Jeff) Mueller of Riceville, IA, Terri (Darrin) Byrnes of Decorah, IA, Jamie (Justin) McMillan of Glendive, Kristi Wilcoxon of Aurora, CO, Ben Rahr of Glendive, Jason Spencer of Colorado Springs, CO, Chelse (Lyden) Christensen of Pocatello, ID, Jacob (Erica) Gehnert of Crestline, CA, and Jacee Gehnert of Glendive; great grandchildren: Gabe & Gavin Mueller, Noah & Sydney Byrnes, Jane Harrison, James & Ella Rahr, Marilyn Spencer, Tiryon & Anniston Christensen; her brother Clint Bryson of Belle Fourche, SD; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 3:00 P.M until 5:00 P.M. on Sunday, February 14, 2021 at the Silha Funeral Home in Glendive. Funeral services will be held at

10:00 A.M. on Monday, February 15, 2021 at Our Savior Lutheran Church with Pastor Greg Lucido officiating. Interment will follow in Dawson Memorial Cemetery. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Memorials in Leona's name may be made to Grandview Retirement Home, 1711 N. Merrill Ave., Glendive, MT 59330.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: www.silhafuneralhomces.com.

Cemetery Details

Dawson Memorial Cemetery

2816 West Towne Street
Glendive, MT 59330

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 14. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (MT)

Silha Funeral Home
221 North Meade Avenue
Glendive, MT 59330

Funeral Service

FEB 15. 10:00 AM (MT)

Our Savior Lutheran Church
322 North River Avenue
Glendive, MT 59330

Tribute Wall



“ *Leona Rahr*

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ *Yesterday, I read with great sadness of Leona's passing. A beautiful tribute to a beautiful woman. She was the best friend ever and will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Sincerely, Jean Hoskins*

Jean Hoskins - February 18, 2021 at 02:21 PM



“ *Leona was a fine human being. She did so much for kids, was a pillar of the neighborhood, her conversation was positive and she could put together a plan. The world needs more of her.*

Rose Marie Aus

Rose Marie Aus - February 15, 2021 at 11:46 PM



“ *Many good memories of Leona and the Rahr family at Deer Creek. Takes you back to a wonderful time with picnics at Newton's Grove, and I seem to remember gatherings in an area by Leona's and Jim's with Custer's Lookout in the background. Sincerely, all the best to the Rahr Family. Tom Roe*

Tom Roe - February 14, 2021 at 02:58 PM

KS

“ *Karen Schock lit a candle in memory of Leona Rahr*



Karen Schock - February 13, 2021 at 10:26 AM

JL

“ *Janette Legato lit a candle in memory of Leona Rahr*



Janette Legato - February 13, 2021 at 12:48 AM

SK

“ *Sheila Kunick lit a candle in memory of Leona Rahr*



Sheila Kunick - February 12, 2021 at 04:10 PM

KM

Very nice lady! What a life!

kevin mcGovern - February 12, 2021 at 06:21 PM

CH

“ Mary Jo and family, We are so sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. No matter how old they are, or us for that matter, it is very hard to lose a parent. Thoughts and prayers to you all.
Craig & Doreen (Vaira) Herbert

Craig Herbert - February 12, 2021 at 11:16 AM

MP

“ Mark and Greta Pixley purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Leona Rahr.



Mark and Greta Pixley - February 12, 2021 at 10:56 AM

LM

“ Love, The Mantheys purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Leona Rahr.



Love, The Mantheys - February 12, 2021 at 10:16 AM

RY

“ Rita Young lit a candle in memory of Leona Rahr



Rita Young - February 12, 2021 at 09:55 AM

TL

“ Tom and Lue purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Leona Rahr.



Tom and Lue - February 11, 2021 at 10:28 PM



“ Sorry to hear about the passing of Leona. Cherish your memories. I always remember her in 4-H and Homemakers.

Sherry Corneliusen - February 11, 2021 at 09:34 PM

KG

“ When I was in the fifth grade at Deer Creek School, Leona sewed me a lime green drawstring bag with my name on it in gold stitching; even as a child, I was touched that she had made something just for me! I still have it today.



Many times I rode over to the Rahr's to spend the day, and sometimes the night. I will always remember whenever I entered her home, she would see me, stop what she was doing, and she would talk to me. It seems she was always in the kitchen, cooking or baking. Or in the evenings, she was at her sewing machine. I hadn't seen her in many years, but I was fortunate to visit with her at Grandview in August 2019. She knew me immediately; she offered something to eat! As she talked to me, I thought how little she had changed...

Send thoughts and sympathy to all her family.
Kim and Dean George

Kim George - February 11, 2021 at 08:06 PM

ED

*Linda, Margie, Peg, Bob and Jo,
I have many fond memories of your mom and dad. They were a part of my life as long as I can remember--the annual hunting trip to Glendive and western Montana. When living in Bismarck, frequent visits, when travelling the western part of ND. In later years, harvest trips to Scobey gave me the chance to visit your mom almost every fall.*

In the early days, I will never forget your mom's breakfasts, and the amazing food! Listening to your dad's stories, and your mom sometimes adding softly, it wasn't quite that way, Jim...One time when we were on a hunting trip in the western part of the state, your dad opened his suitcase, which your mom had packed, and it was full of grandma's clothes!

Your mom and dad were frequent visitors to the farm. They would show up, usually unannounced, and settle in for a day or two. Mom and dad often did the same. On the occasion of our wedding, the Montana crew came. After the reception(church basement, of course) there was a party at the farm. My bride and I drove by, tooted the horn and kept on going. I knew if we stopped, the Rahr bunch would have some trick up their sleeve!

We will miss your mom. The last time I saw her, I left my Navy hat, she tried to flag me down, but I didn't see her. She wrote and said she wasn't going to mail it, I would have to come and get it. She will be missed by both Anne and I, but for me, the memories will live on forever. Ed

Edward Dombrock - February 21, 2021 at 11:47 AM

LF

“ *Linda Frank lit a candle in memory of Leona Rahr*



Linda Frank - February 11, 2021 at 07:05 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Leona Rahr.*



February 11, 2021 at 05:51 PM



“ *My sincere sympathy to all who loved Leona. She was a very intelligent and compassionate lady. I feel fortunate to have known her.*



Myrna Kintz - February 11, 2021 at 04:32 PM



“ *Ralph And Sheryl Costanzo lit a candle in memory of Leona Rahr*



Ralph and Sheryl Costanzo - February 11, 2021 at 04:25 PM



“ *Mary Jo, Peggy, Margie, Bob, Linda and families, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. I have so many great memories of Leona, from helping us with 4-H projects to all the times I spent at your house and she made me always feel right at home! She will be greatly missed and we will keep her and all of you in our prayers. God bless!*

Kim and Roger Marman - February 11, 2021 at 03:58 PM

YF

“ Your Hely & Weber Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Leona Rahr.



Your Hely & Weber Family - February 11, 2021 at 03:17 PM

JH

“ I love that photo of your Mom. She is just as I remember her. When I was in your house, I never felt like "just another kid" adding to the commotion...she always looked me in the eye in just that way, asking me questions, listening to what I had to say. She was interested in everyone. I always felt welcome around there near "Custer's Lookout". I remember climbs to the top of it, and enjoying the community picnics in the meadow below your place. I associate her with all the fun events around Deer Creek, in which she always had a big part. Time passes. Things change. But I get to keep these memories.

JoJo (Jonutis) Herem - February 11, 2021 at 02:46 PM

TM

“ Even 800 miles apart, I had the best grandma in the world. My life is so much better because I knew you. I am so sorry that I will not be there to say a final goodbye, but you knew I never handled them very well anyway, so I will just say see you next trip which became our phrase to ease the tears. I am glad you are finally home where you wanted to be.

Tammi Mueller-Granddaughter #1

Tammi Mueller - February 11, 2021 at 02:20 PM

MH

“ I’m so sorry to hear of the loss of Leona. I would like to offer my sincerest condolences of your Mother/Grandmother/Aunt/ Sister and know her soul is now at home with our good Lord and Father in heaven. She was a peaceful, soft spoken women and yet so strong. May your hearts be blessed with all the wonderful memories of her.

Mona Hathaway - February 11, 2021 at 01:07 PM

DZ

“ Our sincere condolences. Your mom was an awesome lady who had a wonderful life. Hugs.

Don and Penny Zimmerman - February 11, 2021 at 09:09 AM

DZ

“ Don And Penny Zimmerman lit a candle in memory of Leona Rahr



Don and Penny Zimmerman - February 11, 2021 at 09:08 AM

GE

“ Grace Koffler Evinrude lit a candle in memory of Leona Rahr



Grace Koffler Evinrude - February 11, 2021 at 08:53 AM

MK

“ *Mary Jo I am so sorry for the loss of your Mom. She called me when my Mom died a few weeks ago. It was nice to talk to her. Prayers to you*



Mary Kutzler - February 11, 2021 at 12:02 AM

LM

Margie, Peg, Linda, Bob, Mary Jo, so sorry for the loss of your dear mother. I always enjoyed visiting with her when she would come to our part of the country. Hugs and prayers to each of the family members and may she rest in heavenly peace.

Louise. E Miller - February 11, 2021 at 03:45 PM

MG

“ *I learned to know Leona through her faithful attendance to the Sunday evening church services I helped with at Grandview. It was easy to see Leona's love and care by the way she spoke so proudly of her family and friends. She will be missed by many. May the Savior she loved so much bless her family with the comfort of memories and the strength of His loving arms.*

Marilyn Green - February 10, 2021 at 10:01 PM

DS

“ *Denise Stoddart lit a candle in memory of Leona Rahr*



Denise Stoddart - February 10, 2021 at 08:07 PM

DB

“ *Mary Jo and family. Our condolences in the loss of your mom. What a wonderful lady she was. I have fond memories of her during our 4-h years to the present. May she fly high with the angels. She certainly has earned her wings.*

Dennis and Cindi Byron - February 10, 2021 at 05:52 PM

TK

“ *Linda, Margie, Bob, Peggy, MaryJo and families.... we are sorry for your loss....
You are all in our thoughts and prayers* ❤️

Tom & Jo Kalloch - February 10, 2021 at 04:56 PM

LI

“ *Linda lit a candle in memory of Leona Rahr*



Linda - February 10, 2021 at 04:27 PM

AA

“ *Mary Jo and family, so sorry to hear of your mom's death. I always enjoyed my associations with Leona. She was always "so alive" with whatever she did. You will miss her always. Moms are like that. May she rest in peace and God bless her memory among us. Peace and prayers, Avis Anderson*

Avis Anderson - February 10, 2021 at 04:17 PM

TD

“ *Mary Jo and family- I'm so sorry for your loss of your mom. Cherish your memories as you will always have them. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*



Tammy Dey - February 10, 2021 at 03:56 PM

LB

“ *Our prayers and thoughts are with ALL the families during this time of loss. Nonie is sure gona be missed. By family and her community. May God Bless You ALL.*

Lenore & Eloise Beach - February 10, 2021 at 02:09 PM

BT

“ *Mary Jo and Family So sorry for your loss! Your mom was an Amazing Lady so kind. Cherish your Memories and Hold Them Close!*



Becky (Chouinard) Tipton - February 10, 2021 at 12:47 PM