



## Frances Reta Ralph

May 14, 1930 - October 14, 2022

Frances Reta Ralph passed away at the age of 92 on Friday, October 14, 2022, in Ft. Collins, CO. Reta was born May 14, 1930, the only child of Myrtle & Maurice Wick of Midwest, WY.

Growing up in Midwest, Reta learned to cook and enjoy entertaining friends at an early age from her mother. Reta attended the University of Wyoming on scholarship earning a BA in 1952 in English with minors in journalism and education. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi Sorority. She graduated with interests centered around the arts and music and could play beautiful piano. Reta participated in many organizations including the Ft. Collins Symphony Guild, Colorado Questers, Larimer County Genealogy Association, Sons of Norway, The Nature Conservancy of Colorado and the Charles & Reta Ralph Opera Program at CSU. Reta was an emeritus board member on the University of Wyoming Art Museum in Laramie, WY.

Reta raised her family in Honolulu, Hawaii, before relocating to Ft. Collins, CO in 1972. Her career included teaching at Kamehameha Schools and banking administration. After moving to Ft. Collins, she was employed in human resources until she retired from Colorado State University. Reta married Charles L. Ralph in 1980. Reta enjoyed the company of their children, grandchildren, and great grandchild.

Reta lost her battle for life fighting Alzheimer's disease. Reta is survived by her husband, Charles, her three children, Scott (Jill), Kyle, Leigh, two stepchildren, Alisa (Pat), Paula (Jay), eight grandchildren, one great grandchild, several cousins, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, Maurice and mother, Myrtle, and first husband, Jack.

In lieu of flowers donations can be sent to Dementia Together, Windsor, CO, or any Alzheimer organization or the University of Wyoming Art Museum, in Laramie, WY. A private Celebration of Life for Reta will be held in the future.

# Tribute Wall

ML

“ *Reta and Charles have been devoted music lovers and great supporters of the music program at CSU. It was always a joy to see them in the audience when we were on stage. Reta was always wonderful to speak with following performances. Her warmth, generosity and joy as she spoke about music was infectious. Her presence in our community will be so missed.*

*Deepest condolences,*

*Michelle and Jeff LaQuatra (Quatra Duo)*

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**Michelle LaQuatra** - October 24, 2022 at 01:06 AM

JK

“ *The death of Rita was such a shock--she and I have been friends for years but as time and duties take over our lives, I have been out of touch--I am so sorry as my memories of Rita are wonderful.*

*I also played in a bridge club with Rita--she was quite a bridge player. But I think there was another Rita that I so admired. That was the lady who entered the career world and was outstanding in the professional world. I also had the pleasure of working in a volunteer capacity with Rita. She was as reliable and committed to her volunteering as she was to a career. She made my duties so much easier, I will always be grateful. And she was as pleasant as she was efficient.*

*All of this does not tell of her lifelong love of opera--she and Charles shared a beautiful life of attending operas in many cities. The two of them leave Ft. Collins with a lasting venue of fine music.*

*I think that all of the people who enjoyed, loved, and admired Rita will share a feeling of loss of a fun, enthusiastic friend. June Kissock*

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**June Kissock** - October 23, 2022 at 10:24 PM

JS

“ I played in a bridge club with Reta and we "clicked" from the first day I met her. She was funny, she was mischievous, she was smart, and she was an absolute delight to be around. I can hear her laugh clearly. As is so often the case, once the bridge club disbanded, our efforts to stay in touch didn't survive and seeing Reta's obituary today was a stark reminder that friendships are precious and should be nurtured. I send condolences to Reta's family and know God welcomes her with open arms. We have lost a very special lady and heaven has gained an angel 😇.  
My memories will bring a smile to my face.

*Janice Stuber*

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**Janice Stuber** - October 23, 2022 at 03:48 PM

SS

“ Reta welcomed me to the Ft. Collins Symphony Guild. She was a kind, inspirational woman to me with her many talents. She had great leadership skills. We loved the Arts. We , also, shared our love of the Sons of Norway annual Lutefisk & Meatball dinner. Our deepest sympathy to her loving family. May she rest in PEACE. She will always be remembered.

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**Sharyn H. Salmen** - October 23, 2022 at 12:12 PM

KB

“ To the Ralph family, please accept my condolences upon the loss of such a lovely woman. We were neighbors on Village Park Court for many years and my daughter and I thoroughly enjoyed knowing Reta. May she be at peace. Kathy Bauer

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**Kathy Bauer** - October 21, 2022 at 01:13 PM