



Rachel Ham

November 9, 1921 - October 9, 2021

Exactly a month from her 100th birthday, Rachel Elison Ham passed away on October 9th, 2021.

Rachel was born November 9th, 1921, in Malta, Idaho, to John Alfred Elison and Mary Emily Adams. She had five sisters and two brothers and was second to the youngest. Her family did not have a lot of money as her father was the stake president for Malta and the surrounding area for twenty-nine years and was busy fulfilling those duties. Rachel's ancestors were pioneers, and her family also pioneered in the sense that they had no indoor plumbing, water or electricity until Rachel was twenty years old.

Living through the Great Depression in her high school years taught Rachel the value of things, and as a result she learned at a young age to sew, mend, and make over. She learned from her Mother to work hard. Rachel described her family as having everything but money.

Rachel attended Raft River High School where she played basketball and graduated in 1939. She decided she wanted to go to college, so she borrowed \$150 to pay her tuition at Idaho State University. After one year she came home and worked in order to pay back her loan. After a short while she got a job as a bookkeeper at a store/gas station. WWII was going strong and one day a troop of soldiers came to the station to fill up their trucks. The soldier who signed for the gas was Private Francis Ham, a handsome young man from Worcester, Massachusetts.....and the rest is history.

Frank and Rachel were married in Lincoln, Nebraska, May 29, 1944, while Frank was still serving in the Air Force. Their marriage was later sealed in the Salt Lake City temple on September 17, 1956. After the war ended they moved east to Massachusetts for a few months where their daughter Susan was born, and then they moved back to the West. They settled in Burley, Idaho, where Rachel and Frank owned the Goodyear Tire Store for many years. It was here they added another two daughters and two sons to the family.

Being a busy mother of five children took up most of Rachel's time, along with activities in her church, where she held many different stake and ward positions. She loved to sing and sang with the Tabernacle Choir before she was married, in the Sweet Adelines in Burley, and sang at many funerals and church events. She loved her children and always supported their love of boating and water skiing that Frank instilled in them, even though she was afraid of the water. Rachel was a spotless house keeper and loved to serve others. She was an excellent seamstress and did knitting and crocheting until the age of ninety-nine. Everything she cooked was delicious and made from scratch. She could make a meal out of what she had on hand or had canned and stored. Rachel was always seeing what she could do to serve other people and loved learning. Working on Family History was also something she spent many many hours doing.

In 1984 she and Frank sold their Burley home and went on a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, to the Mesa Arizona Temple Visitor's Center. Rachel had a very strong testimony of the gospel and often shared it in her calm and gentle way. Her biggest goal in life was that her children live the gospel.

After their mission she and Frank moved to Provo, Utah. They served another mission on Temple Square in Salt Lake, and she loved meeting people from all over the world. Rachel lived in Provo until her husband's death in 1998 and then moved to Orem. Serving until the age of ninety-four at the Missionary Training Center as well as the Provo Temple kept her going and happy. She loved her family, the gospel, and her dear neighbors and friends.

Rachel is survived by her daughter Susan (Ray) Hansen, Eagle, Idaho; daughter MaryAnn Woodhouse, Orem; son John (Nan) Spanish Fork; son Joe (Gail) of Yorba Linda, CA; and daughter Jan (Zane) Clement of Blackfoot, Idaho. She is also survived by her younger, ninety- six year old sister, Mae Shaw. Rachel has sixteen grandchildren and thirty-three great grandchildren.

Funeral Services will be held Friday, October 15th, at 5:00 pm at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 80 South 280 East, Orem, Utah, where a Viewing will be held prior to the service beginning at 4:00 pm.

Click on the following link to view the Funeral Service: <https://my.gather.app/remember/rachel-ham>

A Graveside Service will be held Saturday, October 16th, at 11:30 am, at the Valley Vu Cemetery in Malta, Idaho.

Cemetery

Events

Valley Vu Cemetery

Malta, ID,

OCT 15 Viewing 04:00PM

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints-Orem
80 South 280 East, Orem, UT, US, 84058

OCT 15 Funeral Service 05:00PM

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints-Orem
80 South 280 East, Orem, UT, US, 84058

OCT 16 Graveside Service 11:30AM

Valley Vu Cemetery
Malta, ID, US

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Utah Valley Mortuary - October 11 at 12:09 PM



“ I so enjoyed my visits with My aunt Mae and Rachel ,we always had a laugh iat Temple Virw,because they could tell we were related ,because we were so much alike ,I was very honored to hear that ,The sisters were loved in St, George,what elect ladies they were,love to all

Lottie Hurst - October 16 at 12:06 PM



“ We just want to convey our sincere sympathy in the loss of your mother. She was a dear person! Your family has always been such a light to us, ever since we lived across the street from you in Burley! It is never easy to lose a mom, but I'm certain she and Frank are happy being together again! We loved them both, as we do your whole family as well!
Mike and Cosette Rasmussen

Cosette Rasmussen - October 13 at 06:14 AM