

Lois Allred Hyer

April 21, 1925 ~ July 20, 2024

Lois Allred Hyer passed away at age 99 on July 20, 2024, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Lois was born April 21,1925, in Price, Utah to James Ephriam Allred and Viola Ireta Jensen.

Her family moved to Neola, Utah when she was six months old to help on the Jensen family farm. Her four younger brothers, Lynn, Keith, Bruce and Gary were born in Neola. When Lois was seven years old, her seven-week old brother, Bruce, died of pneumonia. Growing up in the depression they often lived with or near the Allred and Jensen family members and raised nearly all the food they ate. Her father worked various jobs he could find, and her mother sold eggs to buy sugar and other necessities. She spent her early childhood years until she was 11 years old in Neola. She loved reading, climbing trees, riding horses and catching polliwogs by the canal. She would often ride her horse, Strawberry, to school, where she was an excellent student. She had a favorite tree she would climb and read books once her chores were done. Her love of reading continued throughout her life until she suffered from macular degeneration.

In 1936 her father got a job with the Civilian Conservation Corps, and they moved to Star Valley Wyoming. Her Dad worked during the week and came home on weekends. Afton had a library, so she no longer had to borrow books from relatives. Lois graduated from eighth grade, which was a big deal because not everyone went on to high school. Lois had the highest scholastic average, so she was selected to give a talk at graduation and her mother made her a new blue dress.

She enjoyed high school and had a lot of friends. Her freshman year of high school she started dating Grant Kenneth Hyer. She was very involved in school and loved her time at Star Valley High School. She took journalism, worked on the school newspaper and was a member of the Pep Club.

Her family moved to Salt Lake City, Utah in June 1942, when her father got a job at Remington Arms Plant because of World War II. Lois attended her senior year at Granite High School and graduated in 1943. After high school, Lois worked for Remington Arms Plant making bullets for the war. She attended the University of Utah, majored in journalism and joined Alpha Lambda Delta, the National Honor Society for Women. She enjoyed her time at the University of Utah and was a member of the Spurs. She was a “Utah Man” her entire life. She loved watching and following University of Utah sports and was also a Utah Jazz fan.

Grant attended Utah State University in Logan, Utah until he went into the Army in April, 1943. Grant had a two-week leave from the Army Air Corps, so they married April 3, 1945, in the Latter-day Saint Logan Temple. They had a wedding breakfast at the Bluebird Café in Logan and returned to Afton for the rest of Grant’s leave.

They moved to Sioux City, Iowa and then to San Marcos, Texas until the end of the war. After the war they returned to Salt Lake City, Utah where Grant attended the University of Utah, graduating in 1949. Judy and Carolyn were

born during these years. In the fall of 1949, they moved to Cleveland, Ohio so Grant could attend graduate school in social work. In September 1950, they moved to Battle Creek, Michigan where Grant worked for the Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital. Jim was born in Battle Creek before they moved to the VA hospital in Sheridan, Wyoming. Lois traveled on the train to Sheridan with her three children because Jim was ill and the doctor had advised against traveling by car. Changing trains alone with three young children in Chicago was frightening. Grant drove the car alone to Wyoming. They were happy to be in the West again and closer to family.

In1953, Grant transferred to Helena, Montana as the chief social worker at Fort Harrison VA hospital. Four couples, one of whom was an architect, went in together on a group project to build homes. They purchased land not far from the state capitol and built four identical homes on Golden Avenue. They were able to move into their new split-level three bedroom, one bathroom home, a week before Renee was born. They lived in Helena for 12 years where Lorraine and Diane were also born. The family of eight all shared the small home. Part of the landing was curtained off at night for Jim's bedroom, but during the day it was a thoroughfare leading to the backyard door.

Grant and Lois made many lifelong friends during the years they lived in Helena. Family vacations during these years were to visit Grant's parents in Afton, Wyoming or Salt Lake City to visit Lois' parents and attend the LDS General Conference in April and October. The family was also able to go to Canada twice and the Seattle World's Fair in 1962.

While in Helena Lois was very involved in church responsibilities and was a drama director and directed a play. She traveled from Helena to Salt Lake City with her friend, Ester Stratton, and attended the Camp Certification program in June 1963 at Camp Tracy. She was able to pass off all four years that summer and became a fully certified Camp crafter.

In the fall of 1965, they moved to Salt Lake City, Utah where Grant was recruited to start a social work program at the LDS Hospital. They bought a home on Cascade Way where Lois lived for the next 55 years. She moved into Renee's home in June 2020 at the age of 95.

Lois served faithfully in many callings in the LDS church during her lifetime. She taught early morning seminary in Helena, Montana. She served in the Primary, The Mutual Improvement Association (YWMIA), now the Young Women's program, and the Relief Society in the branches and wards she lived in. She served as President of the YWMIA and Relief Society in the East Mill Creek 5th Ward. She served faithfully in the library for over 20 years.

Lois taught herself how to sew and spent many hours sewing clothes for her six children. With five daughters it was a financial necessity to learn how to sew. She also cooked for her family and was a careful shopper. While in Helena she learned how to make candy. Every Christmas after that, she would make caramel pecan rolls for her friends and family. One of the greatest compliments Lois received was that she is the kind of person you would want to have with you if you were a pioneer crossing the plains¬¬. Always strong and never complaining.

Grant and Lois were able to travel and see many parts of the world. They visited many countries in Europe several times while David and Judy lived in Belgium. Other trips included Hawaii, the Dominican Republic and Scandinavia, where on a cruise they passed through the marking of the Arctic Circle. At age 81, Lois traveled to Guatemala, in March 2007 shortly after Grant passed.

Family was a top priority and she spent time traveling to visit and help her children and grandchildren. Grant and Lois would often visit their children and help with projects that needed to be accomplished. Lois often traveled to help her daughters during pregnancies and with the birth of their children. She loved and enjoyed her 22 grandchildren and 53 great grandchildren. Lois lived to see pictures of her great great granddaughter, who was born in February.

Grant and Lois provided family trips to Lake Powell from the time the campground opened at Bull Frog Marina. They purchased a small boat to take water skiing but could only stay in Bull Frog Bay. In 1976 they purchased a brand-new Gulfstream boat with a 30-gallon gas tank, which would enable them to take trips up and down the channel and visit Rainbow Bridge. Over the years they traveled up the river past the Hite marina, up the San Juan River and down to the Wahweap Marina. Many family members were able to tour the Glen Canyon Dam. Every family member has stories and memories from their adventures with family and cousins at Lake Powell. She planned and prepared the food for her final Lake Powell trip in 2015 at age 90.

Preceded in death by her parents; husband, Grant; brothers, Lynn, Keith and Bruce Allred; son-in-law, W. David Rossiter; great-grandson, Max-Aukusti Sirvio Coleman.

Surviving family members include brother, Gary D. Allred; children, Judy Rossiter, Carolyn (Thomas) Coleman, Jim (Diane) Hyer, Renee Hyer, Lorraine (Dean) Brooks, Diane (Glenn) Buma; 22 grandchildren; and 52 great grandchildren; and one great great grandchild.

Services will be held Thursday, August 1, 2024 at 11 a.m. - Larkin Sunset Gardens, 1950 East 10600 South. Visitation will be one hour before the service from 10-11 a.m. Interment Larkin Sunset Gardens. The service will be livestreamed via Zoom and can be accessed by clicking the "Watch Services" button above.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Alzheimer’s Association or Parkinson’s Disease Association (PDA)