

Alta Clarene Webb Law, 89, of Jackson, Wyoming, passed away on September 21, 2022 surrounded by a family that cannot imagine going on without her - her husband of nearly fifty years, her three children, many of her grandchildren, step-children and their spouses, as well as the family of employees and friends who accompanied her in life.

Clarene was born on July 22, 1933 to Clarence Riley Webb and Alta Simmons Webb at her grandmother's home in Burton, Idaho. She spent her early years living in construction camps and attending over 20 different schools throughout Idaho, Utah and Oregon where her father oversaw road construction crews. After graduating from Twin Falls High School in 1951, she studied to be a pharmacist at Idaho State College in Pocatello, Idaho.

In 1950, Clarene met Franklin Kelso Meadows at Idaho State College where Lin's father was a professor. Clarene and Lin married December 3, 1951 and went on to have three children: Teresa Lin, Alta Charisse and Steven Riley.

Although she dropped out of college to marry at the age of 20, Clarene was lifetime learner and communicated a great love of education and learning to her children. Not completing a college degree did not stop her from working as a journalist, a clerk of court and police officer when the family lived in Moab, Utah. Taking on whatever job was needed in the rough and tumble mining town that was Moab in the early 50s, she met the challenge each presented with gusto, combining as she always would a love of the challenge, the desire to serve and the need to care for her family. Her journalistic career included covering such stories as the uranium boom in the Moab area, atomic bomb testing in neighboring Nevada, tragic accidents on the Green River, and movies being made in the beautiful Utah desert that she loved. During these years, she also completed a certification by mail in Accounting, an accomplishment which would ultimately lead to her life career as a business woman and hotelière.

In 1959 Lin got a job as a guidance counselor and teacher at Jackson/Wilson High School in Jackson, Wyoming and they moved to the town that she would cherish the rest of her days. Clarene began working as a bookkeeper at the Wort hotel. In 1962, with the help of both sets of parents, they purchased the Antler Motel. Although a primary motivation for this move was the desire to be able to care for her children and continue working, the hotel business became a true passion for Clarene, one she continued to pursue until her death. She loved people and would remember guests years after they stayed at the Antler. Many people came as guests and became fast friends, returning year after year to spend time in Jackson, but mostly to see Clarene. While she claimed to have become the "greeter and gabber" in later years, in truth she continued to be much involved in hands-on operations throughout her life. For much of her life she would tell people how much she loved playing the game of "reservations" – putting up the reservations each day so that each guest was in the right place and everything fit as it should, a puzzle to be worked each and every day. One of the puzzle pieces was the army of employees and staff who became a beloved part of her family over sixty years behind the desk.

Clarene built her business from the seventeen-unit motel she purchased in 1962 to a set of properties that now number some 470 rooms. While doing so, she built a presence in the community, the county and the state that reflected her love of place and her dedication to service and to people. She served on and presided over almost every board and organization in the

community, from the Teton County School Board to the Chamber of Commerce and Jackson State Bank board, helping found many of the defining institutions of Jackson Hole, such as the Teton Music Festival, the Resort Association, the National Museum of Wildlife Art and Community Entry Services. At the state level, she was a member of the Wyoming Business Council and President of the Wyoming Lodging and Restaurant Association. In recognition of her many achievements, she was inducted into the Wyoming Business Hall of Fame in 2013.

In 1973, having divorced her first husband, Clarene married Creed Law. She continued to grow her businesses and to be active in her church, her community and her state. Creed supported her efforts through his skills as a builder and “fixer.” Her daily tasks no longer needed to include clearing stopped up toilets and figuring out why the furnace wasn’t working. They also engaged in other business ventures together, some more successful than others.

Even as she built her businesses, Clarene sought new challenges, serving in the Wyoming legislature for fourteen years. In this role too, she combined her business acumen with a love for learning. She considered her years in the legislature to be the college she never completed, an unparalleled opportunity to study, be involved and serve. She had a deep love and concern for the State of Wyoming and a recognition and support for the place of education and the arts in the wellbeing of the state, the town and the people of Wyoming.

In recent years she and Creed spent more time in Saint George, Utah where she renewed her love affair with the desert, delighting in long drives on questionable roads in search of new and revisiting old vistas, hunting for the elusive desert turtle and challenging the driving abilities of her children, nieces and nephews. Needless to say, she also kept her hands on business, communicating daily with the office and meeting with her bookkeeper. During this time, she wrote her memoirs, “And I Had Fun,” a title reminiscent of the letters written home from summer camp and reflecting her attitude toward life.

Clarene was predeceased by her parents, Clarence Riley and Alta Simmons Webb, her brothers, Clarence Webb, Jr., Lloyd Jackson Webb and Fred Riley Webb and her sister, Doris Marie Webb. She is survived by her husband, Creed Law, sister-in-law, Marie Patterson Webb, children, Teresa Lin Meadows, Alta Charisse Meadows Haws and Steven Riley Meadows, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild, eight beloved nieces and nephews, step-children, Christine Law Jackson, Dennis Law, Kenneth Law, Carol Law Sorenson, Kellie Law Thissen, Shane Law and Michael Law and their families. She will be sorely missed.

Services will be held at the Center for the Arts, 265 S. Cache Street, October 8, 2022 at 12:00 PM. For those unable to join in person, a live stream will be available at: www.jhcenterforthearts.org/calendar/events/clarene-law-celebration-life

The Family will be Receiving Friends Friday, October 7, 2022 from 6:30-8:00PM at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 410 East Broadway, Jackson, Wyoming.

The Clarene Law Memorial Fund at the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole has been established in Clarene's honor. [Clarene Law Memorial Fund](#)

Condolences and flowers may be sent to:

Grand Teton Funeral Home
950 Alpine Lane, PO Box 9059
Jackson, WY 83002
307 733-8267

Memories - written, photographic or video may be sent to: memoriesofclarene@gmail.com