



A LIFE OF PASSION, PURPOSE, AND IMPACT

A champion for the arts, education, children, and our community, Michele led with vision and heart - inspiring countless lives and leaving a legacy that will continue to grow.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites gifts in Michele's memory to any of the many organizations she cherished through the strubheerfund.org.



Celebration of Life

honoring

Michele Strub-Heer

MAY 19, 1954 — AUGUST 3, 2026

***Friday, October 2, 2026
Shockley-Zalabak Theater
Ent Center for the Arts at UCCS***

THE COLORADO SPRINGS PHILHARMONIC QUARTET

*Michael Hanson, violin 1
Karine Garibova, violin 2
Michael Sabatka, viola
Peyton Magalhaes, cello*

A LIFE IN THE ARTS

David Siegel, Jan Johnson

ORMAO, ABSOLUTION V5

*Choreography, Jan Johnson
Dancers, Mary Ripper Baker and Rosely Conz
Violin, Michael DiBerry*

REFLECTIONS ON CAREER AND COMMUNITY

Becky Medved, Trudy Hodges, Liz Denson, Franchesca Castillo

PARISH HOUSE BAROQUE, SOIR

*By Mel Bonis
Elisa Wicks, Violin
Pamela Chaddon, Cello
Eric Wicks, Piano*

FAMILY REMEMBRANCES

Jordan Strub, Rex Heer, Kirk Heer

THE COLORADO SPRINGS CONSERVATORY, LONGER

*Dan Fogelberg
Vocals, David Laybourne
Guitar, Judah Davis
Piano, Dr. John Rot*

Guests are invited to the Ross Lobby to enjoy refreshments and share stories.

Remembering Michele

Michele Adrienne Strub-Heer departed our world early on August 3, 2026 at her home in Colorado Springs. Born on May 19, 1954, in Redfield, IA, to John F. and Hollys E. Heer, Michele grew up in a boisterous home in Ames, IA. A star student throughout her youth, she graduated from Ames High in 1972. She then attended Iowa State University, also in Ames, and obtained her BA in 1976, with majors in French and International Studies. In both high school and college, Michele made friendships which would last for the rest of her life. She soon joined the insurance world, starting with Equitable Life in Des Moines. Having fallen in love with Colorado during several previous visits with family and friends, she was happy to transfer to Equitable's new office in Colorado Springs in 1979. In the fall of 1981, Michele joined the Sno-Jets Ski Club, where she met her future husband, Jordan Strub; they were married in 1983.

In 1987 Michele joined a blossoming and supportive team at Progressive Insurance in Colorado Springs, where she quickly rose through the ranks as the company grew. She combined work at Progressive with graduate school and earned an MBA degree at UCCS in 1992. Michele and Jordan followed her burgeoning career path to Sandy, UT in 1997, then to Henderson, NV in 1999. Michele even commuted from Henderson to San Diego, CA for three years, before she and Jordan returned to Colorado Springs for good in 2005. She moved up the ladder through Customer Service, Pricing, and Product Management, and culminated her corporate career as a General Manager of direct sales in nineteen western states.

Michele was able to retire early in 2008, to pursue travel, the arts, and volunteer work. She tutored elementary school students in reading and adults learning English as a second language. She enjoyed hiking in the mountains and her beloved Garden of the Gods, skiing and snowshoeing, kayaking and biking. She also enjoyed traveling, which for many years would alternate between adventure trips and European history tours. Taking many pottery and photography classes, she would then apply these skills admirably for many years.

Michele's life was a powerful example of passion, purpose, and impact. A successful entrepreneur and businesswoman, Michele channeled the discipline and creativity of her professional career into a second chapter devoted entirely to service. She invested her time, her treasure, and her heart in the organizations that make Colorado Springs a richer place to live: Theatreworks, the Chamber Orchestra of the Springs, Ormao Dance Company, the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, the Colorado Springs Conservatory, Early Connections Learning Centers, CASA, and the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, among many others. She believed deeply in young people and in the transformative power of the arts. Hundreds of children, students, artists, and neighbors were touched by her generosity—often without ever knowing her name. She would have preferred it that way.

Above all, Michele was a devoted wife, sister, and friend. She gathered people around her table, laughed easily, danced at every opportunity, and reminded us that a life well lived is a life spent lifting others. Michele was predeceased by her parents, John F. and Hollys E. Heer. She is survived by her husband, Jordan Strub; her siblings Jackie Kirkland, Rex Heer, John M. Heer (Sally), and Kirk Heer (Donna); nephews and nieces Morgan Kirkland (Dawn), Evan Kirkland, Kyle Heer (Gaby), Logan Heer, Haley Heer, Joel Heer, and Kaia Heer, and four grand-nephews and grand-nieces.