



Jane K Hensel

December 28, 2025

Jane K. Hensel died peacefully in her home in E. Wenatchee on December 28, 2025.

Jane was born in Boise, Idaho, July 29, 1926 to Bess Martin King and Lloyd William King. She developed an appreciation for the arts early on: Her mother arranged daily piano practice starting when she was five or six, and Jane was playing duets with adults by the time she was ten. She graduated from Boise High School, where she enjoyed accompanying the choir, glee club, and orchestra. During her college years, she played with churches and synagogues in the Seattle area. She graduated from the University of Washington, where she was affiliated with Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority, and studied a fifth year at the University of Idaho.

On September 7, 1947, she married Robert A. Hensel in St. Michael's Episcopal Cathedral in Boise, Idaho. In 1950, they moved to Waterville, WA, where they lived until 1995, when they moved to East Wenatchee.

Four sons were born during the 1950s, all of whom were active in school. They participated in all sports and each one attained the rank of Eagle Scout. Jane said she did not "come up for air" until sometime in the 60s. Regardless of any other accomplishments, she felt that her best successes were the lifetime successes of their sons.

R.A. and Jane nurtured the entire Hensel family as it grew. When they celebrated their 50th Anniversary in 1997, they took all sons, daughters-in-love, six grandsons and two granddaughters to Mexico to a Club Med for a week of celebration. For their 60th Anniversary in 2007, the entire family went to Sunriver, Oregon and played together for one week.

In the 1970's, looking for new outlets for her energy as the sons matured, Jane signed up for a rural appraisal course. This interest grew, and from 1979 - 1989 she partnered with Gerald H. Viebrock, in Viebrock, Inc., Realtors in East Wenatchee. When they closed that office, she continued in Real Estate in Waterville for several more years, retiring in 1994. She served on the Douglas County Planning Commission from 1979 through 1995.

Jane, a strong supporter of women's education, followed her mother-in-law Ruby's example to join P.E.O., and was initiated into Chapter Z, Waterville, in 1951. Jane presided as P.E.O. State President in 1982. Over the years, she also served on the boards of Central Washington Hospital Foundation (as President in 1989), Community Foundation of North Central Washington, Douglas County Historical Society, (Douglas County Museum), serving as President 1995-8, Wenatchee Valley Symphony, and Community Concert Association. She was a member of Chelan Douglas Republican Women and Harmony Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star.

Building and then operating the Performing Arts Center of Wenatchee became Jane's ongoing passion from the early 1990's. She was an original member of Supporters of the Center. Seeing the building come to completion gave her enormous pleasure. Unless she happened to be out of town, she joyfully attended every Wenatchee performance!

Jane Hensel was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Wenatchee. She

was organist at United Lutheran Church in Waterville for many years, where she had a Junior Choir. Prior to that service she had been organist at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Waterville.

Jane was also an avid gardener all the Waterville years, but was happy to garden only in "pots" at the condominium in East Wenatchee. She loved to play not profoundly serious bridge with good friends. She and Robert enjoyed traveling and "Birded" all over North America.

Jane Hensel was preceded in death by her husband, Robert, her parents and dear son, Chris Robert. She leaves sons & daughters-in-love, Martin Webb & Cecilia Mongiardo Hensel of Natick, MA, and their sons, James Arthur, (Aida), Robert Edgar (Kelsey), & Chase Martin; son Chase & Phyllis Morrow Hensel, of Fairbanks, AK, and their sons, Levi (Nicole) and Jesse (Jessica); daughter in love Cindy Reynolds Hensel of Seattle, WA and her daughter, Dylan Kathryn (Kalvin Cressel); son James Finley and Maripat Cupper Hensel of Portland, OR and their son, Ian Finley (Shaina), and daughter, Sara Michelle (Dan Klee), and numerous cousins and dear friends. She lived to welcome her great grandchildren Aria Bella and Winter Soleil Pena, and their brother Elias River Holen; Olympia Victoria and Petra Jane Hensel; Emerson Max Hensel; Jackson and Grayson Hensel; Ruby Akino Hensel and Charlie Ichiro Hensel.

Services will be at Grace Lutheran Church in Wenatchee at 2:00 pm on Saturday, January 3, 2026. If you wish, memorials may be given to the Community Foundation of NCW for the Endowment Fund of the Performing Arts Center, or the charity of your choice.

Arrangements by Jones & Jones Betts Funeral Home, Wenatchee, WA.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 3. 2:00 PM (PT)

Grace Lutheran
1408 Washington St
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Tribute Wall

EL

“ I always remember smiles, laughter, good food, music, lots of cherries and hugs around the Hensel Family. Aunt Jane was one of the kindest and real people out there. Glad she is being held in the arms of Creator and those that had passed before her. Elise Hunter

Elise - January 08 at 10:18 AM



“ To the Hensel Family. I was so sad to read of Jane's death in the newspaper. I am sad to think I will never run into her again at the symphony or other places around town. I don't know why but I am glad our paths crossed often. Her smile always brightened my day. I miss her already.

Betsey Stahler - January 07 at 05:52 PM

MJ

“ I think one of my mother, Pearl Webb Hunter's, favorite stories about Aunt Jane was when Jane took the her 4 boys to the Webb Shoppe, sat them down and then said, "I'm going to teach you how expensive wives are"...In 1972,we, my newly wed husband Carr Purser,Jr, and I picked up Aunt Fyrne in Wenatchee and drove to Lake Chelan for our honeymoon with lots of family in their "cabin" on the lake. What special times we had through the years with visit to and from Bob and Jane...a life time of memories and we are blessed to have loved them so dearly...Susan Webb Hunter Purser

Mr and Mrs Carr Purser, Jr - January 04 at 10:31 AM

DD

“ In 1981 while trying for two years to acquire a conditional use permit for Light Industrial manufacturing, two of the Douglas County Planning Commission members were doing everything they could to stop me. When I found out they owned property in the area I told Jane that it was a conflict of interest. Well, Jane was awesome and gave me her full support and had their votes stricken and finally it passed. Dahlke Cabinetry Inc. was then off to a great start. I will never forget her words and justification as to why this should be granted in the meetings to follow. She was a great person inside and out and will be greatly missed. Rest In Peace Jane.
Sincerely,
Duane W. Dahlke

Duane W. Dahlke - January 02 at 11:22 AM

DD

“ Douglas, Katie, Dick, Susan and Diane purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jane K Hensel.



Douglas, Katie, Dick, Susan and Diane - January 01 at 05:55 PM

CC

“ Christopher C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jane K Hensel.

Christopher C. - January 01 at 12:55 PM

TF

“ The Cressel Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jane K Hensel.

The Cressel Family - January 01 at 02:14 AM

TF

“ *The Cressel Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jane K Hensel.*



The Cressel Family - January 01 at 02:14 AM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Jane K Hensel.*



December 31, 2025 at 06:33 PM



“ *I first met Jane at the Hensel family home in Waterville where they lived and I was the Culligan Man in 1955 who exchanged their water softener every 2 weeks in the cellar. In the past 60 yearsl our paths crossed numerous times. My Barbara and Jane teamed up on mutual interests that benefited our community. Your Mom was a giant and a Queen in our NCW world!*

I have rearranged my schedule to be with you this Saturday at our Home church. I want to contribute to Jane's memorial.

Sincerely

Earl

Earl Tilly - December 31, 2025 at 06:27 PM

DS

“ Jane was a wonder of a woman! I remember her calling me to say she had an idea about the location of the Columbarium at Grace Lutheran Church. She asked what I was doing in the next 15 minutes. Then she picked me up and showed me her idea. We joined in helping that project to its completion. She was chairperson and instrumental in what the Memorial Garden came to be. My sincere condolences to her family. She will be greatly missed by so many! ~Diane Senn

Diane Senn - December 31, 2025 at 05:01 PM

AG

“ My husband Royce and I met Jane and her husband on a 2000 around the world cruise. We also visited them several times after that. She was so lively and fun. Prayers are with the family Alice Gardiner

Alice Gardiner - December 31, 2025 at 03:50 PM

JJ

“ Jim and Carolyn Loch, Steve, Jonny, Karin purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Jane K Hensel.



Jim and Carolyn Loch, Steve, Jonny, Karin - December 30, 2025 at 08:46 PM