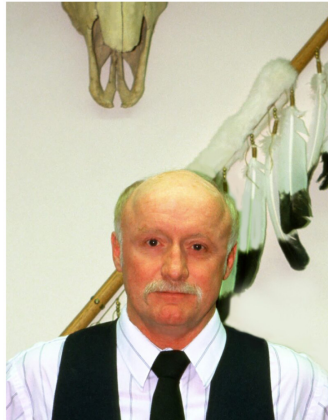


## IN MEMORIAM

**CHARLES A. “CHUCK” REHER  
1946-2024**

Chuck was born May 7, 1946, and passed on September 22, 2024. Chuck grew up in Pine Bluffs sparking his interest in Archaeology, his passion being Plains Tribal groups. He received his BA and MA from UW (1970, 1971) and a PhD from the University of New Mexico, 1978. He specialized in Late Prehistoric and Early Historic time periods, authoring many research articles and monographs. He generated 3 million dollars for archaeological research, public education programs and facilities. His teaching career started in 1976, teaching a diverse set of undergraduate and graduate classes until retirement in 2014, but we all know that was just retirement from the classroom. Some of his proudest accomplishments were developing and directing the High Plains Archaeology Museum, “Windows on The Past,” in his hometown. He was the Tribal Archaeologist for the Shoshone and Arapahoe Tribes on the Wind River Reservation for over 20 years. He had such a high respect for the elders as they did him, showing him places deep in the Owl Creek Mountains where ‘no white man has been before.’ He led excavations at the Vore Buffalo Jump as a graduate student and later was instrumental in promoting the development of the site which is now open to the public. He was chief scientist for the Vore Buffalo Jump foundation for decades. His career took him and his family to sites in the High Plains of southeast Wyoming and northeast Colorado. Sites in the Black Hills, Grand Teton National Park, the Wind River Basin and a sababatical in southwest Colorado.

He was director of the Archaeological Field School Program, Territorial Prison Archaeology project, University of Wyoming Anthropology Museum and the Dendrochronology Laboratory. Other professional responsibilities included Anthropology Department Graduate Program Committee, the Archaeology Subdiscipline Curriculum Committee, UW/State Parks-Cultural Resources Archaeology Repository, Governor’s appointee on nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and so many other professional advisory committees and subcommittees that not all can be listed. He presented papers at professional meetings over his extensive career throughout the US, Jamaica, Calgary and Puerto Rico.

He received the Wyoming Archaeology Golden Trowel Award in 1991, Excellence in advising award-University of Wyoming 2000, Mortar Board Honor Society, Top Professor Award-UW 2006, Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists Distinguished Service Award 2013. He served as President of both the Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists and the Plains Anthropological Association, and as Vice President of the Colorado/Wyoming Academy of Sciences.

His family and friends will remember him best for his story telling. He was passionate about his career and truly loved what he did. When stopping by the house, one would find themselves getting a tour of the basement which he had set up like a museum. “Everything has a story.” He had a great sense of humor, even with his academic career, bringing *The Simpsons* and *Beavis and*

Butthead to his lectures. He used a light saber as a pointer in his classroom. When something piqued his interest, he didn't mildly research it. He did the deep dive such as Tim McCoy and an old western filmed on the reservation. He found the location, marked all rifle cartridges with pin flags and made several charts, graphs, power points, and papers of his findings. Or his infatuation for the wild palomino Desert Dust when he met the man who captured him at a bar in Glenrock, WY. Anybody who entered his basement, office or lab heard the story. He was an avid science fiction reader and collector. He would say Indiana Jones wasn't accurate, yet he was in the back yard practicing with his new bull whip and hung a poster in his lab, perhaps even had a similar hat. His family will continue to use his quotes and share his stories.

He is survived by his Wife Sandy of 57 years who he drug all over the back country and only got stuck a 'few' times. Cross Country skiing to the Medicine Wheel, finding steps leading to it that were only a rumor at the time. Surveying in the Sun Light Basin and seeing how fast she could move to get in the truck when Feller, the German Shepherd growled and took off into the forest (he returned). The countless sleeves she cut off his western shirts and sewed them to prevent fraying into his

trademark sleeveless attire. Repairing holey jeans over and over because those were his favorites and generally just putting up with him! She was the foundation of his career and she will greatly miss his company.

Chuck is preceded in death by his son, Jason Charles Reher; and his parents, Virgil Reher and Patricia Heaton; and sister, Nina Lou.

He is survived by his wife, Sandra Reher; daughter, Arienna Reher; granddaughter, Brienna Culnan; grandson, Alex Culnan; his kitty, Thor also known as Merky; and siblings, Raphael (CJ) McAbee-Reher, Paul (Sally) Reher, Margaret (Dick) Rupke, Helen (Wayne) Reher-Werner, and Theresa Reher.

A Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, September 28, 2024 at Montgomery-Stryker Funeral Home. Inurnment will follow at Greenhill Cemetery.

A reception will be held from 1-4 p.m. at LaPrele Park Shelter #1 following the burial.

Memorial donations may be made to the Jason C. Reher Memorial Fund and/or the Vore Buffalo Jump Foundation.

<https://www.montgomerystryker.com/charles-chuck-arthur-reher/>