



## Janice V. "Lady Elvis" Kucera

December 15, 1940 - December 19, 2025

Janice V. Kucera was born to Charles A. Kucera and Viola R. Rank on December 15, 1940 on the family farm southeast of Exeter, Nebraska and passed away December 19, 2025 at the Holmes Lake Nursing Facility in Lincoln, Nebraska at the age of 85. She was the eldest of two daughters.

Throughout her life, Janice was passionate about many things including her love of animals, trees and all things in nature as well as Elvis. It was that love of Elvis that inspired her pursuit to perform as The Lady Elvis. As a young girl, she and her sister sang together as a duo "Jan and Fran" and enjoyed entertaining around local communities. When in high school, Janice was encouraged to perform as Elvis in a school production and loved the energy of that performance. It was then that she began her career of entertaining as 'The Lady Elvis.'

Her singing career spanned more than 40 years in which she covered many songs in the likeness of Elvis both locally and in other areas of the country, as well as songs from her own record Janice K and the Phantom Band: Hard Rock in the Heartland. While chasing her dream, it led to her having a variety of careers including a secretary at Exeter Public Schools, waitressing positions, cashier and keno runner in Las Vegas, and equipment runner for Cinepro in Los Angeles. Her career also included small parts in several movies while living in Los Angeles, appearing in the book "I am Elvis" as well

as appearances on the Oprah Winfrey and Joan Rivers shows. In 1999 she was inducted into the Nebraska Music Hall of Fame, an honor for which she was ever grateful. She decided to step away from performing following the loss of her parents and a series of health issues. She credited her love of performing and ability to channel a likeness of Elvis to her interactions with him in both Las Vegas and Memphis as well as the opportunity to attend 39 live performances and the befriending of his Uncle Vester while living in Memphis with her parents.

Janice's other love was wildlife and nature. She was a fierce proponent of conservation and chose to support and donate to organizations like Defenders of Wildlife and Saving the Redwoods. She spent many hours out on the family farm enjoying the peace and quiet as well as local sites where she would take a thermos of coffee and sit quietly waiting for a deer, a racoon, or a bobcat to walk by. Many of those trips involved her daddie Charlie and they would sit for hours enjoying the solace.

Janice was preceded in death by her father Charles Kucera, her mother Viola Rank Kucera, and her sister Fran Kucera Hendrych.

She is survived by her niece Wendy Heath and husband Clayton Heath, great niece Charli Heath and great niece Jami Nguyen and husband Peter Nguyen, as well as many cousins in California.

A Funeral Service for Janice was held on Tuesday, December 23, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. at Farmer Funeral Home in Exeter, Nebraska. Kim Dunker presided over the Funeral Service. The recorded selections "How Great Thou Art," "I Was The One," and "All Shook Up" were played during the Funeral Service.

Pallbearers included Clayton Heath, Peter Nguyen, Erick Brekke, Wayne Vossler Trenton Vossler, and Alan Michl.

A Graveside Service was held in the Exeter Cemetery following the Funeral Service.

Farmer Funeral Home was in care of the arrangements and online condolences can be left at [www.farmerandsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.farmerandsonfuneralhome.com)

Memorials are suggested to the family for future designation.

# Cemetery Details

## Exeter Cemetery

Exeter, NE 68351

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC **22**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Farmer Funeral Home  
305 South Burlington Avenue  
Exeter, NE 68351  
(402) 266-3621  
<https://farmerandsonfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

DEC **23**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Farmer Funeral Home  
305 South Burlington Avenue  
Exeter, NE 68351  
(402) 266-3621  
<https://farmerandsonfuneralhome.com>

## Graveside Service

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DEC **23** (CT)

Exeter Cemetery  
Exeter, NE 68351

*Immediately following the Funeral Service.*

# Tribute Wall

CE

“ *Janice K. was so good to her grandfather! I will never forget gazing out of my mother’s (and-my) kitchen window, at Friendship Terrace, catching sight of Janice visiting him...on an almost-daily basis. ❤️*

Cynthia Engel - February 17 at 07:34 PM

PM

“ *Pat Mathiesen lit a candle in memory of Janice Kucera*



Pat Mathiesen - December 26, 2025 at 09:12 PM



“ *10 files added to the album Flower Pictures*



Farmer & Son Funeral Home - December 23, 2025 at 04:20 PM

HS

“ *Hillary Steider lit a candle in memory of Janice Kucera*



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**Hillary Steider** - December 23, 2025 at 11:12 AM



“ *I was only privileged to see Janice perform once. Wish it was more. The Schmidt family was distant relation. Fond memories of Janice, Chuck & Vi!! Susan Schmidt Hansen.*

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**Susan Hansen** - December 22, 2025 at 03:49 PM

HR

“ *Holly Rippe lit a candle in memory of Janice Kucera*



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**Holly Rippe** - December 22, 2025 at 12:07 PM

PR

“ *To the family of Lady Elvis,  
She used to perform in my family's bar when I was a little girl. She has given me many wonderful memories watching her perform and introducing me to great music that I will be forever grateful.  
My thoughts prayers are with you.  
Paige Bruner Reichert*

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**Paige Bruner Reichert** - December 22, 2025 at 10:45 AM

JG

“ Jason George lit a candle in memory of Janice V. "Lady Elvis" Kucera



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Jason george - December 21, 2025 at 08:41 PM

PE

“ Penny E. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Janice V. "Lady Elvis" Kucera.

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Penny E. - December 21, 2025 at 08:27 PM



“ Janice Kucera — known to so many as “the Lady Elvis” — was unforgettable in the way that only truly rare souls are.

Jan was layered, deep, and endlessly interesting. On stage, she carried the spirit of Elvis with reverence and joy, not as an imitation, but as a living tribute. Performing lit her up. Music ran through her bones, and when she sang Elvis, you could feel how much it meant to her — not just the music, but the connection, the nostalgia, the magic of it all. Elvis Presley wasn't just an influence; he was a companion in her creative world.

But to know Jan only as a performer would miss the greater story. Her heart belonged first to her family — a fierce, loyal love rooted deeply in her life and her identity. That love was woven into everything she did and was especially alive on her family farm, a place that meant comfort, history, and home to her. The farm wasn't just land; it was legacy. It was where her love for nature, animals, and quiet reflection came together.

Jan had a profound connection to animals, especially wolves. She admired their strength, independence, and loyalty — traits she herself embodied. She found peace in nature, in open skies, and in long drives down back roads, where the world slowed and her thoughts could wander freely. Those drives weren't about getting somewhere; they were about feeling alive and connected.

To truly know Jan was to know her many layers — her humor, her tenderness, her resilience, her softness, and her fire. I was lucky enough to know those layers. And because of that, I can say without hesitation: the world is losing the best person I've ever met.

Her family has lost a fierce and loving presence. Her friends have lost a once-in-a-lifetime soul. And the rest of us are left with her music, her laughter, her stories, and the deep imprint she left on our hearts.

Jan's voice, her spirit, and her love live on — in the music she sang, the land she loved, the animals she protected, and the people who were fortunate enough to truly know her.

And somewhere, with the windows down, an open road ahead, and



*Elvis playing just right — Jan is still singing.*

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**Penny Lynn** - December 21, 2025 at 08:08 PM



“ *Deborah Salmon lit a candle in memory of Janice Kucera*



**Deborah Salmon** - December 21, 2025 at 05:34 AM



“ *Kathy lit a candle in memory of Janice Kucera*



**Kathy** - December 20, 2025 at 10:16 PM



“ *JoDee Mika lit a candle in memory of Janice Kucera*



**JoDee Mika** - December 20, 2025 at 03:47 PM

PM

“ *Pat Mathiesen lit a candle in memory of Janis Kucera*



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**Pat Mathiesen** - December 20, 2025 at 12:35 PM

MS

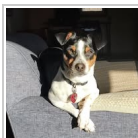
“ *Jan was the Lady Elvis through and through. I loved watching her perform. The world will shine a little less with her gone.*

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**Maribeth Stone** - December 20, 2025 at 10:50 AM

DJ

“ *Janis was always a caring and loving person. When ever we saw each other it was a hug and special conversation. She had her wolfies and they were beautiful.*

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**Doreen Johnson** - December 19, 2025 at 09:18 PM



“ *I remember having many visits with Jan. All while enjoying one of her mom's (Vi) delicious kolaches*

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**CindyandRoger Perkins** - December 19, 2025 at 08:23 PM

HS

“ *Such a sweet lady with great stories to tell.*

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**Hope Strate** - December 19, 2025 at 05:01 PM