



## Marilyn M. Manning

August 1, 1930 - February 7, 2015

Marilyn Marie Manning was born in Exeter, Nebraska to Frank and Helen (Komarek) Murphy on August 1, 1930, and passed away on February 7, 2015 in Lincoln, Nebraska at the age of 84 years, 6 months, and 6 days. She had two sisters and two brothers who preceded her in death.

Marilyn was raised south of Exeter on a farm. She attended country school, parochial school, and then high school at Exeter Public School in Exeter, Nebraska. She graduated from high school in 1947. She then moved to Lincoln to live with her sister, Madeline while she attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she received her Teaching Certificate. She returned to Exeter where she taught school for two years. In 1949, she married her high school sweetheart, Thomas B. Manning. They resided in Exeter for one year, and then moved to Burress, Nebraska where they raised their eight children. Marilyn's passion in life was to raise her children by example. She lived her life to love, laugh, and learn. Each day was filled with just that. She passed these gifts on to her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She was compassionate, and always giving in all that she touched. She taught her children and grandchildren to be truthful, fair, and hardworking. She always encouraged them to find time for work, play, and enjoy life to the fullest extent. She shaped their outlook on life to "be the best that you can be." Her greatest joy was having family gather for holidays with all the laughter, fun, and excitement of the family interacting.

Marilyn was married to Thomas B. Manning on June 11th, 1949. They spent their Honeymoon at Grand Lake, Colorado. To them eight children were born. She and her husband Tom had an everlasting love. They loved and respected each other in all walks of life. Getting away for a couple days to celebrate their anniversary was important to them. Most years they would take the family to Grand Lake, Colorado in the summer to enjoy the beauty of the mountains. They continued this tradition as a couple through the years. Their most recent trip to Grand Lake was this past September to celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary.

Marilyn was active in the St. Stephen's Catholic Church. She was a member of the Altar Society.

She enjoyed membership in GFWC Women's Club, during which she organized the Arbor Day tree planting for which a tree was planted, and a book given to each baby born in the Exeter area during that year. She loved giving back to the community. Marilyn was also the leader for the " Pins and Pans" 4-H club, mentoring these young girls in cooking skills, sewing, crafts, and much more. During this time, she wrote a grant to Readers' Digest for start-up funding to develop a park by the library. The grant was approved, and hence "Story Book Park" was born located behind the City Library in Exeter.

Most enjoyable for her, was being part of the neighborhood. The ladies started their own club, "Burress Belles". They celebrated life events, birthdays, and good friendship. She hosted her final gathering two days prior to the onset of her debilitating illness. Her dedication to neighbors, friends, and family was present to the very end of the generous life of this remarkable lady. She will be remembered as a fabulous wife, mother, cook, talented writer, and exceptional caring and kind lady. She will be eternally loved, and forever missed.

She was preceded in death by daughter Clara Lynn Manning-Fletcher; sisters

Madeline Landgren, Catherine Janet McAuley; and brothers Francis Murphy, and Patrick Murphy.

She is survived by husband Thomas B. Manning, Burress, Nebraska; sons Thomas David Manning, and wife Bette, Fairmont, Nebraska, Chris Manning and wife Brenda, Exeter, Nebraska, Mark Manning and wife Leanne, Crete, Nebraska, Kent Manning and wife Cindy, Burress, Nebraska, Matthew Manning and wife Heather, Lincoln, Nebraska; daughters, Melinda Hofferber, Westminster, Colorado, Jennifer Harris and husband Mark, Lincoln, Nebraska; 15 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

A Funeral Mass for Marilyn was held on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. at the St. Stephen's Catholic Church in Exeter. Father Steve Thomlison officiated the services. Mike Zeleny accompanied Jessica and Mariah Ruhl in the singing of "Amazing Grace," "On This Day O Beautiful Mother," "Jesu, Joy Of Man's Desiring," "Ave Maria," and "On Eagles' Wings."

Pallbearers for the service included Thomas D. Manning, Chris Manning, Mark Manning, Kent Manning, and Matt Manning. Interment was held in the Exeter Cemetery following the Mass. Farmer Funeral Home conducted the services. Memorials are directed to the St. Stephen's Catholic Church, Exeter Story Book Park, or the American Cancer Society.

# Tribute Wall

JO

“ *Melinda and Family,  
It was a wonderful pleasure to meet your parents and family. I will never forget the experience. I think of Tom and Marilyn often. So sorry to hear about Marilyn. I hope Tom is doing well. What a great example of love and compassion your parents had. I will be keeping your family in my thoughts and prayers. Jolene.*

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**Jolene** - February 10, 2015 at 02:52 PM

MH

*Jolene.....thank you so much for the kind thoughts and prayers. You will FOREVER be our Angel. You are such a caring and giving person, and your devotion to the quality of care provided to both our Mom and Dad was beyond beautiful. You have a very special place in our hearts..... The Manning Family*

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**Melinda Hofferber** - February 12, 2015 at 12:57 AM

RJ

“ *We are so sad to lose our special friend, but know that she is in a better place. We will miss her so much.*

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**Roger & Suzanne Johnson** - February 10, 2015 at 10:09 AM

TE

“ *When we were growing up, I spent a lot of time with Clara out at Burress. Marilyn was always a very gracious host and one of the most kind people I have ever know. Our heart goes out to the family of Marilyn.*

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**Tom & Sheila Ekeler** - February 10, 2015 at 08:30 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Marilyn M. Manning.*



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February 09, 2015 at 12:42 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Marilyn M. Manning.*



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February 09, 2015 at 08:14 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Marilyn M. Manning.*



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February 08, 2015 at 11:43 PM



“ *I was so sad to hear of Marilyn's passing, she was truly an angel on earth.*

*When I first decided to volunteer for the ACS Relay for Life, Marilyn was my "go to person" always there for me, so kind and caring. She will leave a void that will never be filled.*

*My heart goes out to all of her family. Pat Gewecke*

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**Pat Gewecke** - February 08, 2015 at 09:23 PM

VC

“ Victoria C. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Marilyn M. Manning.



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**Victoria C.** - February 08, 2015 at 05:57 PM

KW

“ Dear Manning Family,

*Marilyn was a wonderful person who had the unique gift of making everyone around her feel special and loved. Tim and I will keep her in our prayers.*

*Tim and Kathleen Wilbeck*

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**Kathleen Wilbeck** - February 08, 2015 at 01:52 PM

JK

*Dearest Loved ones of Marilyn Manning,*

*I'm just DEVASTATED & SHOCKED as I didn't know we lost our precious Marilyn....I JUST found out about it now!!*

*You ALL have my DEEPEST HEARTFELT SYMPATHY!! My heart and thoughts are with ALL of you AND precious TOM!!*

*What WONDERFUL people you All are!!!!*

*With Sincere Heartfelt Sympathy and Love,*

*Jan Kucera and I'm adding Ron Melton's name too.....I don't know if he knows. He thought the WORLD of all of you too!*

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**Janice Kucera** - February 10, 2015 at 11:49 AM

LU

*Dear Family....I want to share this event that happened in Burress Nebraska. When I was 13 played the organ with my Dad in a band. He played the saxophone, I the organ, and a drummer by the name of Jerry Kopsa from Cordova. Well.....your Dad and your Uncle Dick wanted to have "one more fling" in the store and it was after the Feeders and Breeders Banquet in 1965 and by this time I was the ripe ole age of 16. Colder than cold that night and our little band (and yes we were good) sat by the west door and played and played the oldies and they danced and danced over the floor furnace. Hillarious to watch the women catch their "pumps" in the grates of the furnace. Well, here's where it becomes interesting....you see, that night a young gentleman by the name of Jack Underwood was attending and was smitten with a teenager playing the organ.....and yes we met that night....I wasn't too interested at the time...he was...I was not. I realized what a true gentleman he was...romance blossomed and we were married in 1966. HOWEVER....that night of the dance and everyone was having a hell of a good time...we were to play the last song at 1:00 your Uncle Dick and your Dad came to us and asked us to play another hour, however, Uncle Dick only wanted to give us an extra \$50.00 for another hour and your Dad said, its a \$100.00 for sure (and back in 1965 that was quite a bit of money) and we played until 2 in the morning. Your dear Mother and I talked of this night many a time. I just had to share this....as Jack and I are now married 48 years. Hope this story brings a smile to your faces.....*

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**Linda Underwood** - February 12, 2015 at 10:39 AM

CH

*Dear all...I have many fond memories of conversations with your beautiful mom (beauty not only on the outside but the inside as well). She was the epitome of the word lady, gracious, kind, faithful, understanding, strong, always loving, are just a few of the words that describe her. We know you will miss her greatly, but she will always be with you in spirit and her legacy lives on through each of you. May you and your wonderful dad find the strength and courage to carry on with the help of your faith in Jesus. We send our deepest sympathy to your family, Leon & Cynthia*

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**Cynthia & Leon Harre** - February 13, 2015 at 06:26 AM

KF

*Tom, Dave, Melinda and all -- Our condolences to the family. Dad and Mom (Swede and Wilma Murphy) always thought a lot of cousin Marilyn and of Tom and the family. Though I didn't see them much in recent years, my husband and I had such a nice chat with Tom and Marilyn around Memorial Day 2013. We visited the cemetery before the alumni banquet, and they were there putting out flowers. We enjoyed them and their stories so much that we were late for the banquet.*

*Take care,*

*-- Kriss & Gib Fendrick*

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**Kriss & Gib Fendrick** - February 19, 2015 at 04:28 PM