



## Melinda Lee Hofferber

August 10, 1954 - May 9, 2026

Melinda Lee Hofferber was born on August 10, 1954, in Friend, Nebraska, to Thomas Burton and Marilyn Marie (Murphy) Manning. She was one of eight children born in the family. She passed away on May 9, 2026, at Hilltop Reserve Assisted Living in Denver, Colorado, at the age of 71 years, 8 months, and 30 days.

Melinda grew up in Burress, Nebraska, and attended Exeter Public School, graduating with the class of 1972.

Melinda first married Ken Mumby, and together they had a daughter, Lisa. The family moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, where Melinda earned an Associate's Degree in Nursing from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas in 1975. After her divorce from Ken, she and Lisa returned to Lincoln, Nebraska.

On January 10, 1979, Melinda married Tom Hofferber, whom she met through her brother Tom and sister-in-law Bette Manning. Tom adopted Lisa, and the family settled on the Hofferber family farm near Fairmont, Nebraska.

Melinda's nursing career was marked by passion, dedication, and innovation. She began working at Fillmore County Hospital, establishing the county's first Cardiac Rehabilitation Program. While working full-time, she pursued a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing at the University of Nebraska,

graduating in 1988. She then became Director of Cardiac Rehabilitation at York General Hospital from 1990 to 1999. A continuous learner, Melinda earned her Master of Science in Nursing/Advanced Practitioner Degree in Nursing in 2002 and relocated to Boulder, Colorado, where she served as a Nurse Practitioner at Rocky Mountain Cardiology (later Boulder Heart) for 20 years before retiring in 2022.

Beyond her work in the nursing field, Melinda contributed to the nursing and medical communities. She served on the board of the American Heart Association, including two years as president, and served on the board of the Nebraska Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Network, the Physician Board Review of Colorado, and the Advanced Practitioner Preceptor program. She was also active on various policy boards, offering mentorship and guidance to countless colleagues.

Melinda loved life outside of work. She enjoyed time with her friends, family, and grandchildren, often finding ways to include the great outdoors in her adventures. On the farm, she could be found working in the yard or cycling on gravel roads. Family trips to Grand Lake, Colorado were favorites, and were filled with mountain scenery, kayaking, and hiking. She also enjoyed advanced puzzles, painting, floral arrangements, and teaching Sunday School with her sister-in-law, Bette Manning, at the United Methodist Church in Geneva. Melinda was loved by all of her friends and family, and left impactful impressions on her patients and colleagues far and wide.

Melinda was preceded in death by her parents, Thomas and Marilyn Manning; her sister, Clara Manning-Fletcher; and her former husband, Tom Hofferber.

She is survived by her daughter, Lisa Suzanne Gutterman & husband Steve; her grandchildren, Henry Manning Smith, Hayden Andrew Smith, and Gemma Rose Smith; her brothers, Thomas David Manning & wife Bette, Chris

Manning & wife Brenda, Mark Manning & Sheree Miller, Kent Manning & wife Cindy, Matt Manning & wife Heather; and her sister, Jennifer Manning & Robb Urschel.

A Funeral Service for Melinda was held on Thursday, May 21, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Geneva, Nebraska. Pastor Karissa Miller presided over the Funeral Service.

The recorded selections "Landslide," "I Can Only Imagine," "Scars In Heaven," and "Songbird" were played during the Funeral Service.

Pallbearers included Thomas David Manning, Chris Manning, Mark Manning, Kent Manning, Matt Manning, and Jim Lovegrove.

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

Farmer & Son 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 Alzheimer's Foundation. <https://alzfdn.org>

# Cemetery Details

## Exeter Cemetery

Exeter, NE 68351

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 20.** 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Farmer & Son Funeral Home  
242 N 10th Street  
Geneva, NE 68361  
(402) 759-3617  
<https://farmerandsonfuneralhome.com>

## Family Present for Visitation

**MAY 20.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Farmer & Son Funeral Home  
242 N 10th Street  
Geneva, NE 68361  
(402) 759-3617  
<https://farmerandsonfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

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MAY 21. 2:00 PM (CT)

Geneva United Methodist Church  
942 H St  
Geneva, NE 68361  
(402) 759-3034

## Graveside Service

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MAY 21 (CT)

Exeter Cemetery  
Exeter, NE 68351

# Tribute Wall



“ When we were all young, Melinda's dad and mom stood up for my parents wedding. They were best of friends and the family use to exchange visits. I was in touch with Melinda these last couple of years through the internet and got to know her again. She was a very brave friend and I am so thankful we became friends again. My sympathy to the Manning family for their loss.

Ron Lovegrove - May 23 at 01:31 AM



“ 59 files added to the album Flower Pictures



Farmer & Son Funeral Home - May 21 at 06:25 PM

PS

“ Melinda and I shared many childhood memories from school in Exeter to slumber party fun at her family's Burress home! She had a special license to drive to school..(.so cool back then! )and she didn't flinch when a huge cow was in the middle of the gravel road on our way to school one morning! She calmly drove around him and we had a new story and a good laugh! Melinda had the best heart and was kind to everyone! I will really miss her friendship, laugh and loving spirit!! As of 2022 we were finally in the same state & town (Denver) and sadly only got to spend a limited amount of time continuing our friendship.

She had a wonderful, positive impact as a "healer" we all need in this journey. Prayers and love to her daughter Lisa, Steve, Grandchildren & the entire Manning family. 🙏

We will miss you dear friend. ❤️

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**Patrice Holmes (Patty Stubbendick)** - May 21 at 03:55 PM

KH

“ Kris and Mitch Hoines purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Melinda Lee Hofferber.



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**Kris and Mitch Hoines** - May 21 at 09:36 AM

KH

“ Kris and Mitch Hoines planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melinda Lee Hofferber.

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**Kris and Mitch Hoines** - May 21 at 09:36 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melinda Lee Hofferber.



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May 20 at 09:42 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Melinda Lee Hofferber.

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May 20 at 09:42 PM



“ Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melinda Lee Hofferber.



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May 20 at 09:27 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Melinda Lee Hofferber.

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May 20 at 09:27 PM



“ Sending our love and prayers for Melinda

*Kathleen and Tim Wilbeck*

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**Kathleen Wilbeck** - May 19 at 09:13 PM

PH

“ I remember Melinda from Cardiac rehab in York. She was my boss and friend. I kept in contact through messenger. Sure will miss her. She was very special.



Patty Henry - May 19 at 07:01 PM

KM

“ Extending our deepest condolences, sympathy and love to Melinda's family.

Kathie & Warren Mattox - May 19 at 04:07 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melinda Lee Hofferber.



May 18 at 08:02 PM

KM

“ Such a kind and beautiful person. My deepest condolences.

Ken Mumby - May 18 at 06:49 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Melinda Lee Hofferber.



May 18 at 04:52 PM

LB

“ Love, Tracee & Brent purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Melinda Lee Hofferber.



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**Love, Tracee & Brent** - May 18 at 01:58 PM

SG

“ We send our love and condolences to Lisa, Gemma, Hayden and Henry and to Mel's entire family. Love Gary, Sheila, Sara, Ron, Ethan, Sadie and Jackson

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**Sheila Gutterman** - May 18 at 12:43 PM

SG

“ Sheila G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melinda Lee Hofferber.

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**Sheila G.** - May 18 at 12:38 PM

JM

“ Janice M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melinda Lee Hofferber.

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**Janice M.** - May 18 at 10:31 AM



“ *Deb Hinton Salmon lit a candle in memory of Melinda Hofferber*



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**Deb Hinton Salmon** - May 18 at 04:15 AM

JH

*The Bonta family is planting a tree in a needed forest in honor of Melinda who was the most beautiful human and friend. She loved the environment and this tree will grow and blossom on this earth in Melinda's memory. 💕*

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**Janice Bonta Hoffer** - May 18 at 10:36 AM

SB

“ *A beautiful person gone too soon. She had one of the most beautiful, radiant smiles! I have fond memories of her from 4-H (before I knew Dave). She was one of the few females in the hog barn at the county fair and I looked up to her.*

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**Susan Biba** - May 13 at 10:16 PM

JL

“ *Jen Lord purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Melinda Lee Hofferber.*



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**Jen Lord** - May 13 at 10:02 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Melinda Lee Hofferber.*



May 13 at 08:03 PM



“ *barb and bob votipka lit a candle in memory of Melinda Hofferber*



**barb and bob votipka** - May 13 at 07:47 PM



“ *Holly Rippe lit a candle in memory of Melinda Hofferber*



**Holly Rippe** - May 13 at 08:17 AM



“ *Mike and Marlene Ohlrich purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Melinda Lee Hofferber.*



**Mike and Marlene Ohlrich** - May 13 at 01:27 AM

LE

“ *Love-Kim, Bill, Charlie, & Harry Esbenshade purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Melinda Lee Hofferber.*



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**Love-Kim, Bill, Charlie, & Harry Esbenshade** - May 13 at 01:18 AM

VJ

“ *Beautiful inside and out!*



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**Virginia Johnson** - May 12 at 04:25 PM

AE

“ *I worked with Melinda in both the hospital and the office. She was an incredibly caring person and skilled practitioner. She always had time to help no matter how busy she was and we relished our quiet moments of having a quick coffee together. She was inspirational to me as a nurse.*

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**Anne Eckstein** - May 11 at 08:08 PM

JS

“ *Sending my love and deepest sympathy to Melinda's family. Please know that I loved her dearly and was so proud of our friendship over the years and in different places and different situations. I considered her family and she held a place in my heart for many reasons. I rejoice that she is in the Hands of the Lord and at peace and I know that is a consolation to her loved ones.* Jody Harre Senter

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**Jody Senter** - May 11 at 07:05 PM

KT

“ *Kent & Rose Theobald lit a candle in memory of Melinda Hofferber*



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**Kent & Rose Theobald** - May 11 at 06:08 PM