



## Jerry Hans Hoffman

January 22, 1938 - October 31, 2018

Please come and share your memories with people who know and love Jerry by joining the family for good conversation, coffee and traditional German desserts during the celebration of life.

### JERRY HANS HOFFMAN

Hans Joachim Hoffmann. Jerry Hans Hoffman PhD, 80, Omaha Nebraska, passed away Wednesday, October 31st, 2018. Jerry was born January 22, 1938 to parents Heinrich and Editha Hoffmann in Germany. He immigrated to the US in 1953 and became a citizen in 1959. A dedicated scholar, he proudly graduated from Wittenberg University and The University of Pittsburgh. He spent his full professional career as a history professor at Creighton University and enjoyed his retirement in the Teton Valley in Idaho. A celebration of life will be held from 2:00-5:00pm, November 24th at Lower St. John's on the Creighton University Campus, 2500 California Plaza, Omaha, NE 68178. He is preceded in death by both parents and brother-in-law, Peter Jahn. Survivors include sister, Christiana Jahn and nephews Christoph and Matthias; daughter, Tanya Hoffman Stevens (Scott) and her mother Elizabeth Hoffman, cousin, Peter Cothmann (Petra) and partner, Jeanne Christensen. Online condolences may be left at <https://www.reichmuthfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/>. In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions in Jerry's memory be made to The Nature Conservancy([www.nature.org/en-us/membership-and-giving/donate-to-our-mission/other-ways-to-give/honor-and-tribute-giving/](http://www.nature.org/en-us/membership-and-giving/donate-to-our-mission/other-ways-to-give/honor-and-tribute-giving/)) or The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission Wildlife Conservation Fund ([www.outdoornebraska.gov/wildlifeconservationfund](http://www.outdoornebraska.gov/wildlifeconservationfund)).

# Events

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**NOV**   **Celebration of Life**   02:00PM - 05:00PM

**24**

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Lower St. John's on the Creighton University Campus  
2500 California Plaza, Omaha, NE, US, 68178

# Comments

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“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Jerry Hans Hoffman.



November 24, 2018 at 07:23 AM

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“ Dr. Hoffman was a great man. He was a friend, role model and cycling companion during my early years at Creighton. He will be greatly missed.

**Jeff Jenkins** - November 16, 2018 at 05:56 PM

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“ Rene' & Carole Lusser extend our condolences from Teton Valley, Idaho. Oh what a shock to read of "Jay's" passing. Rest in peace, journey well my friend. Our prayers are with your family & friends who knew & loved you so well. We met Jay through his neighboring homeowner for who Carole assisted property caretaking in their absence. We knew Jay as a quiet, contemplative man, walking his beloved dog along the subdivision road. Rene' felled several standing dead aspen trees on the south end of Jay's driveway. Jay was greatly relieved the trees would no longer be a danger with a great wind, falling into the drive or on his home. I shall forever pass his lovely home & know how proud he was of it's gorgeous Teton mountain views & the craftsmanship home he drew solace from in it's mountain setting. Rest in peace

**Rene' & Carole Lusser** - November 16, 2018 at 09:35 AM

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“ My sympathy to Jeanne and Tanya and all the family and friends who mourn my friend and respected colleague. It was a privilege to be able to keep in touch with him through our Friday Musicale in his retirement years.

**David Haberman** - November 14, 2018 at 07:20 PM

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“ During all the years Jerry and I were colleagues at Creighton University, he was among my closest friends. I've missed him during the years we've been out of touch, and now losing him feels like losing an important part of my own past. My sympathies are with Liz and Tanya, and with Jeanne, although we've never met. The world will be a less interesting place without Jerry.

**Bette Evans** - November 11, 2018 at 06:52 PM



“ Bette, thank you for sharing. I would love to share memories with you if you're free to come to celebration of life for Coffee and Cake on the 24th. Tanya

**Tanya Hoffman Stevens** - November 12, 2018 at 12:45 PM



“ I just learned of Dr. Hoffman's passing - please accept my deepest condolences. I was a 1987 history graduate, and has one of the most challenging yet supportive professors I have had. He prepared me well for Socratic law school professors and judges I would later encounter during a quarter century litigation practice in Chicago. I value the time I spent as his student and send my deepest condolences to his family and the many who loved him.

**Julie Line Bailey** - April 22, 2019 at 10:06 PM

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“ I was so saddened to hear of Dr. Hoffman's passing. He was my Professor, Advisor, Mentor and Friend. I have so many wonderful memories. Dr. Hoffman was my first History Professor at Creighton. He had quite a reputation - tough, curt, and genius. I remember being intimidated knowing that my first History 101 Prof was a Rhodes Scholar. After the first few lectures, I believed all the rumors, but also found a rather humorous side that would slip out in lecture (sometimes even on the raunchy side! lol). After receiving an A in his class, I knew I could do anything!

Dr. Hoffman loved to bicycle. That was where I really got to know him best. My boyfriend at the time and I would meet him nearly every weekend for a bike ride. Even though he was over 30 years our senior he was ALWAYS at the front of the group. Going 100 miles a day was common. Sometimes we got lost. It was all part of the adventure. I remember one particular trip after stopping at a McDonalds he realized his wallet had been on the tray when he dumped it in the trash. That was over 20 miles back. We made it back to the cars just before dark. I think we did about 130 miles that day. After that, Jerry never took his wallet with him, so you always planned to comp his lunch or dinner. It was a standing joke. We biked many miles, often in silence but sometimes in conversation. I did not realize all those years ago how much those conversations and bike rides would mean to me.

I lost touch with him until just this last summer. I received an unexpected phone call from him. I was never so shocked! We had a wonderful visit and shared some memories and laughs. There are certain things that will always remind me of him: Wrangler Brand Hot Dogs, German Shepherds (not the fake American kind), Bianchi Bicycles (with the fat foam handle bar covers), the Walking Cane Lounge and the movie "A Fish Called Wanda."

I know you are now skiing down that perfect powdery slope and enjoying an endless tailwind biking down the perfect road. Thank you for the many fond memories and may you rest in peace. You will always have my respect and admiration.



**Cyndi Bourque Faas** - November 08, 2018 at 01:10 PM



“ Cyndi, thank you for sharing your memories of dad. He loved being on his bike and surely enjoyed his "comped" treats. Tanya

**Tanya Hoffman Stevens** - November 12, 2018 at 01:43 PM



“ Dr. Hoffman was my professor at Creighton in the early 1990's. He was a nice man and an excellent and interesting teacher. The history department had a great team. Drs. Horning and Welch have passed away, too.

**John Pakiz** - November 27, 2018 at 02:52 PM



“ We were very fond of Jay when he lived near us in Teton Valley. We enjoyed talking to him, and Jean was interested in World War II so we got all the answers we wanted about that and European history generally. Jack walked with him up Henderson Canyon and skied up there with him, and he never left Jack behind, although he could have left him in the dust or snow. We spent many pleasant hours with him and have missed him. He was a vigorous person and we are sad that he's gone and for the decline that he suffered. Wonderful, humble, good person. We wish the best for Jeanne, for this loss and the loss of her father.

Jack and Jean Liebenthal

**Jack and Jean Liebenthal** - November 04, 2018 at 09:31 PM



“ Jack and Jean, thank you so much for your kind words. Dad was very fond of the conversation and time he spent with both of you. Tanya

**Tanya Hoffman Stevens** - November 12, 2018 at 01:40 PM

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“ Jay was a true gentleman and Renaissance man.  
We couldn't have asked for a better neighbor or friend.  
His intelligence was fun to challenge and it was a challenge he always met.  
He "endured" our poker games because it was more about the company and conversation than the betting.  
But my most indelible visual memory will be Jay walking with his beloved dog Inka on the roads of Henderson Cyn and exercising Inka in the pond.  
We'll miss him very, very much.  
Rest easy now, Jay. Thanks for your good company and friendship.  
Howard and Janis Morris

**Howard and Janis Morris** - November 04, 2018 at 09:26 PM



“ I worked with Jay in selling his beloved house in Syringa Park. He loved the location, loved the design of his home and was very pleased with the quality of construction. He put a lot of time and energy into the construction of his home.  
I know it was very difficult for Jay to sell his home, but the new family, with a young daughter, love the home and the neighborhood. Jay would be glad to know the home is filled with happiness and laughter.  
It was great getting to know you, Jay, over the years I worked with you. You will be missed.  
My thoughts and prayers to your family and friends.  
Brooke Saindon

**Brooke** - November 06, 2018 at 09:02 PM



“ Brooke- thank you for your guidance and counsel throughout the buying and selling of dad's beloved house in Syringa Park and thank you for your kind words. Tanya

**Tanya Hoffman Stevens** - November 12, 2018 at 12:39 PM



“ Howard and Janis- dad truly enjoyed his friendship with you and would often talk of you both. Thank you for your kind words. Tanya

**Tanya Hoffman Stevens** - November 12, 2018 at 01:37 PM



“ Tanya, we loved J. and we are somewhat "adrift" trying to reconcile ourselves to a world without him. We miss his informed view of the world and his braveness of his commitment to an idea or a morality. He was special.

**Janis Morris** - November 24, 2018 at 02:54 PM