



## Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS

July 8, 1974 - September 2, 2023

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Dr. Cade Hunzeker, a beloved Husband and Father. He was a great Friend to many and a respected figure in the dental community.

The lives of his family, friends, colleagues, and patients changed forever on September 02, 2023. Dr.

Cade, as he was affectionately known by many, leaves behind a legacy of compassion, dedication, and

service that will forever be remembered. Dr. Cade was a Nebraska native, hailing from Columbus, Nebraska, where he spent his early years and graduated from Columbus High School. After completing his high school education, he embarked on his academic journey at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Following his successful undergraduate studies, he gained admission to Harvard but ultimately chose to

pursue his academic career closer to home at the University of Nebraska College of Dentistry. His

dedication and exceptional achievements in dental school were highlighted in 1999 when, as a senior,

he received the prestigious Omicron Kappa Upsilon Kramer Award of Excellence. This distinguished

award recognized him for his outstanding scholastic record, unwavering

character, promising potential in the field of dentistry, selfless service to humanity, and unwavering dedication. In 2000, he proudly graduated with High Distinction, marking the culmination of his exceptional academic journey. After completing his dental degree, Dr. Cade remained in Omaha, Nebraska, where he pursued specialized training in Pediatric Dentistry at The University of Nebraska Medical Center. During this period, he had the honor of serving as Chief Resident. Dr. Cade was renowned for his charismatic personality, laughter, and sharp wit. He was cherished by both his fellow classmates and professors alike. In 2002, Dr. Cade assumed dual roles as an Associate Professor of Pediatric Dentistry at UNMC and as the proprietor of his private practice, which remained at its current location. Balancing these demanding responsibilities showcased his remarkable dedication and admirable work ethic. By 2003, he transitioned to full-time Private Practice. Dr. Cade's professional achievements included earning the prestigious title of Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry and maintaining privileges at Boys Town National Research Hospital and Children's Hospital. Dr. Cade possessed a deep affection for his role as a Pediatric Dentist, particularly when caring for children with Special Healthcare needs. His mission was to establish meaningful connections with every child under his care. Over time, he found immense joy in what he affectionately referred to as his "Grand Patients", the children of parents who were once his patients. He considered this to be the highest form of compliment. Throughout his career, Dr. Cade was unwavering in his commitment to providing dental care to underserved children, through international humanitarian efforts in Honduras. His dedication and tireless efforts culminated in his board certification by the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry in 2021. He liked to say that he was "board certified, and kid approved!" His patients often referred to him as a magician when he would mysteriously pull coins from behind their ears.

After living in several small towns in Nebraska, Cade's parents, Douglas and

Nancy, settled in Columbus, NE, where he was raised alongside his siblings Chad, Corey and Cari, attending North Park Elementary, Columbus Jr High and High School. Throughout his school years, he played soccer, baseball and ran the hurdles in track where he once beat Scott Frost during a track meet (when Scott fell, and Cade finished).

Cade's pension for hard work started at a young age with his first job delivering newspapers. Cade and his beloved wife, Robbie-Jo, relished their life in Omaha, where they are raising six wonderful children: Kennedy, Aleya, Kole, Mora, Karson, and Kamden, and three fur babies: Carl, Winnie and Ruth. He was an avid hunter and enjoyed fishing, sharing that love with his children, teaching them all to hunt and fish right along side him. Through the years, you could often find him watching the Seahawks or the Royals with his daughter Aleya, cheering on his daughter Mora at her horse shows, coaching Kole and Karson in baseball, attending Kennedy's show choir shows, or watching Karson and Kamden play football and basketball. Their favorite vacation spot as a family was Table Rock Lake, where they would spend their time boating and fishing. When at home, you could often find him swimming in the pool or manning his smoker in the backyard. Playing pranks on April Fools was an annual occurrence that Cade enjoyed, along with the irritation of his children. Cade and his wife Robbie-Jo shared a passion for traveling to "blue water" destinations including Bonaire, Key Largo, St Lucia, Cozumel and more. Scuba diving was a special activity that they enjoyed together and Cade reached the level of Master Diver. After becoming scuba certified, Cade volunteered at the Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo where he would "swim with the sharks"

Cade's untimely passing not only leaves a void in the dental profession but also in the hearts of his wife, children, family and friends. His legacy will continue to shine brightly, reflected

in the smiles of all those who had the privilege of knowing him. Cade is preceded in death by his parents; Douglas and Nancy Hunzeker, special aunt; Shirley and special friend, Dave Walline. He is survived by wife; Robbie-Jo, children; Kennedy, Aleya, Kole, Mora, Karson, and Kamden, siblings; Chad Hunzeker, Cory Hunzeker (Jill), Cari Farmer (Brandon), and many nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends. Visitation with family will be from 4:00 - 7:00pm Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2023 at Reichmuth Funeral Home, Elkhorn, NE. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at 11:00am Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2023 at St. Michael Lutheran Church (13232 Blondo Street, Omaha, NE. Memorials are suggested to the family for future designation.

# Previous Events

## Visitation with family

SEP **12.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Reichmuth Funeral Home - Omaha / Elkhorn  
21901 W. Maple Rd.  
P.O. Box 711  
Elkhorn, NE 68022  
402-289-2222  
services@reichmuthfuneralhomes.com  
<https://www.reichmuthfuneralhomes.com/>

## Celebration of Life

SEP **13.** 11:00 AM (CT)

Saint Michael Lutheran Church  
13232 Blondo Street  
Omaha, NE 68164

# Tribute Wall

JO

“ I only met Dr. Cade a handful of times, he was our son's first dentist. Dr. Cade had a comforting presence. He was very kind and caring, and seemed like he enjoyed where he was. I was very sorry to learn about his loss. I'm sure he left a lot of people feeling empty, I hope the best for his family and friends and everyone else's lives that he positively impacted.

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**Jonathan** - January 18, 2024 at 02:35 PM

TA

“ DR. Cade was the best dentist that I knew when I was young. He will be missed

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**Tabitha** - October 30, 2023 at 10:56 PM

JI

“ Absolutely heartbroken. I have known Cade and his family for over 20 years, since Aleya was a baby, since before I and my own kids. He would call me Jimmy, which only really my family or friends from grade school did, and thus he treated me like family. We could talk about anything and shared a certain sense of humor that can't exactly be described. He had a resilience and determination beyond his limitations & I know he would expect the same from those he left behind. My heart really breaks for the kids as my father died when I was a baby and I fully understand what a hole losing your father punches in your life. (Not that it doesn't break for everyone, just in a different way for the kids). I fully expect when he is brought back to life in God's new world for him to say "you were right, Jimmy" with that half smile half smirk on his face & that gleam in his eyes. I look forward to that day.

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**Jim Ingles** - September 13, 2023 at 02:34 PM

AB

“ Sending my deepest sympathy to Robbie-Jo and family on the loss of Cade. Prayers to you all.



Amy Bosak - September 13, 2023 at 02:28 PM

CB

“ Christine B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS.

Christine B. - September 13, 2023 at 11:49 AM

RC

“ Dr Cade was always so good with our son, who has special needs. It wasn't always easy to get him into the visits and Cade was always patient and understanding. He will truly be missed.

Rhonda Casey - September 13, 2023 at 08:56 AM

TG

“ I too remember when Cade had his heart surgery at a very young age. He wasn't supposed to be active but he was bound and determined to go roller skating with us which made Nancy so nervous! Our families spent many weekends together in Columbus or Auburn and vacation in Vale when Cade was around 6 and myself 7. It is so nice to see how much he was loved and cherished by so many. Cade was definitely one of the 'Good Ones'! My deepest condolences to all his family.

Tiffany Gauchat - September 12, 2023 at 03:57 PM

SF

“ My heart goes out to Robbie-Jo and family during this time. Still trying to grasp the sudden loss of Cade. He will be missed by so many as Cade would do anything for those in need. Took great care of my for children dental needs through years. Hugs and prayers.

Stephanie Ferguson - September 12, 2023 at 01:16 PM

J(

“ Jessica Nauslar (Staub) purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS.



Jessica Nauslar (Staub) - September 12, 2023 at 12:33 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS.



September 12, 2023 at 10:59 AM

CH

“ Children's H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS.

Children's H. - September 12, 2023 at 10:57 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Cade Bradley Hunzeker.

September 11, 2023 at 03:02 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS.



September 11, 2023 at 02:45 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Cade Bradley Hunzeker.

September 11, 2023 at 02:45 PM



“ Chris Cathcart & High School Friends purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS.



**Chris Cathcart & High School Friends** - September 11, 2023 at 11:24 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS.*



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September 11, 2023 at 10:37 AM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS.*



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September 10, 2023 at 10:22 PM

VH

“ First of all, I’m sorry for your loss and it looks like Cade was way too young to go. When I read his obit, I noticed many similarities to our family. I taught in Valley for decades, thus a connection to the Reichmuths. Also. I’m the self proclaimed “special aunt” to my brothers’ kids, but I’m sure they agree.

Cade sounds similar to my niece’s name Kate. She has a daughter named Mora. My nephew has a daughter named Kennedy and his wife’s maiden name was Bradley. That’s also the second name of one of my cousins and Brad is married to a Nancy. I have another cousin named Rob. Two cousins have sons, Cole and Brandon. A Carli.... A Jill.

Kate has friends who were his dental patients.

This is a stretch, but my grandfather, Clyde Frederick, was a “farmer” and won many awards for corn yield.

I’m pretty sure we are related to his family. My grandparents through great great grandparents, plus others, are buried in the Pawnee City cemetery. The family immigrated from Kerchlerau Switzerland. Dad and his brothers grew up near Table rock.

Anyway, I was so astonished by these similarities that I feel a need to connect with your family.

Again, I wish peace and comfort to all of you in coming months.

Sincerely,

Vicki Hunzeker

Fremont NE

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Vicki Hunzeker - September 10, 2023 at 03:23 PM

CF

“ We are going to miss Cade in every way. He’s my big brother by 7 years. He claimed he raised me, reminding me of this just a month ago. His banana seat bike built for two could get us anywhere in Columbus. He ran away from school right after I was born claiming he wouldn’t be loved and Nancy marched him back. He had just survived a miracle heart surgery (age 7) and feel like this was a defining moment of how he was taught to be brave. He later defined the odds in more ways than imaginable. □

cari farmer - September 10, 2023 at 10:45 AM

KS

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Hunzeker family with the loss of Cade; memories of Cade will keep him alive in your hearts. Karen (Schultz) and Ed Scriven..

Karen Schultz Scriven - September 09, 2023 at 05:43 PM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS.



September 09, 2023 at 04:02 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Cade Bradley Hunzeker.

September 08, 2023 at 06:04 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS.*



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September 08, 2023 at 06:04 PM



“ *I was lucky to go to dental school with Cade. He was a light to this world. He reserved a camping spot at the bottom of the Grand Canyon months or maybe over a year for four people and he invited me along with Ben and Tye. It is still one of most epic times of my life. We are praying for the whole family for peace and comfort.*

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**Corey Hasenauer** - September 08, 2023 at 05:58 PM



“ *Very fond memories growing up around the corner from the Hunzeker's once we moved around the corner from them before my 6th grade year. I still tell stories to this day about hanging out with Cade, funny stories about Doug and Nancy, as well as the rest of the family. They were very accepting of me and I appreciated that. My heartfelt condolences go out to his wife, children, brothers, sister, extended family, dentistry staff, dentistry patients and friends. He will be missed.*

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**Bryan Munson** - September 08, 2023 at 03:40 PM



“ *My daughter Bethany had many fun times as Cade's house with Mora. Mora we love you and sending you lots of love and hugs.*

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**Christie Abdul-Greene** - September 08, 2023 at 03:24 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS.



September 08, 2023 at 02:53 PM



“ Nels Ewoldsen sent a virtual gift in memory of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS



**Nels Ewoldsen** - September 08, 2023 at 02:22 PM



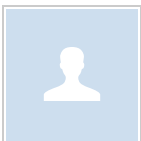
*Too soon, called home way too soon. The reason I taught dentistry was because of students like Cade.*

**Nels Ewoldsen** - September 08, 2023 at 02:29 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Cade Bradley Hunzeker.

September 08, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS.



September 08, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Cade Bradley Hunzeker, DDS.*



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September 08, 2023 at 11:03 AM