



Joanne Helen Potter

August 20, 1935 - May 30, 2025

Joanne Helen Potter, a devoted registered nurse who cared for patients across three states and embraced a life of family, faith, and travel, died peacefully in Omaha, Nebraska, on May 30, 2025. She was 89.

Joanne was born on August 20, 1935, in St. Cloud, MN to John and Gertrude Rengel and was the fourth of six siblings. She graduated from St. Cloud Cathedral High School in 1953 and then earned her nursing credentials at St. Gabriel's School of Nursing in Little Falls, MN in 1956. Joanne's career began at the University of Minnesota Hospital, and then later at Miller Hospital in St. Paul, where she met Lawrence "Larry" Potter. Joanne's nursing career spanned more than four decades and included roles in Minnesota, Nebraska, and California. She retired at the age of 70 but never stopped caring for others.

Joanne and Larry married in October of 1961, and Joanne adopted Larry's four sons from his previous marriage, Craig, Tim, Scott, and Joel. Joanne and Larry had three children, Michelle, Brian, and Stacy. The family relocated from Rochester, MN to Omaha, NE in 1965, where Joanne and Larry spent over 2 decades together. After Larry's retirement in 1986, they moved to Santa Maria, California, where they spent more than 30 years traveling the country and exploring the world. Their time in Santa Maria was some of the best years of their lives and provided great memories for the entire family. Following

Larry's death, Joanne returned to Omaha in 2018 and continued traveling to see family until 2024.

Joanne is survived by her children, Craig, Tim, Scott, Joel, Michelle, Brian, and Stacy; 12 grandchildren; 9 great grandchildren; sister, Donna Eller; brothers Donald ("Fritz") and John Rengel; and many nieces and nephews. Joanne is preceded in death by her husband, parents, and two brothers, Robert and Charles.

Nursing Honors presented by the Nebraska Nurse Honor Guard.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to EWTN Radio or St. Patrick's Catholic Church of Elkhorn, NE.

Previous Events

Visitation with family

JUN 8. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Reichmuth Funeral Home - Elkhorn
21901 West Maple Road P.O. Box 67
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Vigil service

JUN 8. 6:00 PM (CT)

Reichmuth Funeral Home - Elkhorn
21901 West Maple Road P.O. Box 67
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Funeral Ceremony

JUN 9. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Patrick's Catholic Church - Elkhorn
18602 W. Maple Street
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Inurnment Service

JUL 17. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Omaha National Cemetery
14250 Schram Road
Omaha, NE 68138

Tribute Wall



“ *Reichmuth Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Joanne Helen Potter*



Reichmuth Funeral Home - June 09, 2025 at 11:28 AM

DB

“ *David B. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joanne Helen Potter.*

David B. - June 09, 2025 at 12:25 PM

DM

“ *I worked with Joanne at MECC in Santa Maria and missed her every day after she retired. She is a great person.*

Debbie Mockler-Young - June 07, 2025 at 09:57 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joanne Helen Potter.*



June 06, 2025 at 09:03 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joanne Helen Potter.

June 06, 2025 at 09:03 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Joanne Helen Potter.



June 05, 2025 at 06:14 PM



“ Dana Oliver purchased the *Full Of Love Bouquet* for the family of Joanne Helen Potter.



Dana Oliver - June 03, 2025 at 11:33 PM



“ Rayna E. purchased the *Basket of Memories* for the family of Joanne Helen Potter.



Rayna E. - June 03, 2025 at 10:19 AM

JP

“ Judy, Wayne, and Brian Potter purchased the En during Grace for the family of Joanne Helen Potter.



Judy, Wayne, and Brian Potter - June 02, 2025 at 01:22 AM

FF

“ Fritz and Family purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Joanne Helen Potter.



Fritz and Family - June 01, 2025 at 06:18 PM



“ Joanne was a very special member of our connect 55 community. We enjoyed getting to know her. She will be missed. Sympathy to all her family. May she rest in peace.

Norrine Kellen - May 31, 2025 at 03:27 PM

MW

Joanne will be greatly missed. She always had time to listen .

Marilyn Wade - May 31, 2025 at 08:51 PM

JP

“ Joanne was a great friend and a wonderful person who has left her family a wonderful legacy. She is missed.

Jane and Bob Patterson - May 31, 2025 at 12:58 PM