



Nate G. Hepner

May 12, 1962 - March 8, 2026

Nate G. Hepner, 63, of Kearney, passed away March 8, 2026, at C.H.I. Health Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. Memorial Services will be 10:30 am, March 13, 2026, at Countryside Christian Church in Kearney followed by burial at Kearney Cemetery. The service will be livestreamed at <https://youtube.com/@countrysidechristianchurch204?si=kBnmMTjtIG5KDQhh> or <https://www.facebook.com/countrysidechristian.church> Visitation will be from 5:00 to 7:00 pm, March 12, 2026, at Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services. Memorials are suggested to Pibel Bible Camp in Ericson, Nebraska.

Nate was born May 12, 1962, in St. Paul, Nebraska to Thomas and Sharon (Maddox) Hepner. He graduated from Gates Chili High School. He attended Great Lakes Christian College earning a bachelor's degree in Christian Education and Youth Ministry in 1985 and University of Nebraska Kearney earning a bachelor's degree in education in 1992.

Nate married Lynette Thompson on March 18, 1995, in North Platte, Nebraska.

Nate spent the majority of his life sharing his faith in Jesus with anyone he met. He was an avid woodworker and loved to use his creativity to turn broken pallets into newly restored creations. He was passionate about working with

kids and touched the lives of many youth throughout his life. Coaching was a big part of Nate's life and ministry. He always had a story to tell anyone who "had a minute". One of the things he enjoyed most was watching his children do what they loved. Tyler and Hannah were his pride and joy. He loved watching sports, with his favorite teams being the Huskers and Eagles. Nate's entire life was focused on serving God. Whether on a volleyball court, soccer field, as a player or a coach he tried to live out his faith. While ministry was never his vocation, it was always his priority. Everywhere he went he took his ministry with him. If Nate could tell anyone anything, it would be to keep the faith.

Nate is survived by his wife Lynette of Kearney, children, Tyler (Dani) Hepner of Topeka, KS, Hannah Hepner of Kearney, mother, Sharon (Bud) Oakeson of Grand Island, NE, brother, David (Connie) Hepner of Norfolk, NE, sister, Rachel (Conrad) Potvin of Grand Island, NE, sister in law, Pupay Hepner of Verona, NJ, father in law, Tom Thompson of Kearney, NE, brother in law, Jeff (Angie) Thompson of Marion, IN, nieces and nephews.

Nate was preceded in death by his father Thomas Hepner, brother, Jonathan Hepner, and mother in law, Valerie Thompson.

Cemetery Details

Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I
Kearney, NE 68847

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 12. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl
2421 Avenue A
Kearney, NE 68847
(308) 237-2259
<https://www.hlmkfuneral.com>

Memorial Service

MAR 13. 10:30 AM (CT)

Countryside Christian Church
3203 8th Ave
Kearney, NE 68845

Tribute Wall

LG

“ *Lynette, Tyler & Hannah,
So sorry for your loss. I know these last few years have been
difficult but I hope you find peace knowing of Nate’s tremendous
faith. Prayers.*

Lisa Green - March 13 at 12:28 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of
Nate G. Hepner.*



March 12 at 04:20 PM



“ *A [Memorial
Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Nate G. Hepner.*

March 12 at 04:20 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Nate G. Hepner.*



March 12 at 04:16 PM

LC

“ Love, Tim and Kristi Cain purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Nate G. Hepner.



Love, Tim and Kristi Cain - March 12 at 03:04 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Nate G. Hepner.



March 12 at 01:48 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Nate G. Hepner.

March 12 at 01:48 PM

KL

“ Nate was always cheering on our boys! He loved coaching and soccer!! We will miss him. Prayers to Lynette, Tyler and Hannah. Love you all so much.

Katie Lane - March 12 at 12:31 PM

RF

“ Rachel & Conrad Potvin, & families purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Nate G. Hepner.



Rachel & Conrad Potvin, & families - March 12 at 09:53 AM

LE

“ I loved going to the Ragamuffin Prayer and Bible Study group with. We really hit it off and since we both had severe hearing loss we could usually be heard sitting at the table hollering at each other! Had some great visits! I will certainly miss him. Lynette, Hannah, Tyler and Dani you have our condolences and are in our prayers. Lee and Connie

Lee Englund - March 11 at 06:53 PM

TF

“ To Racheal, Dave, Lynette, Your Advanced Bionics Coordinator family planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nate G. Hepner.

To Racheal, Dave, Lynette, Your Advanced Bionics Coordinator family - March 11 at 04:14 PM

DH

“ Dorothy H. purchased the Celestial Love for the family of Nate G. Hepner.



Dorothy H. - March 11 at 12:37 PM

DH

“ Dorothy H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nate G. Hepner.

Dorothy H. - March 11 at 12:37 PM

FW

“ One night Nate and I snuck onto campus at Great Lakes Christian College. It was after curfew and Nate's car was full. Me, Nate, and two others, though I can't remember who. We all hunched down and Nate drove past the guard shack blind with only his hand showing on the steering wheel. We got to the dorm and scattered. The next day the Resident Supervisor approached me. Pointing to his clipboard he said, "Frank, what do you know about this notation?" I looked down and read, "Nate Hepner's car." I tried to play dumb, but I'm sure I had a smirk when I told the RS, "I guess you'll have to ask Nate." Somehow we managed to get away with it. Nate was a wonderful guy. I will miss his occasional phone calls. He encouraged me when I became GLCC President and often let me know he was praying for me and the College. Times like these make me glad that this life is but a mist. That means that we can legitimately say, "See you soon, friend."

Frank Weller - March 10 at 10:36 PM

KD

“ Lynette so sorry to read of Nate's passing, thinking of you and your family. Nate was a great neighbor across the street from us. Many prayers. The Davenport's, Gary and Kathy.

kathy davenport - March 10 at 09:56 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Nate G. Hepner.



March 10 at 06:17 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Nate G. Hepner.

March 10 at 06:17 PM



“ Jeff, Angie and family, So sorry for the loss of Nate. May God's loving arms surround you all and wonderful memories help fill the pain in your hearts.



Tammey Frick, Kearney

Tammey - March 10 at 02:12 PM



“ Nate you were a great co-worker and you were always smiling and always willing to help. You will be missed by many. Hugs and Prayers to everyone.



Nancy Holmes - March 10 at 12:17 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Nate G. Hepner.



March 10 at 11:35 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Nate G. Hepner.

March 10 at 11:35 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Nate G. Hepner.



March 10 at 11:29 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Nate G. Hepner.

March 10 at 11:29 AM



“ *Serene Retreat* was purchased for the family of Nate G. Hepner.



March 10 at 11:11 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Nate G. Hepner.



March 10 at 08:14 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Nate G. Hepner.

March 10 at 08:14 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Nate G. Hepner.



March 09 at 10:32 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Nate G. Hepner.



March 09 at 09:09 PM

NC

“ *New Life College purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Nate G. Hepner.*



New Life College - March 09 at 08:50 PM

SM

“ *Shannon Myny lit a candle in memory of Nate Hepner*



Shannon Myny - March 09 at 07:16 PM

MK

“ *Moorhead's, Jernigan's and Kollbaum's purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Nate G. Hepner.*



Moorhead's, Jernigan's and Kollbaum's - March 09 at 05:26 PM

MK

“ *Moorhead's, Jernigan's and Kollbaum's planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nate G. Hepner.*

Moorhead's, Jernigan's and Kollbaum's - March 09 at 05:26 PM

AM

“Nate was a youth leader when I was going to youth group, and he was the kindest person that I had ever met. My deepest condolences.”



Alli Meyers - March 09 at 01:34 PM