



Kent H. Bankson

January 30, 1945 - September 16, 2025

Kent Herbert Bankson

January 30, 1943 – September 16, 2025

Kent Herbert Bankson, 80, of Lincoln, Nebraska, passed away peacefully on September 16, 2025, at Bryan Medical Center East after a short but courageous fight with cancer.

Born on January 30, 1945, in Aurora, Nebraska, Kent was the oldest of four children raised on the family farm. He graduated with the Hordville High School Class of 1963 and went on to attend Midland Lutheran College and later the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

Kent built his career as a clerk with the State of Nebraska Administrative Services Department near the State Capitol. He also held several jobs that reflected his love of sports and people: taking tickets at Memorial Stadium on Husker football Saturdays, working at the Bob Devaney Sports Center, and umpiring Legion baseball games in Lincoln. He was honored as the Semi-Pro Umpire of the Year in 1983. Before retiring, Kent also worked at Super Saver on 48th and O Street.

Faith was an important part of Kent's life. Baptized and confirmed at Fridhem Lutheran Church in Hordville, he later became a member of the Methodist Church in Lincoln. He loved singing in church choirs and never missed a chance to celebrate a friend or family member's birthday with a song.

Kent had a lifelong passion for sports, especially cheering on his beloved Nebraska Cornhuskers. He treasured attending professional baseball games

and making memories on trips with his wife. In later years, Kent and Sara enjoyed traveling together across the country creating memories they cherished deeply.

It was at the Malone Center in Lincoln that Kent met the love of his life, Sara. They married on Christmas Day in 2011, and together they built a life of love and friendship.

Kent was preceded in death by his parents, Herbert and Doris Bankson, and his son, Scott Bankson. He is survived by his devoted wife and best friend, Sara; his son Allen (Penne) Bankson of Gretna; his brother Doyle (Rita) Bankson of Hastings; his sisters Allerita (Jim) Gerloff of Ayr and Karol Bankson of Marquette; and many nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends who will miss him dearly.

A celebration of Kent's life will be held at 10:30 a.m. on September 27 at Fridhem Lutheran Church in Hordville. The service will be live streamed on Solt-Wagner Funeral Home Facebook page. Burial will follow at Fridhem Lutheran Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Fridhem Lutheran Church. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.soltwagnerfuneral.com.

Cemetery Details

Hordville Cemetery

Previous Events

Funeral Service

SEP **27**. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Fridhem Lutheran Church
315 Park Ln
Hordville, NE 68846-2113
(402) 757-3385

Tribute Wall

DJ

“ *Dean Johnson. Kent ad I we're best friends while growing up in Hordville and classmates in confirmation at Fridhem and through school, and through life.*

One time during pheasant season my brother Dave and I after shooting and skinning it decided to put the neck and front propped up at the end of Kent's kind driveway. The next day at church we asked him whether he shot any birds. He said he saw one in the fenceline at the end of his drive and took three shots at him but didn't get the rooster. I was sure he figured it out after the first shot and said he shot two more times to add to the story.

Since that happened so long ago I showed this to my brother to proof read and he replied the following:

That sounds accurate. Such a good laugh we all got out of that. Plus Kent was a good egg he could take a joke in stride. We would have maybe done the same - except after that everyone was on the look out.

Dean Johnson - September 26, 2025 at 06:42 PM

LW

“ To Sara and the family of Kent:

Our paths constantly crossed over the years. When I worked for the State of Nebraska in 1980's, he was a postal worker in the State Office Building. When I worked for the city of Lincoln, he was working at Super Saver on 48th and O. When I was employed at the Malone Community Center in the 2000's he was a regular attendee at the Senior Center which was housed there. When I joined First United Methodist Church in Lincoln, there he was again, and Sara, Kent, and I became very close and good friends.

I saw him Monday night in the hospital. As I held his hand, we told each other we were very good friends and that we loved each other. I told him I was praying for him. We said our goodbyes. He died the next day.

He had a booming baritone voice and he loved to sing. He loved baseball, knew the game well as a former umpire, and we always talked endlessly about sports.

I will miss Kent.

My heartfelt sympathies to his wife, Sara, and all family members. God bless and keep you all.

Love

Larry Williams

Larry Williams - September 25, 2025 at 09:05 PM

PB

“ DEAR SARA WE SEND OUR CONDOLENCES PHILIP AND BETTY

PHILIP & BETTY - September 25, 2025 at 07:02 PM