



Sherry Grace Forbes was born July 31, 1937, in Hinsdale, IL, to Donald and Esther (Whiting) Winslow. She went to heaven Monday, March 7, 2022 at the Burwell Community Memorial Health Center, Burwell, Nebraska, at the age of 84, after living at the Pioneer Memorial Rest Home, Mullen, Nebraska, since 2018.

Sherry was raised in Western Springs, IL, a suburb of Chicago, where her father was employed by General Motors, Electromotive Division and her mother was a homemaker. About 1953, the

family moved to Bedford, Indiana, where Sherry graduated from high school in 1955. She married Robert “Bob” Holzhaue and together they had a daughter, Melissa (Missy). Following a divorce, Sherry attended Purdue University, following in her father’s and grandfather Fred Winslow’s footsteps. She earned her Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education in 1961.

It was at Purdue that Sherry met William (Bill) A. Forbes, Jr. They were married in June, 1961, after finishing at Purdue, and moved to San Leandro, California. This was the first of many moves as Bill moved up the ladder with The Associates Financing Company and as the family grew. Sherry taught 1 year in San Leandro, then, after the birth of their first son, William, she stayed home to raise her growing family. It was also where Bill officially adopted Missy as his daughter. By 1963, they had moved to Portland, OR, where their next two children were born, Elizabeth and Jennifer. After a couple of years in Portland, they moved to Reno, NV, then on to Granada Hills, in the San Fernando Valley of southern California. Sherry loved taking the family to the beach, and they did that often on the weekends. By 1968, they had moved to South Bend, Indiana, nearer to grandparents. In the fall of 1969, Bill began working in the mobile home industry, which necessitated a move to Alma, Michigan that December. Their second son, Mike, was born there in March 1970 and they remained in Alma until May, 1974. The family then moved to Arkansas City, Kansas, where Bill managed the struggling Skyline Mobile Home plant.

In Arkansas City, Sherry began working part time as a teller in a local bank. She worked there until the family moved to Plymouth, Indiana, in 1976, closer to grandparents again. While in Plymouth, Sherry began a long teaching career at Jefferson Elementary, continuing to raise her family, and becoming more involved with her church. She and Bill divorced in 1984. During her time in Plymouth, she earned her Master’s Degree in Education. She also loved her part time job at Erica’s Craft and Sewing Center, in South Bend, which fit right in with her love of stitching, sewing, and knitting. She made many wonderful homemade gifts during her lifetime. She retired from teaching in the spring of 1999 at age 62, to enable her to move to Plainfield, Indiana, to care for her ailing mother, after the passing of her father, Don, in 1998.

After Sherry's mother passed away in 2003, she began working at Kohl's Department Store, and she continued to tend the many flower gardens her father had planted all around the house. She also loved attending the Plainfield United Methodist Church, where she met many dear friends, and knitted many sweaters for underprivileged children all over the world, sent out through one of the church programs. Sherry also loved to travel, often hopping in the car and driving straight-through 15-18 hours to see her kids, grandkids, or siblings. She had a lead foot just like her dad! Sherry also loved the Indianapolis 500, to which her parents had purchased tickets every year for many years. Race time at the end of May became a gathering event at the Plainfield house for over 40 years, and she loved it.

In May of 2014, Sherry was diagnosed with Lewy Body Dementia. That very day of the diagnosis, she was told she should no longer live alone. Sherry graciously took her doctor's advice and wanted to ride home with daughter Missy (Lynn) Holt to Thedford, NE, who happened to be visiting at the time. She lived in Thedford until the spring of 2015, when she chose to live at Bickford Senior Living assisted living center, in St. Charles, IL, near her youngest son Mike and his family. For her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in July 2017, her family arranged a national family reunion in St. Charles, and she loved seeing everyone. She was able to remain there until February 2018, when her daughter Libby and son Mike brought her to Mullen, NE, to the Pioneer Memorial Rest Home. She enjoyed it there and loved being pushed for long walks around the small town in her wheelchair, enjoying the various flower gardens. Sherry never complained about her condition and accepted it with grace and dignity.

In February 2022, with the announcement of the closing of the Pioneer Memorial Rest Home in Mullen, Sherry was moved to the Burwell Community Memorial Health Center on Feb. 18.

Sherry was preceded in death by her parents.

Those left to remember her are her sister Bonnie (Bob) Emerson, Great Bend, PA; brother Bruce (Mary) Winslow, St. Louis, MO; and brother Stuart Winslow, Crystal Springs, MS; five children: Melissa (Lynn) Holt, Thedford, NE; Bill (Becky) Forbes, Burleson, TX; Elizabeth Forbes (Jon Kain), Columbus, IN; Jennifer (Tului) Knutson, Nokomis, FL; and Mike (Jackie) Forbes, Geneva, IL.; grandchildren and great-grandchildren Kristina (Matt) Blackford, Katelyn and William, Brownlee, NE; Brian (Ashley) Holt, Jordan and McKinley, Cedar Bluffs, NE; Alan (Jessie) Holt, Macon and Toryn, Hickman, NE; Chelsea (Connor) Besse, Omaha, NE; more grandchildren Billy (Milly) Forbes, Ft. Worth, TX; Scott (Samantha) Skiles, Cincinnati, OH; Sean Skiles and special friend Carly Turbyfill, Whitestown, IN; and granddaughters Kendall and Jordan Forbes, Geneva, IL, and Alexis Knutson, Montclair, VA. She also loved her nieces and nephews very much, and her many, many dear friends made during her lifetime.

A family graveside service was held Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Scotia, NE, where Sherry is laid to rest alongside her parents and grandparents, Roy and Grace Whiting. Pastor Ron Masten of the Bethel Assembly of God Church, Thedford, NE, officiated. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation to the Lewy Body Dementia Association, 912 Killian Hill Road S.W., Lilburn, GA 30047, or at [www.lbda.org](http://www.lbda.org).