



## Deborah "Debbie" Koontz Hoffman

August 1, 1953 - December 16, 2025

Deborah "Debbie" Koontz Hoffman, of Salisbury, NC passed away Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center.

Born August 1, 1953 in Rowan County, NC she was the daughter of the late J.R. Koontz and Lottie Stoner Koontz.

Mrs. Hoffman was a graduate of Boyden High School and Rowan Cabarrus Community College. She worked as a special needs assistant teacher with North Rowan Schools. She was the owner of Debbie Leazer School of Dance where she taught dance for many decades. Debbie competed in dance at the NC Senior Games in Cary, NC. She was also a dance choreographer for Piedmont Players, served on the board of directors for the Waterworks Visual Arts Center where she also taught art classes, and was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church. Debbie loved spending time at the beach, gardening, art, along with attending plays and operas, and getting together with the Class of 1971.

She is preceded in death by her sister, Vickie Koontz Smith, and sister-in-law, Candice Payton.

Those left to cherish her memory are her husband, James Pete Hoffman, Jr.; sons, John-Lee Leazer, Charles-Henry "Chuck" Leazer; stepson, James Peter Hoffman, III. (Karen Chau); stepdaughter, Amanda Leazer; brother-in-law, Hank Smith; and grandchildren who knew her as Mammy: Jaylee Opal Leazer, Stella Marie Leazer, Benjamin Augustus Leazer, Theodore Orson Hoffman, and Wyler Emeric Hoffman.

A celebration of her life will be held at a later date.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Hoffman family. Online condolences may be made at [www.summersettfuneralhome.com](http://www.summersettfuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall

TO

“ I was Debbie’s hairdresser for many years until I went into ministry. She worked hard going back to school to be a teacher, loved her family and her calling as a dance instructor along with her community involvement. I also did her mom’s hair. She will be missed by her family and friends and I thank her for her encouragement when I went back to school too. May you rest in peace.

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**Tony Owens** - December 31, 2025 at 06:03 PM

TM

“ I am deeply sorry for your loss. I was blessed to know Mammy through Ben when I taught him in kindergarten. From the very first meeting, her warmth, pride, and gentle kindness shone through. She was truly an amazing woman, and it was clear how deeply she loved her family. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers, and I hope you find comfort in the beautiful memories you shared with her and in the lasting legacy of love she leaves behind.  
-Teresa Medlin



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**Teresa Medlin** - December 18, 2025 at 03:57 AM

JW

“ I met Debbie at the Senior games a few years back and that led to a correspondence friendship ... always a ready ear, willing to share costume and dance ideas. I gave her big props for competing a solo! We shared the good and the bad. I know she loved her family very much and I can imagine how she will be missed. Godspeed, Debbie. Gone too soon.

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**Jeanette Whalen** - December 17, 2025 at 05:23 PM

BM

“ Barbara M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Deborah "Debbie" Koontz Hoffman.

Barbara M. - December 17, 2025 at 04:34 PM

JC

“ I am stunned by the news of Debbie's death. She was so vibrant, full of life!. I knew her from her work at Waterworks Visual Arts. She was a wizzard with the kids, and a truly gracious, kind lady. Thinking of her makes me smile.

Joyce Cavanagh-Wood - December 17, 2025 at 07:33 AM

BT

“ Debbie, I still remember your loving help that first year. God bless you and yours.

Beth Turneabe - December 16, 2025 at 09:53 PM

DJ

“ Charles Henry, My thoughts and prayers are with you and all your Mom's family and loved ones. It was so much fun working at St Johns Kindergarten with your Mom all those years. She was one of the kindest, sweetest people I have ever known and she will be missed by so many. Please give John Lee my love also. Deborah Johnson



Deborah W Johnson - December 16, 2025 at 07:52 PM

DM

She was a great lady. I really enjoyed working with her and the kids on the North Side.

Darrell McDowell - December 18, 2025 at 10:29 AM

SA

“ *Salisbury Dance Academy purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Deborah "Debbie" Koontz Hoffman.*



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**Salisbury Dance Academy** - December 16, 2025 at 04:50 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Deborah "Debbie" Koontz Hoffman.*



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December 16, 2025 at 02:40 PM

SC

“ *Spotlight Dance Company planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Deborah "Debbie" Koontz Hoffman.*

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**Spotlight Dance Company** - December 16, 2025 at 02:40 PM

BL

“ *Debbie, you have been so important to so many for so long and we will all miss you. But you have shared a great gift and that is the gift of kindness. It's our job to keep this gift giving rolling on. Thank you for your friendship, your smile, and those tomatoes you shared with me, my buddy. It's been an honor.*



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**Becky Lippard** - December 16, 2025 at 02:24 PM

BT

*Debbie, I still remember your loving help that first year. God bless you and yours.*

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**Beth Turneabe** - December 16, 2025 at 04:57 PM

DW

*Debbie was my neighbor for a while years back. She worked so diligently in her flowers and little garden and always shared the beautiful flowers and tomatoes. She truly loved digging in the dirt on a hot summer day. I was so blessed to have gotten to know her. A good silid soul she was !*

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**Debbie Wood** - December 18, 2025 at 05:44 PM