

## ABOUT

# MELANIE HANSEN

I was born, raised, and currently reside in Shelley. I have always been fascinated with murder mysteries, death investigation and watching shows like Bones and NCIS. Knowing that real life is nothing like the TV shows and movies, I have always thought death investigation would be an interesting career and being able to assist in finding the cause of a death in order to bring closure to families.

I have been a photographer for 22 years. Both of my parents, grandpa, great uncle, and cousin were all photographers, therefore photography come natural to me. Although I never thought about starting a career in photography, I was encouraged by a co-worker that had seen some of my photos. If it wasn't for him planting that seed, I would not have pursued a career in photography 22 years ago. Since then photography has become a passion and joy in my life. I started my photography career at the JC Penny Portrait Studio in the Grand Teton Mall in Idaho Falls, then went on to work for LifeTouch School Portraits for 3 years, and Bell Photographers for 2-1/2 years. Currently I own my own photography business, Looking Glass Memories, LLC, where I specialize in event and outdoor photography. I have taken several online classes/webinars for photography to help master my photography and editing skills through Serge Ramelli, Craig Alexander Academy, Tim Shields, YouTube videos, and a few photography colleagues. I also took some classes through New York Institute of Photography before online classes were available. Photography is an ever-changing career and there are constantly new skills and techniques to be learned, along with new software to be used.

Outside of photography, I have taken courses through CareerStep for Medical Billing and Coding, and Medical Transcription and Editing, which is where I learned some of my medical knowledge.

In February 2023, when the opportunity to work as a Deputy Coroner for Bingham County was presented to me, I decided to give it a go. In May of 2023 I was promoted to Chief Deputy Coroner. I have received several certifications through the Death Investigation Academy online courses based out of Missouri and I am currently taking Death Investigation Training classes through the University of North Dakota. I have also received some Certifications through FEMA. I plan to continue my education and expand my medical and death investigation knowledge to better serve Bingham County.

