

## LM 38 Bio

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**Please share three to four brief paragraphs about yourself. Remember to include the following Professional experience and history, about you and your family, where you were born, hobbies, interests.**

I was born in Big Timber, MT, grew up in Greycliff, MT, and attended a two-classroom school through 2nd grade before going to 'town school'. My class size went from 2 to 45 students! I was a country kid, the youngest of three sisters raised by a single mother working double shifts as a waitress to support us. I learned valuable lessons about hard work, responsibility, and the resilience of family, as well as about needs versus wants. I come from a family of very tough, determined, and independent women who inspire me every day.

I attended college at UM and never left Missoula, for which I still face good-natured ribbing from my large extended family. I'm one of the few reserved and quiet members of a raucous group of ranching, rodeo, and good-timing folks who are an excellent source of entertainment. I graduated UM with a bachelor's degree in HHP: Athletic Training and somehow ended up as an accountant instead. Funny how roads don't always lead where you expect. I took a part-time job as an office assistant and unexpectedly, but fortuitously, evolved into their full-time bookkeeper. I spent 12 years in private accounting with the very good folks who gave me that chance before transitioning to public accounting. I have now been in the public accounting arena for 9 years and am thriving on the challenges, the clients, and the transformations within the industry.

As of right now, my interests and hobbies include updating and improving our home one piece at a time and rockhounding, along with the associated walks through scenic fields, forests, and waterways that make up our beautiful state. I also enjoy most of the outdoor recreation that is all around us, although skiing and skating don't agree with my natural lack of grace. I have an innate curiosity and longing to learn, so my hobbies tend to shift. If I'm learning, growing, improving, experiencing, I'm happy.