



## Sandra Kay (Harris) Eakes

August 31, 1946 - January 25, 2024

On January 25, 2024, we unexpectedly bid farewell to our cherished Sandy. She left an indelible mark on all who were lucky enough to have known her. As a daughter, mother, wife, grandmother, sister, friend, aunt, and confidant, she shared her gifts of humor, tenacity, spirit and most importantly love with us all.

Sandy grew up in Rockford, IL and after graduating from Auburn High School went on to earn her Bachelor of Science degree in both Elementary Education and Psychology at Illinois State University. She later went on to earn her Master's Degree in Education at Northern Illinois University. Sandy's legacy as a respected educator in the Rockford, IL community speaks volumes about her character. Her dedication went beyond the classroom; whenever a student faced difficulties, Sandy would personally visit their homes to lend a helping hand and guide them back on the path to success.

Her beauty, both inside and out, radiated in every facet of her life. A kind and caring soul, Sandy was a true friend to everyone. She was known for her genuine love and deep connections, most notably to her family, which she adored. Sandy found solace in the vast expanse of the ocean and loved the breathtaking sunrises of Florida and Arizona. The Nebraska gloaming was also a favorite.

To her parents, Betty and John, Sandy was known as the Weary Wanderer. As she embarks on a new journey, we pray the Wanderer finds the same serenity and joy with which she filled our lives and we find comfort in the knowledge that she will forever reside in our hearts. As one of the best listeners in our lives, we know she'll hear our prayers.

Sandy is survived by her devoted husband, Ron; her loving children, Kelsey (Matt Klein), Ashley Lindberg-Bole, Leslie (Dag Kittlaus), John (Kandice Eakes), and Ann (Brian McGeehan). She leaves behind her dear sister, Jan Foust; nephew, John Foust; great-niece, Holland Foust; niece, Ellie Foust, as well as a cherished array of grandchildren, Kayton and Oliver Klein, Beckham and Lauren Bole, Will, Kendall, Andrew and Emma Smart, Markus, Kaia and Henrik Kittlaus, Sophia, Jack and Lila Eakes, Trenton Ulrick and Adalyn Miller, Ella, Finn, Charlie and Lily McGeehan.

Sandy is also survived by her brother-in-law, Dan Eakes and sister-in-law, Leanne Eakes Windolph (Gary). She was preceded in death by parents, Alvin "John" and Elizabeth "Betty" Harris; father and mother-in-law, Howard and Gladys Eakes; sister-in-law, Gretchen Eakes; brother-in-law, Bob Foust, and many beloved aunts, uncles, and cousins.

In this time of grief, let us remember and celebrate Sandy's remarkable life, a life filled with love, compassion, and an enduring commitment to family and community. May she rest in eternal peace.

A memorial service to be held at All Faiths Funeral Home at 11 AM Monday, February 5th preceded by a visitation gathering at 10 AM. Dan Naranjo officiating. The service will be livestreamed on the funeral home website. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Hope Harbor, Grand Island Community Foundation and Stuhr Museum in memory of Sandy. Condolences can be left at [www.giallfaiths.com](http://www.giallfaiths.com).



# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home  
2929 S Locust St  
Grand Island, NE 68801  
(308) 398-2929  
allfaiths@giallfaiths.com  
<https://www.giallfaiths.com/>

## Memorial Service

FEB 5. 11:00 AM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home  
2929 S Locust St  
Grand Island, NE 68801  
(308) 398-2929  
allfaiths@giallfaiths.com  
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# Tribute Wall



“ All Faiths Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Sandra Kay (Harris) Eakes



All Faiths Funeral Home - February 05, 2024 at 10:30 AM

NK

*My deepest condolence to the Eakes Family. After Auburn High School and Illinois State, we lost touch but her positive, beautiful personality was never forgotten. May her dear soul rest in peace.*

Nadia LaRocca Kirgan - March 03, 2024 at 05:42 PM

JM

“ I am so sorry to hear about your loss - my condolences to you and your entire family



joe mure - February 12, 2024 at 11:46 AM

DS

“ Kelsey, My condolences to the family on the passing of Sandy. She and of course with your father, Clark, were close friends many years ago. We attended many activities together through the YMCA and elsewhere in the northern Illinois area and had a lot of fun. Of course one of the most joyous occasions was being able to assist in the beginning of their family. I hope everyone is well and if anyone is back in Rockford I would surely like to say hello. Again I am sorry for your loss. She was a lovely lady. Don Shriver, Rockford,IL

Donald Shriver - February 07, 2024 at 04:47 PM

KK

Thank you so much! We will be having a memorial for her. I'll let you know when it is. Hope you're doing well!

Kelsey

Kelsey Klein - February 08, 2024 at 04:49 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Sandra Kay (Harris) Eakes.



February 03, 2024 at 02:00 PM

SH

“ Steve and Betsy Homewood planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sandra Kay (Harris) Eakes.

Steve and Betsy Homewood - February 02, 2024 at 02:36 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Sandra Kay (Harris) Eakes.



February 02, 2024 at 02:36 PM



“ Ron, sending you my condolences on your loss. Sandy was always so fun to be with, and we always enjoyed our time with her. She will be missed by all of us. Mac.

**Mac Lott** - February 02, 2024 at 11:06 AM



“ Karen & Chuck Harris planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sandra Kay (Harris) Eakes.

**Karen & Chuck Harris** - February 01, 2024 at 01:21 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sandra Kay (Harris) Eakes.



February 01, 2024 at 01:21 PM

KN

“ 4 files added to the album Sandy



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**Kenny Nelson** - February 01, 2024 at 10:58 AM

CJ

“ Corrie, Kyla, Jace, and Jon planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sandra Kay (Harris) Eakes.

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**Corrie, Kyla, Jace, and Jon** - January 31, 2024 at 05:17 PM



“ *Pretty Please* was purchased for the family of Sandra Kay (Harris) Eakes.



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January 31, 2024 at 05:17 PM



“ *Ron and family,*

*We are so sorry to learn of Sandy's passing. You both were such welcoming and generous friends during our years in Grand Island. Sandy had a smile that could light up a room. Those fun memories always bring a smile to our faces. May God comfort you in this difficult time and know that you have "old friends" that care.*

*Dolores & Jim Aylward*

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**James Aylward** - January 31, 2024 at 10:52 AM

EM

“ *Dear Ann and Brian, so Very Sorry for the Loss of your Mom and Mother-in-law and the kid's Grandmother. My deepest sympathies are extended to you Family. May your Lovely Mother Rest In Peace. Prayers for you All! 🙏🙏🙏*

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**Elaine Mancuso** - January 31, 2024 at 09:08 AM

PO

“ *Sandy was a One-Of-A-Kind.. Will Miss her Fantastic Smile, Her way of Telling it Like it Was and Her Huge Heart!! ❤️ Peace and ❤️ Love ! Regards to Ron and the Family!!*

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**Patrick O'Boyle** - January 30, 2024 at 12:59 PM

DF

“ *Ron & Family,*

*So sorry to hear about Sandy's passing. We will be thinking and praying for you all during this very difficult time.*

*Dennis & Rosie Fruchtl*

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**Dennis Fruchtl** - January 30, 2024 at 09:58 AM

NS

*Ron and Family,  
We are sorry to hear about Sandy. Please know that you all are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. We hope that the memories you hold bring you comfort.  
Love and Sympathies,  
Bret and Nicole Sheffield*

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**Nicole Sheffield** - January 30, 2024 at 03:58 PM

CS

“ *Ron & family,  
Deepest condolences to you. Deep connections in deed she made, including a connection she and I had when Sandy volunteered at the St Francis gift shop. We sure had fun times and I'll always remember the boat ride in Florida she and I took, by Cher's place on the waterfront, we had a blast! What a giver she was, a generous person to volunteer for the community in many ways, and a genuine, loving soul.  
Rest in peace Sandy.  
Christy Sullivan*

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**Christy Sullivan** - January 29, 2024 at 02:25 PM

GM

*Ron and family  
So sorry for your loss  
God bless you and your family*

*I remember Sandy from Auburn High school as I graduated in 1964*

*Gean Moore*

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**Gean L Moore** - January 30, 2024 at 08:37 PM

KN

*My condolences to Ron and Sandy's kids and family. She was one of the nicest people I ever knew. Auburn High, Class of 1964. Kenny Nelson, Rockford, Illinois*

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**Kenny Nelson** - February 01, 2024 at 10:56 AM

MF

*Dear Ron and Family, It is sad news to hear about Sandy. We will miss Sandy at the Cove Beach Club and know Sandy is watching over you. May God give you all the strength you need at this time.*

*Fondly,  
Meg Feerick.  
Apt 210*

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**Meg Feerick** - February 12, 2024 at 12:41 PM

EK

*Ron, Ashley, Kelsey, I am so sorry to hear such sad news about Sandy. I was just about to send you a lovely memory from way back when we, Tor and I, met you in Florida many years ago, and then I saw this tribute page. Now both Tor and Sandy are gone, Tor just a year ago. I have so many fun memories from our times in Florida. I am so sorry for your loss. Lots of love from Eija Knus in Finland.*

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**Eija Knus** - March 14, 2024 at 04:26 PM