



## Sandra A. Michaelson

July 19, 1946 - August 24, 2020

Sandra A. Michaelson 'SanDee' was adopted by Dave and Louise Coolidge on July 19, 1946. She was raised in McCook, Nebraska and has no siblings. Her family consists of relatives and friends who have sweetened her life and had a molding of who SanDee is.

SanDee embraced life each and every day with a flourish and zest that could be seen in her colorful stilettos and her incredible voice.

SanDee is preceded in death by Dave and Louise Coolidge, her first husband Bill Watson, and a host of friends (angels) that still surround her. Currently she is married to Bruce 'Mike' Michaelson, who is as tall as SanDee is short. They have spent many happy years together.

SanDee asks you to remember she will always be present in your life with a laugh, a smile, high heels and love. She loves all you angels.

A memorial has been established in SanDee's name at Nebraska Wesleyan University, specifically for the vocal music program. Contributions can be mailed to: Advancement Office, Nebraska Wesleyan University, 5000 St. Paul Avenue, Lincoln, NE 68504, or, visit <https://www.nebrwesleyan.edu/give>.

At SanDee's request, no services are planned at this time.



# Tribute Wall

BH

“ *SanDee was a good friend in McCook and we dated a few times. I remember picking her up at her house on West 3rd or 4th probably in 1963 or 64. Her dad was with the State Roads Dept and eventually in the late 60s moved to Lincoln to be head of the Nebraska department of roads which was a very important job. I remember visiting him in his office SanDee was a very talented person and my condolences go out to her close friends and family.*  
*Bob Harris*

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**Bob Harris** - January 14, 2021 at 10:41 AM

AK

“ *Aunt SanDee was a great aunt and friend. Called her Chirp. She got me through college with her wonderful letters. My heart goes out to you at this time.*

*Ann Kness  
Webster City, Iowa*

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**Ann E Kness** - September 15, 2020 at 05:51 PM

MH

“ *Mike and Family, We were so sorry to read that SanDee had passed away. Mike we know that she was the love of your life and your life's partner. Please accept our condolences and know that SanDee, you and your family are in our prayers. Mark and Karen Hakenkamp*

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**Mark Hakenkamp** - August 31, 2020 at 08:01 AM

RS

“ So very sorry to learn of SanDee's death. She was one of my favorite Voice students at Nebraska Wesleyan. Always upbeat and full of fun. Our friendship continued over many, many years. My sympathy to Mike. SanDee will be missed by so many of us.

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**Ruth Stephenson** - August 30, 2020 at 03:39 PM

SS

“ A FRIEND, A COWORKER AND A DEAR FRIEND, SANDEE REST IN PEACE.

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**SHIRLEY SCHAFFER** - August 30, 2020 at 03:01 PM

BD

“ Mike,  
So sorry to hear of SanDee's passing, please know that we're thinking of you during this difficult time. Take care.  
Sincerely,  
Brian & Wanda Dittmann

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**Brian Dittmann** - August 30, 2020 at 08:09 AM

PR

“ SanDee was my high school music director in McCook, NE, and later became a friend. Her influence on my life is one of the reasons I took the path I did in my life. I always admired the way SanDee used her influence to make others feel valued, and I wanted to do the same for others. You will be missed. Paul Reynolds

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**Paul Reynolds** - August 29, 2020 at 05:08 PM

MJ

“ I grew up loving SanDee so much! I went to church with her in McCook and was also blessed to have her as my teacher at MHS. Please know my prayers and love are with you and with SanDee.

Michelle Mason Johnson - August 29, 2020 at 10:03 AM

JK

“ Mike and family we are so sorry! We will always remember Sandy in the music she loved. Prayers Judy and Bruce sweney

jksweney - August 28, 2020 at 09:56 PM

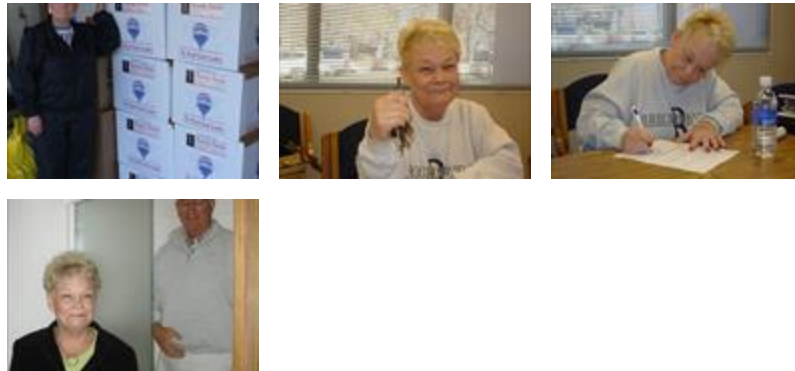
BA

“ SanDee was a wonderful teacher and a great friend. She always had a lot of energy and a smile.

Brenda Anderjaska - August 28, 2020 at 05:13 PM

RE

“ 4 files added to the album Moving to Fort Collins in 2007



Randy Ewan - August 28, 2020 at 01:35 PM

Brooke Assmus

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Brooke Assmus** - August 27, 2020 at 02:50 PM

Brooke Assmus

*SanDee was such a bright light and she will be truly missed. I am a better person to have had her in my life! She will be greatly missed by all the lives she touched! Sympathies to the family!*

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**Brooke Assmus** - August 27, 2020 at 02:51 PM

JE

*Thanks Brooke for posting that great picture. I remember that time well.  
Jim*

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**Jim Easom** - August 28, 2020 at 12:23 PM

MG

“ *I was in McCook High school with SanDee i remember her beautiful singing voice. Always had a smile  
Sorry for the families loss*

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**mike Gilbert** - August 27, 2020 at 01:40 PM

BJ

“ SanDee and I knew each other for 55 years and our time together will always be cherished. She came back into my life when she moved to Fort Collins. We have shared many fun times singing duets, trips to Estes, great lunches , our birthday celebrations and her being a great soprano leader in my Westminster Presbyterian Praise team and Chancel choir. I will miss you SanDee. I will miss your caring, fun and feisty spirit. I will miss seeing you and your wonderful blingy fingernails and high heels. You supported me through some tough times and I will be forever grateful. I know you are now free of pain and are able to sing freely with the Angel's. I was blessed with your friendship and love and will be missing you until we meet again.

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**Barb Johnson** - August 27, 2020 at 08:06 AM

HE

SanDee and I were the best of friends for a lifetime. Unfortunately, due to distance and life our friendship our friendship was reduced to emails and phone calls. I am completely thrown off balance by learning of her death. Could I please ask someone to tell me what happened. Heidi Englade  
[henglade@yahoo.com](mailto:henglade@yahoo.com)

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**Heidi Englade** - August 28, 2020 at 06:12 AM

AG

“ My dear SanDee, I'm so saddened to hear the news of your passing. You were and always will remain my most favorite. I'm so happy that you came into my life and were always there to put a smile on my face when I saw you. You had such a profound impact on me and on everyone whoever met you. Anyone who knew you, even if it was brief, will be that much better just because they had the chance to know you. I hope you are somewhere out there watching over Mike. Any time I eat M&M's I will always think of you and smile. Thank you for allowing me to be a small part in your amazing world. I truly hope we will meet again someday. Xoxo,  
Abigail Gray

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**Abigail Gray** - August 26, 2020 at 08:03 PM

KC

“ Mike and SanDee have been part of joyful moments in our church, Westminster Presbyterian of Fort Collins, Colorado. She sang first soprano better than I ever will, but she was an encouragement to me as we grew together in the choir. When my husband and I were married in 2018, she was a joyful supporter. I felt like her relationship with Mike was a guide in my journey to connect with the "right" man - and they were quick to support us as Steve joined the choir and as we were married in the sanctuary of our church. I absolutely LOVED her shoes and we shared an attraction to clothes with bling! I know she will light up heaven if she is allowed to have a robe and shoes that sparkle! I will miss you SanDee.

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**Kathy & Steve Crawford** - August 26, 2020 at 06:08 PM

DT

“ SanDee and I became friend when she and her parents moved next door to my Uncle on East 1st street and we attended North Ward school together. I always loved her perky personality! She had an amazing voice for such a little gal and I too will always remember her as a classmate and friend. My sympathy to the family.

*Diane (Petersen) Tillman  
class of 64*

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**Diane Tillman** - August 26, 2020 at 02:07 PM

LT

“ Dear SanDee, What a joy it has been for me to have had you as my friend and confidant! I will miss your "bright eyes and sweet smile" and the many joys we shared.. You were one of the reasons that made my life feel fulfilled. Your compassion and thoughtfulness with the death of my grandson will always carry me through dark times. I loved and love you... always.... Join the angels and sing that delightful high soprano! Linda Thyfault

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**Linda Thyfault** - August 26, 2020 at 10:26 AM

EW

“ SanDee was one of the most vibrant and lovely women I have ever known. It was a great pleasure singing under her direction in Sunshine Singers. She was inspirational not only as a great musician, but also with her positive outlook and love of life. My love and condolences to her family.

*Happy Woods*

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**Emily Woods** - August 25, 2020 at 09:13 PM

CB

*SanDee. We will miss you always!! Will hold wonderful memories of you, your smile, jot and always uplifting spirit!*

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**Cheri Beckenhauer** - August 25, 2020 at 10:25 PM

RA

*SanDee. I have many memories of hours of practice, in music groups and musical's South Pacific and Oklahoma, with Mr. Gansebom. I will for ever miss your smiling face. Ron Allen*

**Ronald Allen** - August 26, 2020 at 09:06 AM

DP

*I think I was 5 years old when she came to my door with my first ever May Basket. I did not have a clue what was happening and was hiding behind my mother as usual.*

**don powell** - August 26, 2020 at 10:24 AM

JG

*I have only known you in these last 11 years but you were a delight to know. Your laughter, funniness and your love of life were always present. Thanks for all the great times together. You are missed greatly.*

*Judy W. Geckeler*

**JUDY GECKELER** - August 26, 2020 at 05:43 PM

DM

*Such sad news for us. Had no idea this was coming. We had so many good times and dinners at Texas Rosdbouse*

**Don and Dorothy Martin** - August 26, 2020 at 07:15 PM

DM

*Our deepest sympathy to Mike.*

**Don and Dorothy Martin** - August 26, 2020 at 07:18 PM

SF

*What a delight to know you ever since you first came to our church in Fort Collins. I will always remember your kind and sweet spirit. What a pleasure it was to have you be a part of my life. Enjoyed your directing our Sunshine Singers too. Miss you so very much. Have many wonderful memories to carry me through not being able to see you any more. Till we meet again.*

**Sachi Fujimoto** - August 28, 2020 at 07:10 AM

JE

*I first met SanDee when we were 1 or 2 years old. Her Dad and mine both started as District Engineers for the old Dept. of Roads about the same year. He in McCook and mine in North Platte. Our dads liked to fish and hunt so we spent lots of time together. Many, many times at Lake McConaughy. Then we wound up at NWU together. Then eventually worked together at DOR. She came to Spain to visit me when I was in the Navy. She was like my sister. When you know someone for 73 years and were as close as we were that tends to happen. The music world is truly going to miss her. As each and every one of us will. I definitely feel a sense of loneliness. Keep the heavens singing my dear!*

*Jim Easom*

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**Jim Easom** - August 28, 2020 at 12:22 PM

RE

*Dear SanDee, I am sure going to miss you and our lunches together. You have always been a huge supporter of me and I so appreciate that. I echo what a lot of people have said about your shoes and clothes. I remember our last conversation last week and you were always so cheerful even when you weren't feeling well. You always asked how are you doing Ran Man and always finished our phone calls or lunches with "Love You!" That is what makes you so missed is the way you make people feel when said good bye. I will miss you, but promise to keep up with Mike and we will get through this time together. Peace be with You, SanDee. Love You!*

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**Randy Ewan** - August 28, 2020 at 01:29 PM

NL

*My friend I will so miss you you always had that smile and wink of the eye as my grandsons wigglyng around in the front row stressed me out. Just needed to look at you and everything was fine. blessings to Mike.*

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**Nancy Lahmann** - August 28, 2020 at 01:32 PM