



Sandra Graham Thomas

November 26, 1956 - January 18, 2024

Sandra G. Thomas passed away on January 18, 2024 after a lifetime of illness. She is no longer in pain and with her God. Sandy herself would say Hallelujah!

She was born in Trenton, New Jersey to the late James B. and Virginia Sandstrom Graham. She was a graduate of Winthrop College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. Although growing up in different places, she had primarily been on the Grand Strand since 1975. Her grandfather, Gus Sandstrom, for whom she was named, was a Myrtle Beach real estate developer, starting in the early 1940s, when Virginia's family arrived here. After Winthrop, she was hired by the Bellamy Law Firm where she worked for 44 years as a title abstractor. She took great pride in doing excellent work for the original and second tier partners of that firm, especially for founder Skeets Bellamy. She looked at her work as a great puzzle of pieces that needed to be put together precisely to achieve the goal of a perfectly platted map for not only the law firm, but its clients. Other attorneys and title abstractors often consulted her when they had questions about the title to a real estate parcel, drawing on Sandy's very extensive knowledge of the land records in the Horry County Register of Deeds. She always went out of her way to help them, and she did not hesitate to help new attorneys or abstractors who appeared to need help. She wanted to be nice to everyone!

Surviving are her loving husband of 35 years, John C. Thomas, and her only sister/bestie Paula Graham, of St. Petersburg, Florida. In addition, there are two special cousins, Florrie Southerland, of Pinehurst, North Carolina, and Eddie Cowart of Myrtle Beach.

During the course of her marriage, she has had three special sweet girl dogs who came to live with John and her: Penny, a Shetland sheep dog; Daisy, a Tibetan spaniel mix, and Bella, who has so many varieties within her making her personality shine every day for her parents.

And, of course, her friendships with so many people were legendary!

Sandy's desire to deeply know about her friends and her neighbors was amazing. From the first time she ever said Hello to you, she would look at you intently as you told her your story, remembering details for future conversations. She would be the first to say "Please" and the first to say "Thank You" for everything you did for her. This attitude extended to people she met in her everyday life. She wanted every person she met to know that they were seen by her and appreciated by her.

She attributed her inner love of people to her deep faith in God and Jesus Christ. She felt it was her calling as a believer to extend her unequivocal love to others. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Conway, where she had previously been active for many years. While many illnesses and multiple cancers left her body ravaged, her spirit soared every day of her life. She always thanked God for this.

A celebration of Sandy's life will be held on January 26, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., at New El Bethel United Methodist Church, 2811 Church Street, Conway, SC 29526. Visitation will start at 2:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the North Myrtle Beach Humane Society, through their website, humanesocietynmb.org, which is where Bella

was adopted by Sandy and John. They are trying to build a new facility and need all of your help in getting that facility built.

Sandy would appreciate knowing that each of you, every day, say at least one "Please" and one "Thank You" to somebody you don't even know to make their day better. As her family, we ask that you start that today.

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **26**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

New El Bethel United Methodist Church
2811 Church St
Conway, SC 29526
(843) 353-1938

Memorial Service

JAN **26**. 3:00 PM.

New El Bethel United Methodist Church

Tribute Wall

HM

“ I’m so sorry John, yet so filled with joy for Sandy, as I echo her “Hallelujah”!!
I loved Sandy as a sister. More importantly, I
I know without a doubt that she loved me too. As painful as this has
to be for all who were blessed to know her, we all know where she
is now~ HOME.
I love you John.
Holly Massey
Florence, SC

Holly Massey - February 07, 2024 at 11:56 AM

CL

“ Mr John, the service today was full of love from friends and
acquaintances of Sandy and your family. We know she touched
many hearts during her life. In the short time that we knew her, while
normally walking in the neighborhood with Bella, we knew she was
a very special person. We always enjoyed our brief visits. We hope
to see you and Bella occasionally. Please call on us at any time.
May God bless and keep you. Cindy and Richard Little

Cindy Little - January 26, 2024 at 04:53 PM



“ Mr. John, Please accept my sincerest condolences. Although I have
only been in the ROD for the past 10 years, I have always heard
many stories on the impact that your wife placed on this office and
members of the legal community. We enjoyed many quick chats in
the hallway or the office, of which I will miss the most! May the
memories & the peace of God bless you in the days ahead!

Kendall Brown - January 26, 2024 at 04:47 PM

BS

“ John and family, we are so sorry for your loss and know words can not fill the hole left in many hearts, but wanted you to know we are sending our thoughts and prayers to you at this difficult time.
sincerely Betty Ann and Brian Shaw

Betty Ann Shaw - January 26, 2024 at 11:30 AM

TR

“ Tina Rockey lit a candle in memory of Sandra Graham Thomas



Tina Rockey - January 26, 2024 at 06:46 AM

TR

Rest in Peace sweet Sandy, you were always so sweet to me.

Tina Rockey - January 26, 2024 at 06:48 AM

BT

“ John, I'm so sorry to hear about your wife. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. John, if you're ever need to talk I'm here for you!



Brenda Tyler - January 25, 2024 at 09:43 PM

NW

“ Mrs. Sandy was loved by our family. My kids would light up when they saw her walking down the street with Bella, and would run to greet her. I always enjoyed speaking to Mrs. Sandy. She was always so kind and such an encourager. Her love for Jesus was quite clear. She will be greatly missed. Im thankful that she has been made whole in heaven with Jesus now,
II Corinthians 5 :1-5. We are praying for you John and Paula. ❤️
The Wall family

Natalie Wall - January 25, 2024 at 07:25 PM

FD

“ From All of us in Suite D purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Sandra Graham Thomas.



From All of us in Suite D - January 25, 2024 at 12:33 PM

SC

“ I was very sad to hear about Sandy. Although she was technically my parents' next door neighbor, she was my neighbor too. She was a good friend to my Mom and Dad, and I always enjoyed talking to her and Bella at the end of the driveway when my daughter Olivia and I would come over to visit. She was always pleasant to talk to, and when I was going through cancer treatments and my own health struggles, she was always checking in to see how I was doing and quick to give some uplifting words. My daughter always had to speak to "Mrs. Sandy", even if we were inside and saw her walking by with Bella. She would run to the door and go outside to yell "Hey Mrs. Sandy!", plenty loud enough for the whole neighborhood to hear. She touched a lot of lives in such a positive way, and she will truly be missed. John, you, Paula and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Sarah Carmichael - January 25, 2024 at 08:57 AM

AP

“ Sandy was the first Maplewood resident Allen and I met when we moved into our Long Avenue Extension home. We live directly across from Maplewood and walk the neighborhood when our energy permits. We looked forward to our chats with Sandy as she walked Bella. We are saddened by the loss of such a kind soul. We pray God surrounds you with peace and comfort, John. Allen and Debbie Petricek

Allen and Debbie Petricek - January 25, 2024 at 07:42 AM

JT

“ Sandy was the first to welcome us to the neighborhood and was always so thoughtful. You could tell she genuinely cared about each of us. My little one Ellie couldn't wait to jump out the car to go run meet her and Bella daily to chat with them for a while. Sandy was a special lady and her presence is surely missed. Praying for John and the family during this difficult time.

jennifer & Joey Tyler - January 25, 2024 at 07:39 AM

BG

“ When I first met Sandy on my neighborhood walks, it was obvious to me that she was a Christian. She told me about her lifelong health issues, but never in complaint. She expressed that she had no fear of death, but actually would welcome release from this "tattered body". She has been called the Maplewood Mayor and our Ambassador. She knew all about her neighbors in our day to day lives, our joys and our troubles, but not because she was nosy but because she genuinely cared for all of us. I will really miss the almost daily encounters with her and Bella. When she wanted a visit she would call me from my yard work and say "Bob, Bella wants to talk with you." I will truly miss her conversations and look forward to more chats with her in heaven. John and Paula, please know that my prayers will be for God's peace and comfort for you in her loss.
Bob Grooms

Bob Grooms - January 24, 2024 at 05:41 PM

CR

“ So sad to hear of Sandy's passing. She was such a sweet kindhearted lady. I always enjoyed talking to her as she walked Bella by my home. We would laugh about our conversations.
Prayers for the family.
Cheryl Robertson

Cheryl Robertson - January 24, 2024 at 12:01 PM

CW

“ John, Ricky and I are very sorry to learn of Sandra's passing. My memories of her as being a sweet and endearing person each time we spoke at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church. I pray that you find peace and comfort in the beautiful memories the two of you made. With sincere sympathies; Connie and Ricky Warren

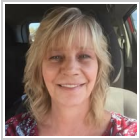


Connie Warren - January 23, 2024 at 07:38 PM

PS

John, my deepest sympathy to you on the loss of Sandy. Knowing her when I use to work at Probate Court, she was such a sweet and joyful person when she came into the office. She will always be remembered by her kindness and great personality. My prayers are with you during this difficult time. Sincerely, Patsy Smith

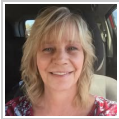
Patsy Smith - January 24, 2024 at 10:57 AM



“ Patty Crawford lit a candle in memory of Sandra Graham Thomas



Patty Crawford - January 23, 2024 at 03:53 PM



My deepest sympathy for your loss. I meet Sandy many years ago. She helped me so many times while learning to do doing land research. It was always a pleasure to see Sandy and talk to her. Such a sweet and friendly person. Sandy will be missed by many. Rest in Peace my friend.

Patty Crawford - January 23, 2024 at 04:03 PM

MG

“ Sandy was a kind, always pleasant, lovely lady. She and Bella always stopped for a chat when we met walking or when she saw me working in my yard. She always encouraged me in my feeble attempts at what she called my "English Garden". She really did enjoy my flowers and I am glad they gave her pleasure. My grandchildren in the neighborhood loved her and Bella's visits as well. We in Maplewood will surely miss her. My prayers are with John and Paula for God's comfort.

Mari Lu Grooms - January 23, 2024 at 11:59 AM

WH

“ Oh my, John I am so sorry. Sandy has been a dear friend of mine since starting at Family Court over 40 years ago. We had long talks together and she was always so positive. I watched her go through cancer treatments, still keeping her happy, positive demeanor. I just saw her this past December and she was as bubbly as ever. She was a sweet, wonderful friend to me!

Wanda Hughes - January 23, 2024 at 10:10 AM

JT

I knew Sandy when I worked in the Register of Deeds, she was always a pleasant person and much loved by everyone that knew her. John I'm so sorry to hear of Sandys passing. She is resting in the arms of Jesus free from pain. She will always be remembered as everyone's special friend.

Joyce Todd - January 23, 2024 at 09:49 PM

JK

“ John I am so sad to hear of Sandy's passing, my heart just aches for you and your family. I thought the world of her, she was one of the kindest and most genuine people I've ever known. I have such great memories working with her at BLF. She was so smart and such a hard worker. A true friend to everyone!

Jo Nell Koch - January 22, 2024 at 08:58 PM

SW

So sorry to hear passing of Sandy. Sandy was friend to all. She always had kindness in her heart. Rest in peace.

Sue Wilson - January 22, 2024 at 09:08 PM

JD

“ Thinking of you, John & Paula! Sandy was a great colleague and even a better friend. I am so glad that we enjoyed 40 years of friendship. She was a very smart lady and will be very missed by so many people who have known her.
Sending prayers, Jill Griffith and Dan Riegle



Jill & Dan - January 22, 2024 at 03:03 PM

JM

“ John, I am so sorry to hear of Sandy's passing. She was such a loving and giving person. One of the last memories I have of Sandy was the delicious chocolate chip cake she made for the girls in Probate Court. May you find peace and comfort in the days ahead.

Jane L Martin - January 22, 2024 at 02:36 PM

CG

John, we were so shocked to hear of Sandy's sudden passing. She was a lovely, kind lady, but her spirit lives on. Her kindness and love for others were always apparent in whatever she did. We all loved and respected her. She was so helpful to me when she shared food with us and chauffeured me to my PT appointments when I was recovering from surgery. My heart breaks for you and little Bella. May God share His peace with you in the days to come.

Carolyn Gobbel - January 22, 2024 at 11:45 PM

EC

“ *Mr. John and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Mrs. Sandy was one of a kind and will be truly be missed. I'm praying for peace and comfort for you all.*

Edwina Cox-Moss - January 22, 2024 at 01:05 PM

SR

“ *John and family*

I just learned of Sandy's passing today. She was truly a "special" lady whom I loved and respected. I never passed her in the Halls of the Court House that she didn't have time to stop and chat. She always referred to me as Miss Sylvia - how are you today. John, family and friends we will miss Sandy but her legacy will live on in our hearts for a life fully lived. May God grant you peace and comfort now and in the coming days.



Sylvia Richardson - January 22, 2024 at 11:48 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Sandra Graham Thomas.*



January 22, 2024 at 11:09 AM



“ *John and Paula,*

It's hard to know exactly what to say, but Martin and I are so very sorry for the loss of Sandy. She was a wonderful neighbor and a special friend, and as Bess said, the ambassador for Maplewood. Although she didn't have children, she kept up with the neighborhood children and grandchildren as if they were her own. Our granddaughter, Olivia, always looked forward to seeing "Miss Sandy" and talking with her about school, art, and animals. She loved "Miss Sandy" and misses her very much.

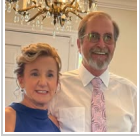
Please know that you are both in our hearts and prayers, and remember we are right next door.

Era Carmichael - January 22, 2024 at 10:33 AM



“ *I only had the pleasure of meeting Sandy a few times. I was struck by her joyful personality. She and John made a such a perfect couple. She had great stories that were so insightful and interesting. I regret that I did not get to spend more time with her. My prayers go out to John and her family.*

Candy Mantell - January 22, 2024 at 09:58 AM



“ John, Paula and family, I am so very sorry for your loss. Sandy was one of the kindest and genuinely caring persons I had ever met. As much as we are grieving her loss I cannot imagine your pain. Continued prayers for comfort as you go through this journey. I pray that you are filled with the wonderful memories shown in that beautiful picture and smile.

Sandy, my dear friend you will be missed by many. The entire Dill household always looked forward to catching you on your regular walks through the neighborhood to spend an uplifting moment with you and loving on Bella. Thank you for being a caring neighbor, a wonderful friend and my prayer partner/warrior. Many times as we ended our conversation you would wish me “peace”. So I will be holding on to that peace until we meet again.

Missy Dill - January 22, 2024 at 09:09 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Sandra Graham Thomas.



January 21, 2024 at 05:47 PM



“ Robin Meyers lit a candle in memory of Sandra Graham Thomas



Robin Meyers - January 21, 2024 at 04:34 PM

DM

“ John, I am sorry to hear of the passing of Sandy. She was a special lady. I first met her as a law clerk and the Bellamy Firm. She taught me many things that I still use in my practice. I pray you find peace and strenght in the Lord as you grieve the loss you your wonderful wife.

Danny MacDonald

Danny MacDonald - January 21, 2024 at 04:19 PM

BS

“ Sandy and I were kindred spirits. One day it maybe great love and admiration. The next day we were foes. Through all of that we had a mutual respect of our relationship. I met Sandy about the same time I met Judge Stanton Cross May 1976 at the Horry County Clerk of Court Department.

Sandy will be missed by the Court house Crew . Sincere condolences to her Husband Atty. John Thomas and Paula..

Rest easy in Paradise Sandy 🙏🙏🙏🙏

Ballery Skipper

Horry County Registrar of Deeds July 1994-March 2015

Ballery Skipper - January 21, 2024 at 02:34 PM

BD

“ Sandy was a wonderful woman with a pure and sweet spirit. She will definitely be missed.

Bret Davis - January 20, 2024 at 10:31 PM

GG

“ How thankful I am for Mrs. Sandy to be a part of my "Adult Village". I will miss our text messages, chit chats, love for title examinations, and exchange of Jacquie Lawson's Virtual Cards on holidays/ notes to brighten a "regular day"! I miss her soooo much. I love you Atty. Thomas and praying for your family. Love, GeFranya

GeFranya M. Graham - January 20, 2024 at 08:33 PM

MP

“ John, we still cannot believe that Sandy is gone! She would always go above and beyond to assist anyone in need at the courthouse. Over the years new employees and our summer interns would return to the office excited because "a nice lady" provided aid, extended an affectionate smile, or nice words. Immediately we knew it was likely Sandy! We missed seeing her at the courthouse and would always asked GeFranya to tell her "Hello". We will continue to pray and ask God to convey his strength upon you and your family. Take Care ! McIver & Graham Attorneys at Law.

McIver & Graham, P.A. - January 20, 2024 at 08:23 PM

GF

“ We will forever cherish Sandy's friendship! She was such a genuine person and NEVER met a stranger. We have enjoyed viewing how the two of you loved and supported each other through the years. John, our prayers are with you and we love you! George, Frances, GeFranya & George E.

Graham Family - January 20, 2024 at 08:13 PM

BH

“ Sandy & I met many years ago while working for the assessors office in Conway. So brilliant, so kind, her obit is so true. She loved everyone and was always willing to help. I'm sure she is at peace. Prayers for all of her family & friends. Bonny Hilburn. Loris s.c

bonny hilburn - January 20, 2024 at 07:47 PM

MB

“ I knew her when I worked for family court. She was always very pleasant and friendly. I could see she was a good person. My prayers are with the family and friends 🌹

Martha Boyd - January 20, 2024 at 07:04 PM

BF

“ Sandy was the spirit of our Maplewood community. I looked forward to seeing her each day while walking Bella. We had many chats throughout the years. She was such a kind and friendly lady. We will miss you greatly. John and family; you have our deepest sympathy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Bryan Fink - January 20, 2024 at 05:01 PM

EE

I will miss Sandy so much! She was such a joy to see & talk with in our neighborhood!! I shall miss her & my prayers are with John & family!! God Bless all!! ❤️❤️

Ellen Edwards - January 20, 2024 at 06:57 PM

CF

Sandy was a wonderful Lady she will be missed

Carmen Floyd - January 21, 2024 at 06:46 PM

VC

“ Thoughts and prayers are with your family. You will be missed. Such a Special beautiful friend ❤️🙏

Vicki Carroll - January 20, 2024 at 04:18 PM

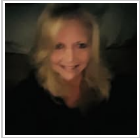
DS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you. God bless.

Donna Graham Smith



Donna G Smith - January 20, 2024 at 03:52 PM



“ Sandy, you were the first neighbor I met when I moved to Long Ave. Thank you for your kindness and friendship. I will miss seeing you and Bella on our walks.

Susan Powell - January 20, 2024 at 03:50 PM

JM

“ Jackie Martin lit a candle in memory of Sandra Graham Thomas



Jackie Martin - January 20, 2024 at 02:30 PM