



Sandi Dee Dunham

July 19, 1960 - May 9, 2018

Sandra “Sandi” Dee Dunham, age 57, of Ottumwa, completed her long journey with multiple myeloma on Wednesday, May 9, 2018, at her home in Ottumwa, under the care of Good Samaritan Society Hospice, and surrounded by her loving family.

Sandi was born on July 19, 1960, to Ron and Jane (Fleener) Dunham, in Albia. She graduated from the Albia High School with the Class of 1978. She worked in manufacturing until settling at AYM in Albia where she worked for 21 years, 10 of which she was a CNC operator and 11 years as a quality control assistant. All of us have a family that we were born into. At AYM her family grew. AYM’s motto is “More than a brand, we are family.” This was especially true for Sandi, which is almost unheard of these days. She believed that no other company compared to the compassion shown to her by AYM.

Sandi was an avid collector of Coca-Cola memorabilia. She enjoyed a “winning” scratch off lottery ticket and was a number one fan of Buffy, the Walking Dead and Dr. Who. Above all, Sandi loved spending time with her family and friends, especially her grandchildren.

Sandi is survived by her son, Ryan (Amelia Hughes) Dunham; Mike Jespersen, Ryan’s father; her father, Ron (Diane) Dunham; 2 grandsons, Jaxsen and Axl Dunham; a sister, Debra (Jim) Ballalatak; a brother, Ray Jr.

(Lori) Vitko; a stepbrother, Mark Dunham; an aunt, Lea Weldon; her nieces and nephews, Kristin (Ryan) Kirk, Sammy Jo (Dustin) Albert, Andrea Ballalatak, Kaitlyn (TeJay Meredith) Vitko, Tyler (Kimber Frierichs) Vitko, Tanner (Bethany) Vitko, Britney Yockum and Zachary Dunham; 2 special cousins, Gabrielle Weldon and Cody Kaplan; 4 great nieces, Brinley Kirk, Rylee Albert, Jenna Vitko, and Aubree Meredith and 3 great nephews, Caden, Kyler and Maverick. Sandi is also survived by several cousins and good friends.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Jane; her grandparents, Sam and Wilma Fleener and Robert and Josephine Dunham; a stepsister, Shelly Dunham; and 2 special cousins, David Fleener and Nick Weldon.

Visitation will be held from 2:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 12, 2018, at Tharp Funeral Home in Albia with Sandi's family present from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. to greet family and friends.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Sunday, May 13, 2018, at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia. A private family burial will be held at a later date at Forest Cemetery in Oskaloosa.

A memorial has been established to the Lymphoma and Melanoma Foundation in Sandi's name.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 12. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home
116 Benton Ave.
Albia, IA 52531
(641) 932-3129
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

Funeral Service

MAY 13. 11:00 AM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home
116 Benton Ave.
Albia, IA 52531
(641) 932-3129
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Sandi Dee Dunham*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Sandi Dee Dunham*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *Have known Sandi since she was a baby, and she later became my niece. She made her home with her grandparents, an arrangement that worked for her as well as them. Sandi had a good sense of humor and I always enjoyed our time together. My husband, Sam Fleener was her uncle who passed away March 5. My condolences to Sandi's son, Ryan and family. Rita Fleener*

Rita Deyo Fleener - May 19, 2018 at 08:06 PM



“ *17 files added to the album Life w/our Sandi*



deb - May 12, 2018 at 01:08 PM

DP

“ So so sad to hear about Sandi she was such a nice person fun to be around there was never a dull moment with Sandi. Rest In Peace Sandi. Heaven has gained a very sweet angel



DeAnne Purvis - May 11, 2018 at 08:19 PM

CM

“ The most courageous person I have ever met! Always smiling, helping others, she kept a positive attitude through it all! I am honored to have been her friend.

Cheryl Main - May 11, 2018 at 06:04 PM

TS

“ Thomas Shovlain lit a candle in memory of Sandi Dee Dunham



Thomas Shovlain - May 11, 2018 at 12:24 PM

JG

“ Joann Gergely lit a candle in memory of Sandi Dee Dunham



Joann Gergely - May 10, 2018 at 10:13 PM

AL

“ I met sandy on her first day of work . So many years ago. So many funny story,s when I think of sandy I smile. That was sandy. Always putting you first and always making you laugh I'm sorry for your loss. Angela Lewis

Angela Lewis - May 10, 2018 at 09:15 PM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Sandi Dee Dunham.



May 10, 2018 at 08:16 PM

RG

“ A beautiful Lady who I had the honor of meeting and got to know briefly. Sandy will be greatly missed by many. Condolences to her family & close friends.

Roxanna Gonzales
D.M., Iowa



Roxanna Gonzales - May 10, 2018 at 05:57 PM



“ Angie Gilbert McCombs lit a candle in memory of Sandi Dee Dunham



Angie Gilbert McCombs - May 10, 2018 at 05:26 PM

KK

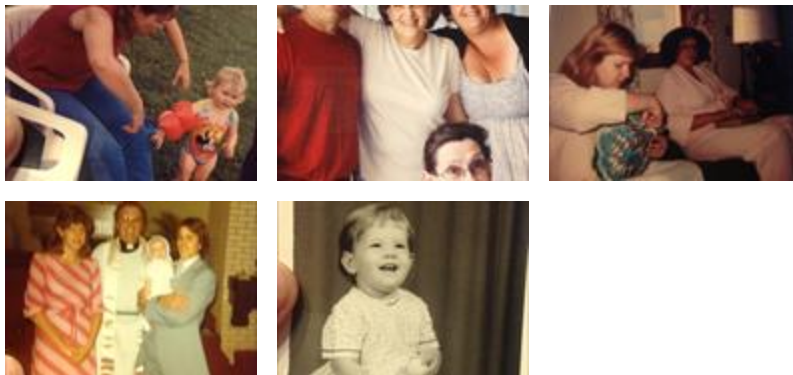
“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



Kristin Kirk - May 10, 2018 at 05:12 PM

DE

“ 24 files added to the album Sandra Dee growing up...



Deb - May 10, 2018 at 04:45 PM

Mick
Critchlow

“ Sandi was not only my hero, she was my Sis!!! Love you forever and always, Sis!!!
And one final Dilly dilly. Till we meet again.

Mick Critchlow - May 10, 2018 at 04:00 PM


Georgia
Smith

“ *Georgia Smith lit a candle in memory of Sandi
Dee Dunham*



Georgia Smith - May 10, 2018 at 03:57 PM

CA

“ *Sandi was one of kind probably the most kind and compassionate
person I've ever known.Love you girl.Rest In Paradise.You will be
missed by all.*

Cheryl Ann - May 10, 2018 at 03:52 PM


Tim
McVey

“ *Tim McVey lit a candle in memory of Sandi
Dee Dunham*



Tim McVey - May 10, 2018 at 03:29 PM