



## Sandra Thompson

October 31, 1941 - July 7, 2011

Beloved wife and mother, Sandra Lee Schillinger Thompson, 69, of Searcy, passed away on Thursday, July 7, 2011. Sandra was born in Conyngham, Pennsylvania, October 31, 1941, to her beloved parents, the late Paul and Emily Schillinger.

Sandra was a retired elementary school teacher, inspiring classes for four decades in three states, including 27 years in the Little Rock School District. She was the featured baton twirler at Ole Miss, performing in three Sugar Bowls and a Cotton Bowl. Sandra was in the "Parade of Beauties" and "Parade of Favorites" at Ole Miss, and was also first runner-up to Miss District of Columbia in 1962. Sandy was also proud to score a "hole-in-one" on the golf course at Hot Springs Village.

Sandra recently celebrated 48 years of marriage to Frank M. Thompson of Searcy. She is survived by three sons, Todd A. Thompson, of Brentwood, Tennessee, Captain Steven V. Thompson, of Searcy, and Jeffrey P. Thompson, of Reno, Nevada. Sandy was especially proud of her six grandchildren, Heather, 13, Zach, 12, Emily, 10, Courtney, 9, Lily, 3, and Eli, 2. A celebration of her life will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 10, at Powell Funeral Home in Searcy. Friends and family are also welcome for Saturday evening visitation, from 6-8.

Our family would like to thank Arkansas Oncology Associates, the 7th floor staff of St. Vincent Hospital, and Arkansas Hospice in Little Rock for their excellent

care, service and compassion. [www.powellfuneralhome.net](http://www.powellfuneralhome.net)

# Tribute Wall

TL

“ I am just reading this in May of 2025. I do wonder if anyone will ever read this. Sandy was my baton-twirling teacher at the College of William & Mary summer band camp. All of her students **ADORED** her. I did met Frank briefly in the summer of 1963. I believe he intended to become a band director, himself. I remember, too, that she was an Alexandria, VA, girl. She was also runner-up to Miss Washington, DC--a talented beauty. In those two summer band camps I attended, she touched a lot of lives, mine included. I am sorry to learn that she did not live a long life, but that girl/woman was definitely **LOVED**, and she is remembered fondly. Those were two of the best summers of my life. I met the cutest majorettes from all over Virginia, and every football game, every parade, and **ESPECIALLY** Band Day at U. Va., we had such joyful reunions. Sincerely, Tom Lester, Pompano Beach, FL.

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**Tom Lester** - May 08, 2025 at 08:23 PM

AR

“ Dear Frank, Todd, Steve and Jeff,

*I am so sorry I can't attend the services this weekend. I would love to be there to see you and to join in the celebration of Sandy's life. I have so many memories of time with your family. I remember very well your mom's voice and how it carried through the house, the energy she brought to raising three sons and how proudly she spoke of each of you, the large spreads of food she would prepare for gatherings, and even the way she decorated at Christmas. I remember your house so well...the bamboo motif, how spacious everything seemed, the contrast between the decor in each of your bedrooms...all a reflection of your mom's style and the way she embraced the individuality of each of her three sons. It meant so much that she and Frank attended my wedding nine years ago. My deepest sympathies to you all. With love, Anne Humphries Rooney*

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**Anne Rooney** - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

BT

“ We are saddened to hear of the loss of precious Sandy. We had the honor and privilege to be Thompson neighbors on McAdoo for many years. What a delightful, dedicated, fun loving mother and wife. She truly danced the dance of life. Holding your family close in our prayers and hearts. The J.B. Johnson family

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**Barbara Johnson Taylor** - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

PD

“ I was so sorry to read about Sandy's death. I taught with her at McDermott. She was our Math Coach and then taught in the classroom. She was a good person and we went to many educational meetings together. Y

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**Paula Doan** - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

PH

“ Todd, so sorry for your loss. Sandy was a beautiful lady and you will hold her dear in your heart always.

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**Penny Hooper** - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

JS

“ Frank & Family. So very sorry for your loss. Sandy was a lovely woman. I remember our good Ole days @ OM in the band and eating supper together in Oxford after band practice. I've thought about ya'll often these past 48 years. When you have time, let me hear from you. May God's Peace be with you and your family. Love, Joe Smith

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**Joe Lee Smith** - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

PM

“ Dear Frank, Todd, Steve, Jeff, and respective families,

*On behalf of the Schillinger and Scholl families we can't express the loss we're all feeling. Sandy was a wonderful woman and will remain in our thoughts forever. She was a vibrant, loving and caring woman, wife, mother and friend. We feel blessed to have had her in our family. The only solace is knowing that she is no longer hurting and is now with her mother and father. I'm sure she's looking down on all of you and smiling and will remain with you until the end of time. We love you and will always be here for you. Aunt Ruth and I are glad we were able to see her one last time before she passed.*

*With Much love always, Patti and Bill, Aunt Ruth, Diane and Mike, Lisa and Des, Michael, Shawn, Richard, Darien, Heather and Brian.*

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**Patti Scholl Mussenden** - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

WW

“ I am so sorry to hear of Sandra's passing. Tommy and Jeff were best friends in Junior, and High School. I want the family to know that my heart goes out to them. May God be with you at this moment in time.

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**Wendy Symons Williamson** - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

PB

“ Mrs. Thompson was my 6th grade teacher at First Lutheran. She was absolutely awesome and was one of the people who inspired me to become a teacher.

My condolences to you all. She is remembered as one awesome teacher!

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**Paula Chase Bettis** - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

DY

“ Dear Frank, Todd, Steve, Jeff and families,  
I'm so sorry that I didn't get the opportunity to say goodbye to Sandy. She was such a great cousin and always looked so young for her age. Her beautiful bright smile, those gorgeous 'Liz Taylor' eyes and that crazy 'twangy accent' always made her one of a kind. I feel like I've learned a hard lesson and it's a lesson that we've all heard time and time again. Stop putting visits off until another day. There may not be one. I just never thought that someone as young and vibrant as Sandy would be taken away from us and now I'm sorry that I didn't take her up on her many invitations to visit your family in Arkansas. It's a hard lesson to learn, and one that can't be taken back.

*It does give me some comfort to know that Sandy is finally with her beloved parents. She has missed them for a very long time.*

*Frank and boys, I can also tell you that I know Sandy loved you more than words could ever say. I remember our long phone calls and how much she would 'crow' on each and every one of you. Our phone calls were never short because she had 3 of you and a story about each one that she wanted to share. She was so proud of all of your accomplishments and the beautiful families you've all created. "Oh those Grandbabies", she would say!*

*And Frank, she absolutely adored you. You could just hear her puff up over the phone when she spoke about all of you.*

*My love and prayers go out to you all.*

*I'll miss you cuz.*

*Lot of love, Diane, Mike, Shawn, Richard, Darien and Matt.*

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**Diane Yount** - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM

BM

“ Hi Frank,

*I found the information about Sandy's passing, totally by accident. So sorry for your loss, and that of your sons.*

*I remember meeting Sandy on what, I think, was her first trip to Oxford. She and her parents were at the Babcocks and we had a great introduction.*

*Our years at Ole Miss were filled with trials, errors and great successes. Double baton ariels that Sandy did were absolutely amazing.*

*The last time I saw the two of you was at your wedding in Manassas. Our friendships, which I treasure, are still kindled in spite of the time and distance.*

*May all of you find a comfortable peace.*

*Bob Martin*

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**Bob Martin** - March 29, 2013 at 02:11 PM