



## Sandra (Sam) Chappell

September 20, 1941 - April 16, 2024

Sandra K. (Sam) Holder Chappell was born September 20, 1941 at Hobart, Oklahoma. She passed April 16, 2024, at Houston Medical Center in Conroe. Sam Graduated from Healdton, Oklahoma High School, where she was a member of the band.

Upon graduation, Sam attended South Eastern State University in Durant Oklahoma with a triple major in English, Speech, and Drama. In her junior year she met Oran Chappell, Jr., the love of her life. Their dates were mostly late at night after play practice.

Oran and Sam married upon graduation in 1963 and got jobs in the H.I.S.D. Numerous of Sam's students won state in debate and extemporaneous speaking. She was named Outstanding Young Educator in HISD.

After having her only child, Donna Sue, she retired and became very active in Girl Scouts, serving as co-director for San Jacinto Scouts.

In 1987, Sam became a Type 1 diabetic, but with management, continued traveling the U.S. and British Isles.

Sandra was the daughter of Troy and Viola Holder (deceased). She is survived by her husband, Oran, daughter, Donna Sue and husband Robert, and granddaughter Elizabeth. She is also survived by sisters, TeLoa Butler, Brenda and Robert Amos, and Alicia Holder.

Donations may be made to Willis Methodist Church in lieu of flowers.

# Cemetery Details

## Smith Memorial Park

10129 FM 1097 Rd W  
Willis, TX 77318

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 20. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Willis  
10129 FM 1097 Rd. W  
Willis, TX 77318

## Funeral Service

APR 21. 2:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Willis  
10129 FM 1097 Rd. W  
Willis, TX 77318

## Interment

APR 21. 3:30 PM (CT)

Smith Memorial Park  
10129 FM 1097 Rd W  
Willis, TX 77318



# Tribute Wall

RD

“ *Reica, Steve, Sheila and Dane purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Sandra (Sam) Chappell.*



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**Reica, Steve, Sheila and Dane** - April 18, 2024 at 01:21 PM

RW

“ *One of my earliest memories of my cousin Sam was when I was around 7 years old. We went to her home and she came for her prom dressed in a beautiful gown, I was totally in awe had never seen anyone so beautiful. I thought she was a princess! She was as beautiful inside as outside, loved her bubbly laugh and sweet personality, we will miss her.*

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**Reica Williams** - April 18, 2024 at 01:14 PM

KM

“ *Kellie, Kimbra, Ben and Shelia McClain purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Sandra (Sam) Chappell.*



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**Kellie, Kimbra, Ben and Shelia McClain** - April 18, 2024 at 01:11 PM

MW

“ Sam, Oren and Donna were our next door neighbors for about 12 years. We were so blessed to have this precious family in our lives. Sam's delightful smile and infectious laugh always lit up every conversation with her and she was so smart, caring and kind. We were a neighborhood of young families with growing kids over the years Andares so fortunate to have those years of cherished memories with Sam. She approached life with calmness, humor and such a great intellect- and it was always such a pleasure to enjoy that smile and laugh. She truly left a great legacy behind of joy and love for everyone who was lucky enough to know her.

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**Merry Wise** - April 18, 2024 at 11:52 AM

DT

“ Derrel and Linda Chappell, Tracye purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Sandra (Sam) Chappell.



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**Derrel and Linda Chappell, Tracye** - April 18, 2024 at 09:48 AM

MH

“ Mrs. Chappell was one of my favorite adults!! Those hour or two for a weekly meetings were a grand escape for many of us girls, that I now understand had a really tough home life. So many of us just wanted Mrs. Chappell to be our mom. One girl in the troop used to tape pictures of herself, over of pictures of Donna, in the Chappell's home. It might have been a fantasy for just an hour or two, but it was all the escape that some of us had access to. As an adult, I now understand how much these girls needed an escape from their reality, and Mrs. Chappell provided that escape to several of us. She was the "mom" so many wished & dreamed that they had. Donna was one lucky kid!! You will always be a role model to me, Sam You were the reason I became a scout leader, despite not having children of my own. I knew what that escape meant for some of the girls. May you rest in peace. You were "One of the good ones!" This world, sure will miss you!

*Michelle Herren*

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**Michelle Herren** - April 18, 2024 at 02:30 AM

MH

“ Michelle Herren & Debi Tolson Holder purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Sandra (Sam) Chappell.



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**Michelle Herren & Debi Tolson Holder** - April 17, 2024 at 09:39 PM