



Sandra Kae Joy

November 7, 1939 - March 21, 2022

In July 1964, Sandra Kae “Sandy” McCafferty met Larry Sherman Joy at their place of employment. They hit it off immediately and after courting for just four months, Larry and Sandy tied the knot. The marriage lasted nearly 58 years, until Sandy’s death on March 21, 2022.

Sandy was born Nov. 7, 1939, in Indianola, Nebraska, to Dean McCafferty and Garnett (Jones) McCafferty. When Sandy was 5, Dean and Garnett — along with Sandy and her older brother, Larry — moved west to Long Beach, California.

Sandy’s schooling took place at Lafayette Elementary School, George Washington Junior High School — a time during which she briefly taught Sunday school to younger children — and Long Beach Polytechnic High School, before she attended Long Beach City College.

Sandy exchanged vows with Larry Joy on Nov. 28, 1964. Their once small family quickly grew into a family of five that included two sons, Kent and Darrin, and a daughter, Kristin.

Sandy focused primarily on keeping the home and raising the children in their Ventura, California, home. Once the children were in school at Saticoy Elementary, Sandy took a position at the school as a part-time teacher’s aide. She demonstrated a real joy for helping children learn and more than a passing talent for recreating certain comic characters, most notably those of Charles Schultz’s Peanuts.

After the children graduated high school, Sandy and Larry moved to Visalia, California, for several years. They then gave midwestern life a try in Guthrie, Oklahoma, but the separation from their children — and Sandy’s distaste for tornadoes — proved too much to bear, and they returned to Visalia in 1996, remaining there for the next 15 years.

Sandy enjoyed exploring the country around Visalia with Larry, and the couple would often go on long drives together. Family gatherings for holidays were particularly special to

Sandy and she loved to cook when family was together.

Upon retirement, Sandy and Larry relocated to a retirement community in Bakersfield, California. For the next seven years, Sandy and Larry made a home there, weathering several threats to their health, including Sandy's severe bout with valley fever as well as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Most significant and valued among the couple's experiences in Bakersfield, however, were the cherished friendships they established in the community. Sandy often spoke with fondness of the people she interacted with in her day-to-day life, clearly delighted to know them and proud of the relationships she had developed with each.

Sandy died peacefully at home while sleeping in her familiar recliner as the television quietly played her favorite shows. She was 82.

Sandy is survived by her husband, Larry; daughter Kristin Joy-Smith and son-in-law Steve Smith; son Darrin Joy and daughter-in-law Elizabeth Joy; son Kent Stober; nephew Tim McCafferty; granddaughters Samantha McKinney and Rachel Joy; and grandsons Kyle Meyer and Matthew Joy.

Flowers and notes may be sent to the Mission Family Mortuary, 531 California Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93304

Cemetery Details

Bakersfield National Cemetery

30338 E Bear Mountain Blvd
Arvin, CA 93203

Previous Events

Graveside

APR 6. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (PT)

Bakersfield National Cemetery
30338 E Bear Mountain Blvd
Arvin, CA 93203

Tribute Wall

CJ

“ Larry and family. Mike and I will be thinking of you today and the days to come. Though we are not there in person, we are there in spirit sending you comfort in this difficult time. While I personally had little time with Sandy, I enjoyed her quick wit and humor and will miss our shared compassion for setting things right in this world. It is a better place for those who knew her.

Again, sending love and peace. Mike and Cathy Joy

Cathy Joy - April 06 at 10:34 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sandra Kae Joy.



April 05 at 08:59 PM

MC

“ Mike and Cathy purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Sandra Kae Joy.



Mike and Cathy - April 04 at 02:01 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Mission Funeral Home - April 04 at 12:37 PM