



Sandra L. Dean

January 9, 1946 - August 21, 2016

Sandra Lou Dean, 70, of Iron Mountain, was called home to be with the Lord on August 21, 2016.

She was born on January 9, 1946 in Traverse City, Michigan, daughter of the late Garth and Helen (Curry) Dean. In March of 1963 the family moved to Iron Mountain. Sandy graduated from IMHS with the class of 1964 and graduated from Northern Michigan University with a degree in Social Work in 1969. Sandy worked for Community Schools as a Calligraphy Teacher, Payne and Dolan in Wisconsin, Foley Martens in Kingsford, Dr. John Fornetti in Iron Mountain, and the Balsam St. Christian Church in Kingsford. Sandy was a member of the Maranatha Assembly of God in Kingsford, the Cream City Calligraphers Guild in Milwaukee, as well as the International Guild for Lettering Artists. Sandy was also on the IM Senior Center board of directors.

Sandy enjoyed teaching Calligraphy, teaching Sunday School, travelling to Calligrapher workshops and retreats, traveling to visit family, and her local bible study group of friends. She was passionate about helping people, even people she didn't know well. When she heard someone was in need of something, she set out to fulfill that need for them.

Sandy was also passionate about pursuing her gift for the lettering arts, and for several years traveled around the country to attend International Lettering

Artist Convocations, to study with the worlds finest Calligraphers and Scribes. Sandy loved putting ink to paper and spent countless hours perfecting her craft. The greatest love of Sandy's life, however, was with her Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Sandy was preceded in death by her father, Garth Raymond Dean, by her mother, Helen Louise (Curry) Dean, and her sister, Meri Kay (Dean) DuFord.

She is survived by her brothers, Randy (Pam) Dean of Grand Junction, Colorado, and Rex Dean of Iron Mountain; a sister, Sue (Mark) Deacon of Clarkston, Michigan; brother-in-law, Lawrence DuFord of Iron Mountain; and nieces & nephews, Kit (Jeff) DeMuri of Florence, WI, Kimberly (David) Chen of Clarkston, MI, Lorne (Katie) Deacon of Pittsburg, PA, Mallory (Luke) Miller of Grand Rapids, MI, Keith Dean of Thornton, CO, and Michelle (Robbie) Dean of Salt Lake City, UT. Sandy also had 4 great nephews, Dominic, Oliver, Theodore, Gabriel and two great nieces, Samantha and Paxton, all of whom she dearly loved.

Visitation will be held on Friday, September 2 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain and on Saturday, September 3 from 10:00 to 11:00 am at the Maranatha Assembly of God in Kingsford. A Celebration of Sandy's Life will follow at 11:00 am on Saturday at the Maranatha Assembly of God. Rev. David Wilton will officiate. Burial will be in the Iron Mountain Cemetery Park.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Sandy Dean online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

The family has entrusted the Erickson- Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the funeral arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Cemetery Park

Cedar Ave
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 2. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Visitation

SEP 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Maranatha Assembly Of God
920 S. Carpenter Ave.
Kingsford, MI 49802

Celebration of Life

SEP 3. 11:00 AM (CT)

Maranatha Assembly Of God
920 S. Carpenter Ave.
Kingsford, MI 49802

Tribute Wall

SD

“ Who she will always be to me-Our Beloved Sister, 2+2=4
Sandra Lou Dean, was born on January 9th, 1946 to Garth and Helen Dean in Traverse City MI. "Sandy" always said she was so thankful for the parents she had and that she grew up during the time she did." :)

Soon she became big sister to Meri Kay whom Sandy has always said was her true "soul mate". What a Reunion They've had! :) 2+2

Together Sandy and Meri Kay/fondly called "Jo" by our family, bounced through life as best friends-- perhaps bc of the frequent moves required for dad's promotions with Michigan Bell Telephone, OR bc they were so close in age, or simply bc (a few years later) a brother Randy and Twins Rex and Sue come along--whatever the reason, they both knew they always had each other.

Together Sandy and Meri Kay were a big help to our mom and dad helping to care for we three youngest. Sandy continued to care for us well into adulthood-planning fun times together-like all of us traveling in a motor home together to Colorado to visit Randy, Pam, Keith and Michelle for a Rocky Mountain Rondevous. Sandy initiated making us feel special with our shared birthday cakes-celebrating each of us but in a together way:), and she was always readily available to talk over the phone at any hour.

.2+2

Our family moved to West B Street in Iron Mountain in 1963 and Sandy graduated from IMHS the following year in 1964. She attended Northern Michigan University in Marquette, where Meri Kay a year later would again become her roommate. :)

Sandy had a Zest for Life and she was SMART-VERY very smart. She wasn't boastful about it, but She would remind us that she had taken Latin in HS and that she learned to program a computer the size of a large room in college.

She was a stickler for proper English, manners and etiquette, and

later on computers would later become very important to her. She was well versed on MANY topics and if what she didn't know (but wanted to), she was determined to search until she discovered the info.

In 1997, Sandy greatly appreciated her first personal computer and spent hours late at night on it reading, learning and chatting with brother Randy, a fellow late night owl :)

Following graduation from NMU with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Social Work, Sandy eventually settled in Iron Mountain. She worked at a few different jobs, and then came her biggest job of all, caring for our mom. Sandy kept mom going and saw to it that Gramma Dean was in attendance for all of life's special moments with family:

piano recitals, school performances, sporting events, graduations, births, weddings, special ceremony's, vacations and weekend visits. This would not have been possible without the love and support of our brother Rex, who knew that Without Sandy, our family would have missed out on a lot of wonderful and fun times together, she really made "things" happen. She was so thoughtful of others and knew just the right thing to do or say, at just the right time.

Sandy IS our family historian. She was a proud TC Native and loved traveling there to visit with Family and share in telling and listening to stories of our family. The week Rex and I were with Sandy in Hospice Care, we heard heart warming stories of the impact Sandy had on the lives of her friends as they came to visit her. Sandy deeply loved ALL of her family and friends dearly.

Not having a family of her own, she embraced her neices, nephews, and great nieces and great nephews. Always taking an interest in their lives and documenting it with pictures-TWO Pictures of Everyone-Every Time :) at least two!

Sandy was very thoughtful and friendly with people of all ages. I know she especially enjoyed her time spent babysitting and teaching the Sunday school children.

Her Own Life yielded more Creative Genius than most of us will ever know or experience. A GIFTED Lettering ARTIST and Caligrapher, Sandy has left us a body of work we will forever cherish. Countless nights I can recall watching her late into the night sitting in solitude at moms table or My table creating her art. It was Sacred Time, you could tell, spent with her tools AND her Creator.

Every envelope she ever addressed, every piece of art she created, was pure perfection and beautiful.

She was passionate about her study of calligraphy and enjoyed many trips around the United States to study with the world's finest artists and even Queen Elizabeth's personal Scribe.

For many years Sandy was an active member of the Cream City Calligrapher's Guild in Milwaukee, and that was another true source of joy in her life. She would travel to Milwaukee often to learn another technique and to share fellowship with her calligraphy friends and colleagues.

Each of us here (and So many others) have been profoundly touched and made better because of Sandy and her art, her faith, and her compassion. She challenged us to grow and become better.

Please share with us the impact Sandy left on your own life as she has mentored each of us in some way, and many of us, most importantly in a Spiritual way.

Sandy's relationship with

GOD- the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit was ENVIABLE.

Christ came first in her life morning noon and night. So much so that she couldn't keep it to herself and began sharing it with others.

Sandy joyfully shared one of her greatest artistic labors of love in a poem that combines Scriptures-and affirms-Who we are in Christ.

Sandy's work entitled, 'Who Am I In Christ' was recited every day following her devotions with mom, then alone, and then together with me in her last days on Earth.

This was profoundly meaningful to her and she shared posters with everyone she met no matter where she was or who she was with.

Sandy was a mighty witness for God and SHE KNEW What she Believed and Why!

Sandy was a student of The Word-her bible-and a follower of Christ. This fed her faith every day of her life.

Please listen now as I read the scriptures, so beautifully lettered on paper by Sandy, as they were vitally important to her.

*We will always remember our beloved sister, and...
Who Am I In Christ?*

Sue Dean Deacon - September 03, 2016 at 11:45 PM

MB

“ *Sandy was always an encouragement to me to serve the Lord. Her testimonies, stories, desire to help others and hunger to know the Lord. She is time tested saint who will leave behind a memory for me as one the most sincere believers I know. She wasn't perfect but I do not know one of us who is. Although she was faithful through the many circumstances she walked through in her life doing so with God in her thoughts and heart. I am very grateful to have known Sandy Dean she will be missed .*

Mark Balicki

mark Balicki - September 01, 2016 at 03:34 PM

SB

“ *Sandy always was full of God's Word...speaking LIFE into every situation and reminding all of us to do so as well! :) She is enjoying herself, RUNNING around Heaven! I miss her, but Jesus is coming soon and we will see her again!*

Susan Bradbury - August 30, 2016 at 08:43 PM

JO

“ *Sandy was so kind to my mom when she was in ManorCare. When I would come into town she would take us out for lunch, then drive us to the park to see the albino deer and out to Deer Lake Location so mom could see her house. She was a blessing to many people. She will be missed by many. Jody Pauly*

Jody - August 24, 2016 at 04:57 PM

LN

“ *Larry & Nancy lit a candle in memory of Sandra L. Dean*



Larry & Nancy - August 24, 2016 at 01:31 PM