



Sandra Smith Mitchell

January 3, 2026

Sandra Smith Mitchell, 82, of Portsmouth, Virginia, passed away on January 3, 2026. She was a lifelong resident of Portsmouth and a woman of deep faith, devotion to family, and service to others.

Along with her parents and husband, Sandra was a founding member of Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Chesapeake, Virginia. She was the daughter of the late Frances V. Smith and Waverly “Clyde” Smith Jr.

Sandra is survived by her beloved husband of 64 years, Robert E. Mitchell; her son, Chris Mitchell (Duane); her daughters, Kimberly Fosson (Zach) and Paula Pruitt; and her cherished granddaughters, Macie, Marley, Jesse, and Paige. She is also survived by her brother, Rev. Dr. Waverly C. “Smitty” Smith III (Janice); her uncles, V. Leroy Reynolds (JoAnne) and Jimmy Smith (Karla); her stepmother, Betty Smith; and numerous extended family members and friends.

Sandra devoted many years as a full-time mother, pouring her heart into raising her children. Once they were grown, she began full-time employment with Aldersgate United Methodist Church and Covenant United Methodist Church, where she touched the lives of countless children through her kindness, patience, and unwavering care.

A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at Loving Funeral Home. A private burial will take place at a later date.

Memorial donations may be made in Sandra Mitchell's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at stjude.org.

The family would like to express their sincere gratitude to Estelle Godfrey, William Darnell, Shawnie Cross, Wendy Walters, Cindy Davis, Marlene Ilapit, Brandy Plummer, and her hospice nurse Z at Suncrest Hospice.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 6. 10:00 AM (ET)

Loving Funeral Home Churchland Chapel
3225 Academy Ave
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Tribute Wall

SU

“ I am so sorry I didn't know this until I WAS searching for an obituary. Peace be with her family. Love and Hugs, Sondra Underwood

Sondra Underwood - January 17 at 05:50 PM

BW

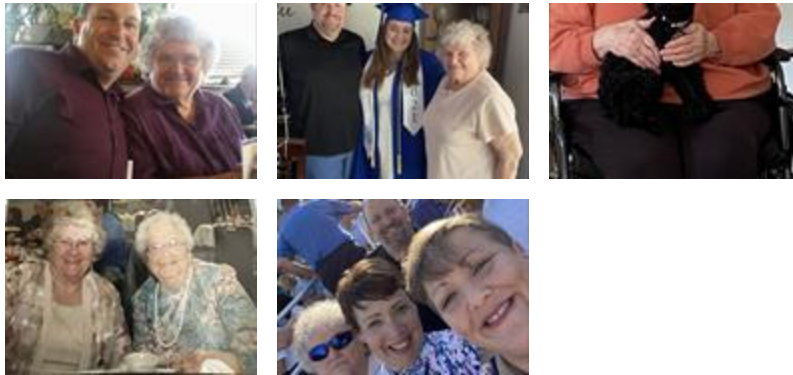
“ Just reading this...fondest memories with this family at Aldersgate UMC over the years..Sandra always had a smile and a warm greeting...hugs to you Robert and the family...she will be greatly missed..💔

Betty Whitener, Richmond VA

Betty Whutener - January 10 at 09:50 PM

CM

“ Love u Mom!!!! Thank you for everything My Angel Fly Hi!!!! And watch over us all. Kiss Nannie and Pop for me and each one of your amazing Aunts!!!! I will strive to make you proud each and every day. Love you..... Chris



Chris Mitchell - January 06 at 08:25 AM

PA

Love you Bubba ❤️❤️ we have another angel looking down on us.

paula - January 06 at 07:12 PM

DL

Chris and family--so sorry to hear of your Mother's passing too late to pay respects in person. She was a sweet lady. Yep, another angel looking over all of you! With sympathy--Dora (McGee) Logwood

Dora Logwood - February 15 at 12:03 PM

PT

“ *PAR Product Enablement Team purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Sandra Smith Mitchell.*



PAR Product Enablement Team - January 05 at 12:19 PM

FF

“ *Family of Richard & Cheryl Frahm purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Sandra Smith Mitchell.*



Family of Richard & Cheryl Frahm - January 05 at 12:02 PM

BD

“ *missing grandma like my own, i'm glad i got to meet her from my best friends family. such a sweet soul. ☐*



Bailee dougherty - January 05 at 10:58 AM

PA

my best friend i love you ☐

paige - January 05 at 11:56 AM

CM

*Paige....Mom loved you so very very much!!!! (As the rest of your family does). Hold close those wonderful memories and know Your Angel is right there as you maneuver through this thing called life. ❤️
Love Uncle Chris*

Chris Mitchell - January 06 at 08:14 AM

TP

“ *The Pruitts purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Sandra Smith Mitchell.*



The Pruitts - January 05 at 09:09 AM

TP

“ *The Pruitts planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sandra Smith Mitchell.*

The Pruitts - January 05 at 09:09 AM

MF

“ *What I remember most about Mrs. Mitchell is how she loved and cared for children. She worked at Covenant Child Care for over 20 years. I was a closed friend and co-worker of hers. She loved to play and teach games to children. The children looked forward to her teaching them new games. They would jump for joy to learn a new game. She touched the lives of many children and put many smiles on their faces. God truly blessed Covenant Child Care when he sent Mrs. Mitchell to care for his children.*

Mary Freeman - January 05 at 09:01 AM

CM

Mary she loved you and everyone at Covenant Childcare. ❤️

Chris Mitchell - January 06 at 08:12 AM

SF

“ *Steve & Mary Freeman purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Sandra Smith Mitchell.*



Steve & Mary Freeman - January 05 at 08:27 AM

PA

“ *I miss you, Momma, more than words can hold. You were my comfort, my strength, and my safe place. Nothing will ever be the same without you, but everything good in me is because of you.*



Paula - January 05 at 02:03 AM

PA

i love yoi mommy we're in this together ☐

paige - January 05 at 10:27 AM

BD

i love you paula ☐

Bailee dougherty - January 05 at 10:55 AM

DH

So sorry for your loss. ❤️

Debby Harrison - January 05 at 11:40 AM

CM

Love u sis. Infinity and way beyond. Thank you for everything you did for our Wonderful Mother. (who is now our guardian Angel). Love you Bubba

Chris Mitchell - January 06 at 08:16 AM



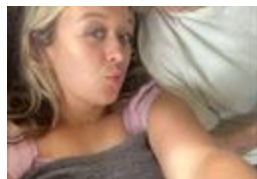
“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Sandra Smith Mitchell.*



January 04 at 10:33 PM

PA

“ *miss her sweet self* ☐



paige - January 04 at 06:43 PM

PA

Love this picture ❤️ She so loved you baby girl.

paula - January 06 at 07:15 PM

LK

“ *Love, Sandy Baiocco and kids purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Sandra Smith Mitchell.*



Love, Sandy Baiocco and kids - January 04 at 06:39 PM

PA

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



paige - January 04 at 06:29 PM

KH

What a great picture Paige. I love this 😊

Katie Godfrey Hines - January 04 at 06:38 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Sandra Smith Mitchell.*



January 04 at 06:18 PM