



Sharon I Martin

December 11, 1944 - August 20, 2020

Sharon Martin was born in Ada, Oklahoma on December 11, 1944 and died in Tulsa on August 20, 2020. Although she had lived in Tulsa since 1976, Sharon always considered herself an "Ada Girl." She was the second of three daughters born to Bill and Marion Castleberry who were themselves longtime residents of Ada. Bill and Marion and Sharon's older sister, Karen Miller, have all passed away and now they are all together rejoicing in Heaven.

Surviving members of her family include her husband of 49 years, Jerry; their children Brooke, Clay and Josh; and her baby sister Billie Ann Baucom. Her grandchildren, who were, of course, the apples of her eye, are McKenzie and Chase Martin, the children of Clay and his wife Shannon; Mac and Maeby Martin, the children of Josh and his wife Kaelee; and Mikey Lenahan, the son of Brooke and her husband Michael. Family was one of Sharon's greatest joys in life and she cared for each of them with a love that knew no bounds.

Sharon grew up in a Christian home and sometimes referred to herself as "a card carrying Southern Baptist girl". Following the examples of her parents, Bill and Marion, she could be found serving her church and her Lord "whenever the doors were open." She set the same kind of example for her children and it was indeed a rare Sunday when she could not be seen singing joyfully in the choir at First Baptist Church, Tulsa. Music was a vital part of who and what she was.

She graduated from East Central State University with a major in elementary education, moved to Tulsa and in 1967, began a career as a teacher. She had a genuine passion for teaching and the positive impact she had on the lives of countless numbers of first and fourth graders cannot be overstated. After teaching there for over 20 years, Sharon retired from Robert S. Kerr Elementary in 2008. She was the recipient of many awards and even better, she was loved and respected by her students.

As a teacher and a strong supporter of public education, she was constantly involved in

PTA and other essential school activities. By nature, a warm and friendly person, she never met a stranger and had a definite gift for making everyone feel welcome. Bunco was another of her passions and she played with two groups of "Bunco Babes" for over 40 years.

About 7 years ago, the cruel onset of Alzheimer's disease began the slow and inexorable theft of joy from her life. Of course, she resisted it as best as she could, but for the past 15 months she had resided at the Linden, a memory care center. But even there in her diminished capacity, she brought some light and even laughter to those around her. Sharon was one of those rare people who make our world a better place simply by being here.

A memorial service will be held at Tulsa's First Baptist Church on Friday, August 28 at 2:00 pm. Donations can be made in her name to the Alzheimer's Association.

Moore's Southlawn 918-663-2233

Events

AUG **Memorial Service**02:00PM
28
Tulsa's First Baptist Church
US

Comments



“ Gail Wilson lit a candle in memory of Sharon I Martin



Gail Wilson - January 04 at 06:51 PM



“ Saddened to her of the loss of our beloved "Sharon Martin." I taught school with her a number of years at Kerr Elementary. She was a ray of sunshine to her students and the staff. Above all, she demonstrated her Christian walk daily. I know without a doubt, that she is walking the streets of gold in Heaven. We will meet you on the other side, my friend.
(Gail Loftin Wilson)

Gail Wilson - January 04 at 07:03 PM



“ I was in her first grade class at Alice Robertson Elementary School on the west side of Tulsa in 1970-71. I remember when she told us she was going to get married to someone with the last name of Martin who was in the military and they were going to move to Florida. She told the class that we could write to her and gave us her forwarding address. I wrote to her and she wrote back to me. It was probably the first time I ever written a letter. I wrote to her a second time but she didn't write back but that's okay. And I remember that she had some saltwater fish that she needed to give to someone before she left. She wound up giving the saltwater fish to my adult sister. And I also remember the time that she made me stay after school with another kid and I got spanked with a hairbrush. I really don't know what I did to this day. I must not have been listening. I can't imagine that I had been talking because I was a very shy kid and I never spoke to anyone hardly. I was very afraid of what I would tell my mother. And to make it worse the neighbor lady down the street had come to pick us up and her son was already in the car with my mother and they had to wait on me. And I also remember the time when she literally forced me to play with another little girl on the playground because I was so shy. I'd stay by myself during recess and not interact with the other kids. The other girl was shy too. I guess she thought too shy girls would get along. I was terrified of having to play with the other little girl. I didn't know what to do. But if the teacher said I had to play with her then I had to. Somehow or another we got through that afternoon at recess. I guess sometimes someone has to help you out of your comfort zone. I remember her drawing a silhouette of everyone in the class by using a projector and a piece of paper that was taped onto the wall. She traced around our head and it wound up being a present or something for our parents I'm sure. Anyway, after she traced around my head it still looked funny to her because my braids weren't included so she had to hand draw my braids to make it look right. And apparently she must have been tall? Because one time when my mother went up to the school my mother marveled at the fact of how she could fold up her body and sit in one of those little first grade desks to talk to her. She taught me how to read. After she taught us all the sounds of the letters I took right off reading. The only word I remember having trouble with ever was the word "guess". Even math was easy in first grade except for those greater than and less than signs. To me those greater than and less than signs made no sense. I could tell you that five was less than seven but to ask me to put a greater than and less than sign to denote that was beyond me. At one point I tried to make my writing "fancy" hoping she'd like it, but she didn't like my fancy writing and I got a C on my report card. I went back to writing the way we were taught and I got an A on my next report card. These are my memories of her as a 6-year-old little girl.

I'm sorry for your loss.

Lea Bassinger



“ Lisa Honey lit a candle in memory of Sharon I Martin



Lisa Honey - August 28, 2020 at 09:47 AM



“ Mrs. Martin was both my children's teacher at KERR. Great Lady!!! Sorry for your loss Lisa Honey(Anita & Robert Adams)

Lisa Honey - August 28, 2020 at 09:54 AM



“ Jackie Robb lit a candle in memory of Sharon I Martin



Jackie Robb - August 27, 2020 at 10:26 PM



“ Sharon will be missed! Her smile brightened everyone's day! Prayers for Jerry and the Martin family! God bless.

Ron Meadows - August 27, 2020 at 04:59 PM



“ From Jason & Robin & all your friends at YWS purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Sharon I Martin.



From Jason & Robin & all your friends at YWS - August 27, 2020 at 01:17 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Sharon I Martin.



August 26, 2020 at 11:43 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Sharon I Martin.



August 26, 2020 at 06:30 PM



“ She taught our daughter, Kendi, in 4th grade at Kerr Elementary one of her first years if not the first year back. She was a wonderful teacher and a warm caring person. We are sorry for your great loss.

Ken & Pam Sawyer

Pamela Sawyer - August 26, 2020 at 01:38 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Sharon I Martin.



August 26, 2020 at 10:34 AM



“ A very special lady. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Milke Trippett - August 25, 2020 at 09:20 PM



“ Lindsay Lindstrom lit a candle in memory of Sharon I Martin



Lindsay Lindstrom - August 25, 2020 at 06:57 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sharon I Martin.



August 24, 2020 at 04:49 PM



“ Phil and Carolyn Dickerson purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Sharon I Martin.



Phil and Carolyn Dickerson - August 24, 2020 at 12:49 PM



“

I have been Sharon's friend longer than anyone other than Billie. We sat together in Doris Pegs' first grade class at Irving Elementary.

Sharon was really smart. Throughout all our Irving school years, I begged Sharon to not set the test score curve so high. She was always very sympathetic but her response was always: "study harder!" A teacher back then even!

Let's face it, boys do not play jacks but Sharon insisted I learn to play jacks, Don't know why but if you know Sharon, you just don't say no to Sharon, so she taught me how to play jacks. It was over and over and over again until I got good enough that she finally suggested I go away. A teacher of all things!

In the fifth and sixth grade, Sharon and I were always square dance partners. One of the dances was:

Oh Johnny Oh Johnny oh.

The lyrics go like this:

"All joins hands and circle the ring,

Stop where you are and give your partner a swing,

Swing that girl behind you and

Leave her along and go back to swing your own"

Sharon How I wish I could give you another swing!

After Bill and my mother, Ina, got married, I frequently told Sharon my own mother loved her more than she love me. My own mother had Sharon's home phone number, cell phone number and even the school phone number, just in case she wanted to talk to her during the day. Me, she couldn't even find my home phone number most of the time.

Sharon, my own mother loves you more than she love me!

Sharon's sympathetic reply: But of course! you didn't even go to the wedding. You'll have to ask other why I didn't.

Sharon was a few days older than I am, so I took pleasure introducing her as my older sister. Teacher again, explaining how many days in a week! December 11 to DecemberI have been Sharon's friend longer than anyone other than Billie. We sat together in Doris Pegs' first grade class at Irving Elementary.

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Today, Sharon and Ina are setting together looking down and I bet mom says "Sharon I love you more".

It's fair because I love my older sister too.

Dewayne Nelson

Dewayne Nelson - August 23, 2020 at 04:19 PM