



Sandra A. Rather

April 22, 1949 - March 18, 2026

Sandra A. Rather, 76, of Rockford died on March 18, 2026. Born April 22, 1949 in Belvidere; daughter of James and Louise (Darley) Long. Graduate of Belvidere High School, class of 1967. Sandy was united in marriage to William O. Rather on April 25, 1970. She retired from Rockford Products, where she worked in assembly. Sandra also served as the Treasurer for the Retired Teamsters Local 325. Sandy was a member of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles, and St. James Catholic Church. In her free time, Sandy enjoyed gambling at the casino, on slot machines and in card games. She loved her family, and enjoyed hosting gatherings in which they could all be together. Her warmth, kindness and presence will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her. She was known for her laugh, which was unique, boisterous and filled the room. Sandy always had a positive outlook, despite her recent health challenges. Survived by her daughters, Christine (David) Coulter, Stacy (John) Henneberry, Shelly (Brent Rudolph) Stevens, Cyndi Tzemopoulous; grandchildren, Josh, James (Alyssa), Zachary, Alex, Alyssa, Lauryn, Hailey (Kurt), Will, Thanisi; siblings, Michael (Marc Anthony) Long, Roger (Janet) Long, Deb (Scott) Petersen; special friends, Murphy O'Leary, Elnora and Cleo Whitlock, and Becky Provi. Preceded in death by her parents, husband and infant son, Scottie Rather. Sandy's family is grateful to the staff of Northern Illinois Hospice, Dr. Einhorn of UW Women's Cancer Center and home health nurse Andi for the skilled and loving care they provided. Private family services will be held. Cremation rites accorded. Grace Funeral & Cremation

Services assisted the family. Share a memory or condolence at www.graceFH.com

Cemetery Details

Rock River Crematory

4301 N. Main Street
Rockford, IL 61103

Tribute Wall

TN

“ *Tracy Murphy and Kim Murphy Nevalainen purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Sandra A. Rather.* ”



Tracy Murphy and Kim Murphy Nevalainen - March 20 at 12:59 PM

AN

“ *Sandy was very special to me. She had so much love in her heart and THAT laugh was the best!* ”



Andra Nagle - March 20 at 09:13 AM

SH

“ *We will miss you* ”

shelly - March 19 at 07:11 PM

SH

“ *Stacy Henneberry sent a virtual gift in memory of Sandra Rather* ”



Stacy Henneberry - March 19 at 06:49 PM

DB

“ *Sandra, truly had the best laugh I ever heard, and that joy will be deeply missed. Big hugs and love to all you! Love Dawnie*

Dawn Bye - March 19 at 06:45 PM

DB

“ *Sending love and hugs from my family to you all. I'm so sorry you're going through this. love, Dawnie*



Dawn Bye - March 19 at 05:56 PM