

**Sara E. Wilson**  
July 20, 1944 - April 4, 2024

There is one reverberating and unanimous truth to the life of Sara Wilson: she was a servant at heart. The days following her passing brought story after story of how she walked with friends through the toughest and loneliest seasons of their lives. Sara was the consummate encourager, selfless to her core, and she exuded joy regardless of any circumstance that came her way. Her life is a true reflection of the generous, loving, sacrificial nature of her Heavenly Father and Savior Jesus Christ, to whom she devoted her life. For over 40 years, Sara served in the Knox County school systems. The first half of her career as an English teacher and later in curriculum development and oversight. She didn't share this fact with many, but she even had the opportunity to sit at lunch with President Reagan, having received a national educational honor. Sara's professional role as an educator was deepened by the characteristic selflessness and care she showed to her students and colleagues alike. Without doubt, Sara's truest joy in life was her family. Any mention of her daughter Kimberly, and Sara's eyes would light up. She was the beloved grandmother to three grandchildren (and "bonus grandmother" to many more), moving from Knoxville to Birmingham to enjoy everyday joys alongside them. She was an integral fixture in her family's everyday life, and her spirit of kindness has shaped each of her family members. The tumultuous season of the global pandemic brought an unexpected and beautiful chapter in Sara's life. She had never forgotten the charming, kind-hearted, and selfless man she dated in her 50s. Reconnecting over Facebook, CH and Sara rekindled a friendship and would meet across state lines to enjoy God's creation through (masked!) hikes and hours of phone conversations.

In October 2021, without a dry eye in the sanctuary (except for Sara who was beaming!), Sara and CH became husband and wife. Only a year later, Sara would embark on her journey through cancer, which ultimately took her home to Jesus. To the surprise of no one who knew her, Sara's journey only served to emblazon Sara's inexhaustible spirit. With Scripture as her anchor and a praise song always on her lips (even in her final hours), Sara knew that her forever rested firmly and securely in Jesus. Her final chapter here on this earth was spent reminding others just how loved and cherished they are.

Sara is survived by her husband Carroll Henry Wilson; daughter Kimberly (Murray), grandchildren Ella, Miller and Sara Wells; sister Rebecca Foote (Seneca); stepchildren Rich Baugh (Daniel) and Suzanne Baugh (Colleen). Sara is preceded in death by her mother and father Ida and Ralph Starnes and brother Daniel Starnes (Arden). Each of these individuals, and countless more, are forever impacted by the love and life of Sara Wilson.

A celebration of life will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 1pm at Cahaba Park Church. 4465 Old Overton Road, Birmingham, AL. 35210.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Mwana Villages. Mwana Villages provides refuge within orohandhood to vulnerable children and families.

Mwanavillages.org/donate or Mwana Villages  
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