



Ms. Sandra "Sandi" O'Kelley Thornton

August 18, 1947 - June 13, 2026

Sandra "Sandi" O'Kelley Thornton, 78, of Seneca, SC, passed away on Saturday, June 13, 2026, at Seneca Healthy and Rehab.

Born and raised in Seneca, Ms. Thornton was the daughter of the late Randolph and Bessie Lee O'Kelley. She had a deep love for animals, especially cats, and found great joy in spending time on her porch admiring her flowers, with sunflowers holding a special place in her heart. Ms. Thornton was a devoted and loyal friend who treasured the relationships she built throughout her life, maintaining close friendships with many of those she had known since graduating Keowee High School, including her dear friend, Penney Dawkins Gillespie. The family would also like to express their heartfelt gratitude to Ms. Thornton's caregiver and special family friend, Melanie Jacobs, and her husband, Michael, for their compassion and dedication.

Ms. Thornton is survived by her sister: Nita Perry; multiple nieces and nephews whom she loved; and her crazy kitty cat, Parker.

In addition to her parents, Ms. Thornton was preceded in death by her sisters: Elizabeth Keaton, Barbara Gruse, and Pat Price; and brother: R. L. "Bob" Jones

A visitation will be announced at a later date.

Tribute Wall

MJ

“ I did not get enough time with Sandi! BUT I had some of the best moments of my life spent by her side. One of my favorite memories was having sleep overs with her, eating junk food and watching scary movies. She kept me laughing. If she loved you, it was powerful. She touched my heart; she has also left a hole in my heart that will miss her always. Her niece Tammy was the one who uprooted her whole life to be by her side until the end, and making sure Sandi was loved and cared for in her biggest hours of need. She was a fighter till the end. Sandi you will always be with me in some way...when I see a flower or a cow or a kitty, I will also see your spirit and will remember you with love. Go be with the angels. Today and always your friend.
Melanie

Melanie Jacobs - June 16 at 05:31 PM

PG

“ Penney Gillespie lit a candle in memory of Sandra "Sandy" Thornton



Penney Gillespie - June 16 at 11:34 AM

FB

“ Frankie Burrell lit a candle in memory of Sandra "Sandy" Thornton



Frankie Burrell - June 16 at 03:20 AM

HJ

“ Ms. Sandy was such a kind soul and had a funny personality. I loved to spend time with her and know that it made her feel loved. She always kept her nails and such looking so cutie and loved her desserts. She meant well and would try her hardest to talk to me and my family when we could visit, I loved her dearly.

Hanna Jacobs - June 16 at 01:10 AM

PG

I have such fond memories of Sandi and her entire family. Sandi was one of my first friends when I started Keowee High and we immediately became best friends and then family when her sister married my brother. We spent an enormous amount of time together. As we matured and I moved away Sandi was always one that I visited first. She was a great friend and will be missed immensely.

Penney Gillespie - June 16 at 11:39 AM

HN

“ I didn't know her well, but I knew enough to know she was one of a kind. She was feisty, funny, and full of personality. The world needs more people who say what they mean and keep everyone on their toes. She left an impression far bigger than the number of times we met. She will be remembered with a smile. My condolences go out to all of her family and friends.

Haily Norris - June 15 at 10:42 PM

LL

“ Leonard Loudermilk lit a candle in memory of Ms. Sandra "Sandi" O'Kelley Thornton



Leonard Loudermilk - June 15 at 08:15 PM

TK

“ *Instead of flowers, some folks are giving a donation to Crescent Hospice in Anderson SC.*

Their nurses, aides, and social workers gave special care to both me, Tammy, and Sandi the last two years of Sandi's life. It was truly a miracle to have them in our lives.

Tammy Lee Keaton - June 15 at 06:08 PM