



Sandra Olavsrud Smith

October 15, 1941 - December 6, 2025

Sandra Olavsrud Smith passed peacefully after fighting dementia for several years. She was under the amazing care of Candle Light Cove and Talbot Hospice.

Sandra was born to Abraham and Nettie Berlin in Richmond, VA where she spent her first several years while her father worked for the U.S. Patent Office. She was in Richmond until the Patent Office relocated their headquarters and the family moved to Silver Spring, MD.

This is where Sandra and her beloved sister Deborah would spend her formative years until

Sandra moved to Forest Hills, NY to attend The High School for the Performing Arts to pursue her love for dance.

After high school, Sandra attended The University of Maryland where she made lifelong friendships. In those years she met some of her dearest friends, Susie Shewchuk, Harriett Klun, and their families who remained by her side her entire life.

As a young adult, Sandra moved back to New York City, working at various Madison Avenue advertising firms, this is where she met and married talent agent, Robert Friedman and had her first son, Grant. Grant was the joy of her life, and she stayed very busy as a working mother and traveling talent agent wife to Bob. Sandra and Bob's working lives ultimately led them in different directions.

Sandra became a consultant instructing business users on the use of computers which took her to Europe. This is where she fell head over heels for a Norwegian man, Svein Olavsrud. She moved to Oslo, Norway where she and Svein had two sons, Thor and Stein. She instantly became a loved member of Svein's Norwegian family. She loved their time in Norway learning to become a "Norwegian Housewife" and mother. After living in Norway for about eight years, Svein's business brought the family to Easton, MD.

Easton was where Sandra and Svein would raise their three treasured sons, Grant, Thor, and Stein. Sandra worked at local accounting firms, played tennis, and made lots of friends over the years.

Four years after losing her beloved husband Svein, Sandra was introduced to James Smith by his daughter and son-in-law Shari and Steve Osche. Sandra and Jim

married and Jim swept Sandra off her feet to his dream location, The Northern Neck of VA. Sandra and Jim built a house together, made lots of new friends, and enjoyed entertaining family and friends.

Sandra and Jim traveled to Easton monthly over their sixteen-year marriage to spend time with their grandchildren Gigi and Nina Friedman, Lucy and Chase Olavsrud, and Isabel Ochse. These grandchildren were adored by them and looked forward to grandma and grandpa's special visits. Grandma Sandra was known for baking cookies with Gigi and Nina, reading books with Isabel, getting manicures with Lucy, and attending Chase's hockey games.

After Jim's passing in 2019, Sandra moved back to Easton to be close to her family that would love and care for her. In her final years, Sandra and her dog patches were inseparable.

Sandra leaves behind her children, Grant Friedman and wife Dayana Rodriguez, daughter-in-law Jini Friedman, son Thor Olavsrud, youngest son Stein Olavsrud and wife Elizabeth Olavsrud, five grandchildren, her sister Deborah and brother-in-law Paul Engel and their

son Gregory, Steve and Shari Ochse, Paul and Faith Carroll, her nieces from Norway, Ann, Kariin, Mona, and Gry and their dear families, plus many friends she met throughout her lifetime. All will remember Sandra, her stylish vibe, and loving heart.

A visitation to celebrate the life of Sandra will be held on Saturday the 20th of December from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM at Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home in Easton, MD. A burial will follow at The Oxford Cemetery.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

DEC 20. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home
200 S. Harrison Street
EASTON
EASTON, MD 21601

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Sandra Olavsrud Smith*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - December 18, 2025 at 09:26 AM

PB

“ *To Stein, Thor and Grant and all the family, I am so sorry about your dear mom, Sandra. I was in England for two weeks and just found out last night that she'd passed. I will always remember her with a huge smile and telling me stories of Jack. (BP - before Pamela!) Sending huge hugs and prayers.*
Pamela

Pamela Bishop - December 21, 2025 at 12:34 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Sandra Olavsrud Smith.*



December 18, 2025 at 03:00 PM

RH

“ Rita Hill lit a candle in memory of Sandra Olavsrud Smith



Rita Hill - December 17, 2025 at 06:08 PM

AN

“ Thank you for simply being you ❤️ a wonderful friend ❤️ a treasured family member ❤️ a person to rely on ❤️ a person to trust ❤️ a person to love ❤️ you will be deeply missed

Ann-Kariin Nyland - December 13, 2025 at 06:53 AM

LN

“ Love from Norway purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Sandra Olavsrud Smith.



Love from Norway - December 13, 2025 at 06:38 AM

LN

“ Love from Norway planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sandra Olavsrud Smith.

Love from Norway - December 13, 2025 at 06:38 AM

J&

“ *Jb &jini,gigi,nina purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Sandra Olavsrud Smith.*



Jb &jini,gigi,nina - December 12, 2025 at 01:57 PM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Sandra Olavsrud Smith.*



December 12, 2025 at 01:23 PM

DP

“ *Doug Pierson lit a candle in memory of Sandra Olavsrud Smith*



Doug Pierson - December 11, 2025 at 07:58 AM

CB

“ *Stein & Family,
I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your mom. Keeping you all in my thoughts & prayers.*

Casey Baynard - December 10, 2025 at 09:47 PM

DC

“ Sandra and I spent lots of time together, through the years, when our boys were in school, and MANY evenings on the bleachers at Little League games, when our boys played on the Rotary baseball team together. You could often find us in the concession stand, as we were often the "team moms"! After our boys graduated, we didn't see each other as often, but always looked for each other when we attended events for our grandchildren. Such treasured times with a dear, dear friend!

Although, sadly, I will be unable to attend her service, I am sending much love to Stein, Thor and the family. Donna Clem

Donna Clem - December 10, 2025 at 07:27 PM

SD

“ I always looked forward to seeing Sandra & chatting together whenever Stein & Beth would have family gatherings. Many times Sandra & I would sit together & she was always dressed so beautifully, so friendly & always so interested in what I was up to! I cherish those memories so much. She surely was a special friend to me.

Sarah Dunn - December 10, 2025 at 07:20 PM

MH

“ My most sincere condolences to her whole family. I first met Sandra when she and Svein moved to Easton and we lived on the same street. We took turns taking Grant and our daughter Kristine to school. When she moved to Norway, we stayed in touch and shared many recipes. Then she and Svein moved back to Easton and we became neighbors again. We spent many hours laughing and talking by her pool. When she remarried and moved to Virginia we communicated during the holidays. We saw her recently at Candlelight Cove while visiting there. She was a great friend and will be missed by many who knew her. Millie Houck

Millie Houck - December 10, 2025 at 06:43 PM

EB

“ I worked with Sandra at Beatty & Satchell for many years. Her desk was behind mind and we worked very closely together on many projects. I called her "my socialite" because she knew everybody. She always looked so stylish and I loved her spunk. We had so many funny times in the South Wing. I was just thinking the other day how much I miss her and I need to see her. When you get older it doesn't pay to speculate on doing something, you better do it. I am brought to tears thinking such a wonderful person has left us. She was one of a kind.

Emily Blades - December 10, 2025 at 12:53 PM

SS

“ Sandra was one of our favorite people! She was friendly and gracious to all she met. It was so easy to be a friend of Sandra's. We want her family to know that although we lost touch over the years, Sandra will be sorely missed! What a lovely and loving lady! Our prayers to her family! Sally and Andy

sally and Andy Smith - December 10, 2025 at 08:12 AM

PT

“ I first met and worked with Sandra at Beatty, Satchell & Co. She was such a sweet and warm person with a beautiful smile and personality. I was so sorry to read of her passing. My heartfelt condolences to both the Smith and Olavsrud families. Rest in Peace dear Sandra. 🕊️



Penny Trice - December 10, 2025 at 07:55 AM

FR

“ *Met Sandra while working at an assisted living home. We became close friends my regret is that I did not see her for the past few months. It breaks my heart . My prayers for the family of this lovely lady with the beautiful smile*

Fran - December 09, 2025 at 12:52 PM

RS

“ *It is with great sadness that I send my condolences to the Olavsrud family! I remember well all the great times we spent together as friends and neighbors! Even though in the last decade we lived much further apart, I never forgot what a warm and loving friend Sandra was to me and many others!*

Rita Smith - December 09, 2025 at 11:46 AM

RS

“ *Rita Smith lit a candle in memory of Sandra Olavsrud Smith*



Rita Smith - December 09, 2025 at 11:20 AM