



## Sara Ann Sanford Arthur Obituary

July 12, 1931 - February 13, 2006

Sara Ann Sanford Arthur, 74, of Leesburg died Monday at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital. The funeral service will be 11 AM Saturday at Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Directors with interment to follow in Leesburg City Cemetery. Rev. Ben Rice and Rev. John Warrenner will officiate. She was born in Macon, GA to the late Eugene and Sara Hightower Sanford but lived most of her life in Leesburg. She was a life long member of Leesburg Presbyterian Church, Golden Key Club member, XYZ member at Porterfield United Memorial Methodist Church and was a "special lady" that dearly loved her family and had a heart for children. She taught thousands of children to swim; she ran the best full day camp programs with the YMCA, the Recreation Departments and at her own home backyard. Mrs. Arthur taught children to have fun by playing volleyball, swimming, fishing, horseback riding, arts and crafts, floating down the river and even jumping on the trampoline. She had a great love for horses and in 1978 she and her horse won the World Cutting Horse Championship in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She was deeply loved by all who knew her, and she was a legend. Survivors include her husband of more than 55 years, Sam P. Arthur of Leesburg, son Sandy Arthur of Santa Fe, New Mexico, daughter, Brandy Lee Arthur of Macon GA, 8 grandchildren: Sam C. Arthur, Sara A. Sena, Eugene A. Arthur, Joseph M. Arthur, George S. Arthur, Jalila Ann Arthur, Liberty Chamberlain, and Justus Chamberlain, 2 great-grandchildren, a nephew and several nieces and their children. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother Raleigh Sanford. The family

will receive friends Friday from 7 to 9 PM at Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Directors. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Lee YMCA Building Fund, 1701 Gillionville Rd, Albany, GA 31707, or to the Thornton Home and School for Children, PO Box 60, Clinton SC 29325-0060, or the Leesburg Presbyterian Church, Leesburg, GA 31763.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sara Ann Sanford Arthur Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Sara Ann Sanford Arthur Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Sara Ann Sanford Arthur Obituary*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *Ms. Sara Ann touched so many lives in this area. She taught Thomas swimming and Junior Lifesaving many years ago. When we had the opportunity to send our daughter to Ms. Sara Ann's camp, we were so fortunate. Micki's love of art, the outdoors, water, and creativity were nurtured. I will never forget the neighborhood 4th of July parades, the stories of fishing adventures, naked spaghetti, tree-climbing and mud puddling. What a great way to spend summers! While many will miss Ms. Sara Ann, what a wonderful celebration for the life she lived and the many young people she helped mold.*

**Dimi, Thomas & Micki Williams** - February 22, 2006 at 12:00 AM

FB

“ *To the Arthur Family,  
Miss Sara Ann has always been a fixture and legend in and around  
Leesburg for so many years. I first met her in the early sixties and I  
last saw her at Winn-Dixie just before I moved to South Carolina  
and she was just as funny as she ever was. We all have lost a great  
lady. God bless all of you and know that God is laughing with her  
now.*

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**Frances Brown** - February 20, 2006 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ *Sam, Sandy, and Family, I will never forget Sara Ann. She taught  
me to swim anlong with so many others. I'll never forget the pool at  
Leesburg, balogna sandwiches, Judy Powell, and dancing with Billy  
Ray. You were all such a precious part of my childhood. And then  
my son was able to attend Sasa Ann's day camp. What love she  
shed abroad to so many. We love you and lift you in our prayers at  
this time of sorrow, but we know we shall see her again!*

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**Peggy Schmidt Shackelford** - February 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

WV

“ *Sam,*

*So sorry for your loss. I never knew Sara but I can see that she was  
a great lady.*

*Sincerely,*

*Lea Volskay*

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**Wanslea Ellis Volskay** - February 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ *Brandy,  
I am so sorry to hear about your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.*

*With Deepest Sympathy,  
Shawna*

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**Shawna (Bryant) Nicolai** - February 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

BI

“ *Sam, Sandy and Family: Miss Sara was one of those wonderful people whom one could never forget. She always had a smile and a warm love for people that was so evident. I'll always remember her at YMCA and Deerfield basketball games, pulling for us and cheering us along. Thank God for wonderful times and memories. God bless you all.*

*Billy*

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**Bill Turner III** - February 17, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ *My girls, Fontaine, Karen & Mary Johnson loved her and had so much fun at her camp!  
She was loved by so so many,she will be missed. Love and prayers,  
Lou*

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**Ms. Lou Johnson** - February 17, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ The newspaper articles mentioned her positive attitude and her love of children, which were absolutely true, but she was so much more than those two things. She was a life force-- in the days before people spoke of multi-tasking, Miss Sara Ann could settle a little girl argument on the trampoline, get little boys lingering too long in the outhouse back outside, supervise the set up of balloons on a haybale for archery, keep an eye on the goings on on the other side of the pool and the tree house, and all this while mixing plaster for crafts later in the afternoon. This was in the summers with day camp in full swing. I remember equally well, her reflective side, especially as I got older and she would tell me the real history of how things got to be certain ways in the neighborhood and in the county. I remember her willingness to speak well of others and tell stories that reflected people's generosity and strengths, where others might have looked at their weaknesses. She didn't tell all she knew, but she did seem to take the good with the bad, choosing to focus on the good in each situation. She also had a wonderful sense of humor and was blessed in being able to laugh at things and get other people to join in her humor.

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**Margaret Baker Strickland** - February 17, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Arthur family,  
My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. I recall my earliest memory of Sara Ann; I was probably 4 years old. My family and Sara Ann had gone on a canoe trip on the Flint River. At the end of the trip, I was to stay with Sara Ann while my parents went to pick up the car from the put-in point. I recall being a bit sad and fussy and wanting to be with my mom and dad. Sara Ann soothed me by taking a large leaf and calmly showing me the structure and veins of the leaf. She then asked me if I could tear the leaf in half by slowly tearing along the center vein. We did this for a while and soon my parents returned. She had such a wonderful way with children and introduced so many children to the wonders of nature.

As I got older, I attended the day-camp at her home. Wow I loved that in-ground trampoline! I later worked with her as a camp counselor at Camp Teweeki where she introduced so many children to the love of nature, art and crafts, canoeing, fishing, swimming and just being outside and having fun! She was a great lady and her reach of influence goes far! I'm sure that heaven is rejoicing and that maybe God has put her in charge of the little children; she is probably teaching them how to bait a hook!

-Sala Rhodes Shierling

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**Sala Rhodes Shierling** - February 17, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Sara Ann was a wonderful friend, and will be greatly missed.

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**Sam and Haidee Harris** - February 17, 2006 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Miss Sara Ann will be deeply missed by everyone that knew her. She was such a loving and wonderful person. She taught me along with many others how to swim at the YMCA. My thoughts and prayers are with Sam and family. Love, Rosemary Lee Dozier

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**Rosemary Dozier** - February 17, 2006 at 12:00 AM

GE

“ Oh, how I can remember riding horses at Mrs. Sara Ann's house when we would go over there with Girl Scouts. And I was always so excited when we would pick up my older brother after he spent a day there because I knew that she and I were going to jump on that trampoline. Oh, if I could only go back to those days. Over the years, I have thought about Mrs. Sara Ann because of her love for children. There was never a dull moment with her - and now I am sure she is playing with the children in heaven.

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**Glenn, Jacque, Chase & Jodi Eubanks** - February 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ As a personal friend of the Arthur family i wish to offer condolences to the family.  
to Sam and family members you have our prayers

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**Charlie K Akins** - February 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ MR. SAM & FAMILY, WE ARE SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. WE ONLY MET HER ONCE; BUT SHE WAS A VERY NICE & OPTIMISTIC LADY. YOU'RE IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.  
GAIL & MIKE ALFORD

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**GAIL & MIKE ALFORD** - February 15, 2006 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Sam & Sandy: I am so very saddened to read this news. I count myself as one of Sara Ann's "children" and attribute what little success I had as a high schooler in Albany. She was a very special person and one who will not be forgotten. God bless all of you as we bid her good-bye and love in that better place where she goes.

BR

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**Billy Ray Schmidt** - February 15, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Sam, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Sara Ann was a special person who meant so much to so many. We pray for God's comfort for you in this time of grief and loss. Blessings to you and your family, Don Callaway

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**Don Callaway** - February 15, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ She was a wonderful person. She touched the lives of so many children, who will always remember her and the life lessons they learned from her.

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**Stacey Burke Johnston** - February 15, 2006 at 12:00 AM