



Sharon Louise Mitchell

April 23, 2021

Sharon Louise Mitchell, 64, Florida teacher and poet, wife and mother, died of cancer at her home in Sarasota attended by her family April 23, 2021. Her former students at Sarasota Military Academy will recognize the 23d as the day of Shakespeare's birth and death.

Sharon had battled cancer for years. It went into remission but returned last year.

She was born in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. An architect and builder, her father Sanford and her mother Mary Lou raised their family in Des Moines, IA. In 1991 She graduated from New College in Sarasota, where she co-edited New CollAge Magazine and published a chapbook of her own poems titled Shavings. Her career as a writer was lifelong. She taught for 18 years, mostly at Sarasota Military Academy.

Sharon lived to see her children Mitchell & Sam grow into adulthood, and liked what she saw. She and her husband, Frederick Farmer, were education activists striving to create a strong neighborhood community. In 2001 Sharon ran for the Sarasota School Board and raised issues to enhance local schools. She possessed an enduring sense of optimism, and dealt with whatever was thrown in her path.

Sharon's creativity, sensitivity, and generosity of spirit will be remembered by family, friends, and former students. Survivors include her mother, Mary Lou Overton of Des Moines, IA; her husband, Frederick Farmer of Sarasota, FL; and two sons, Mitchell Farmer of Tampa and Samuel Farmer of Chicago; her siblings, Charlie Mitchell of Travelers Rest, SC, and sisters Denise Hough of Des Moines, IA, Debbie Panella of Mequon, WI, and Carla Stuber of Des Moines, IA.

A Quaker Meeting will be held 1 PM Friday April 30 in the chapel of Heartwood Preserve in Trinity, FL, followed by a natural burial. More information is at www.heartwoodpreserve.com.

Everyone is welcome at 6 PM Saturday May 15, 2021 Sharon's Celebration of Life will be held at Sarasota Military Academy. Attendees are welcome to share their stories, music, and poetry – think Beatnik Poetry Cafe.

Another Celebration of Life will be held in Des Moines on Saturday June 5, 2021.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to The Sarasota Military Academy Foundation, 801 N Orange Ave, Sarasota, FL 34236

Cemetery Details

Sarasota Military Academy

801 N. Orange Avenue
Sarasota , FL 34236

Previous Events

A Quaker Meeting

APR **30**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Heartwood Preserve
4100 Starkey Blvd
#2175
New Port Richey, FL 34655

A Celebration of Life

MAY **15**. 6:00 PM (ET)

Sarasota Military Academy
801 N. Orange Avenue
Sarasota , FL 34236

Tribute Wall

CC

“ I met Sharon when she extended a warm welcome to me after my house burned. Her intelligence and creativity were matched by her kindness. Sharon's lovely light shone brightly despite her cruel illness. I recall how she took a swath of material and fashioned a toga to resemble a Grecian figure and bring history to life in her class lecture. My teachers were never cool like her. She was devoted to her beloved family as I observed at several family dinners. Sharon endured her lengthy illness with such grace. May God hold Rick, Sam and Mitchell in the palm of His Hand as they mourn her immense loss.

Cat Christensen - May 12, 2021 at 04:31 PM

DR

“ Sharon was a wonderful neighbor and friend who inspired us with her positive attitude, giving nature, and wit. We will miss her. David, Kim, and Zane Rich

David Rich - May 11, 2021 at 08:43 AM

FF

“ View comments at: <https://www.facebook.com/frederick.farmer.18>

Frederick Farmer - May 02, 2021 at 01:24 PM

JF

“ We had awesome times discussing literature, poetry and life with Sharon and Rick. We will miss you Sharon. John and Luz



John Baptist Ferrara - May 01, 2021 at 07:54 PM

EH

Sharon was a good friend very brave person and a great role model mother for Sam and Mitchell and wife i will miss her always love Eric

Eric Hovde - May 09, 2021 at 08:47 AM

LF

“ Such warm memories of Sharon! GREAT smile and laugh. A can-do Renaissance lady: from legal assistant to poet. Wonderful wife and mom. High expectations for all, including herself. She leaves a wonderful legacy. We hold her and her family in the Light. Lesley and Chris Farmer



Lesley Farmer - April 30, 2021 at 12:58 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sharon Louise Mitchell.



April 29, 2021 at 01:46 PM

FH

“ *We have been enriched through knowing Sharon in our reading group and will miss her commentary and the poetry she shared with us. We extend our condolences to her family.*

Felicia and Andrew Hall

Felicia Hall - April 28, 2021 at 05:33 PM