



## Sandra H. "Sandi" Chipman

January 2, 1944 - September 3, 2018

Farmington - Sandi Chipman of Weld died peacefully early Monday morning, surrounded by her Pinewood Terrace friends. Sandi lived at Pinewood Terrace for 6 years after her mind succumbed to early onset Frontotemporal dementia. A graduate of Penn State, Sandi moved to Weld in 1966 with her husband, Don Chipman. The two met in New York City (at a bar) while Sandi was a stewardess and Don a Navy Ensign. Having lived in cities her whole life, she at first found rural Maine to be daunting and unfamiliar terrain, but she quickly made friends and became very active in the Weld community that she remained devoted to. Folks came to realize that she was a force to be reckoned with, as she was a tireless volunteer with wit, enthusiasm and energy for all projects she took on. One of her greatest accomplishments was her service with the Weld Fire Department (she was the department's first female member), where she started the first responder program, bringing emergency medical care closer to home. She taught many CPR classes, served on the Franklin County Animal Shelter board and spent countless hours volunteering for numerous other community causes. Sandi worked as a medical assistant over the course of three decades in several Farmington area medical practices. Writing her obituary is a tall task, as Sandi was a well-known writer for the Franklin Journal for 30 plus years. She enjoyed sharing Weld news and stories of her cross country trips on the motorcycle with Don. Ironically, she considered herself a "homebody" and hated leaving home, but those trips were some of her fondest memories. Sandi was a talented seamstress and quilter and she was generous in sharing her creations; those whom she loved most have a memento made by her. She also loved all of God's creatures large and small, hence the "Chipmanagerie" homestead where she presided over a veritable Noah's Ark of dogs, cats, horses, sheep, rabbits and assorted barnyard fowl, much to the disgruntlement of her husband. You name the critter, and it probably sojourned at the Chipman place at some point in time. Sandi loved the wildlife as well that abounds in Weld, and took great pleasure in sightings of deer, moose and other fauna during her early morning walks on the Temple Road. Sandi is survived by her two children: Brian Chipman, his wife Shelly and son Charlie live in New Gloucester, Maine; her daughter, Becky Bell, husband John and son Riley live in Weld. She was predeceased by her husband, Don in 2016. She was a wonderful mom, friend and community member; she

loved us all well. Her generous and loving spirit will always be an inspiration to those whose lives she touched. Saying goodbye to someone with dementia is a long and difficult and at times even humorous path, and her family is ever grateful for all the friends who have helped along the way. Our heartfelt thanks to the Pinewood Terrace staff who cared for and loved her and helped maintain her dignity to the very end, and to Androscoggin Home Health and Hospice for their invaluable assistance through Sandi's final days. There will be no services but as she was passionate about animals, in lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in her memory to the Franklin County Animal Shelter, 550 Industry Road, Farmington, ME 04938. Condolences and tributes may be shared with the family on her memorial wall at [www.wilesrc.com](http://www.wilesrc.com). Cremation care has been provided by the Wiles Remembrance Center/Adams-McFarlane Chapel, 137 Farmington Falls Road, Farmington.

# Comments

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“ It was indeed a privilege to know Sandi. An individual with more enthusiasm, energy and zest for life would be difficult to find. An animal lover, Sandy always enjoyed seeing and interacting with German Shepherd, and she insisted on sewing a monogram of my dog's head on my jacket. It turned out beautifully. I wear that jacket to this day and think of Sandi every time I put it on.

**Jeff Leonards** - September 11, 2018 at 12:21 AM

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“ Dear Becky and Family, We are so saddened to hear of the loss of your Mom. She was an incredible woman! Sending you love and prayers, Barb and Bob O'Reilly

**Barbara O'Reilly** - September 09, 2018 at 04:21 PM

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“ Are hearts are with you, Becky and Brian, and your families. Your mother was an inspiration in her energy, thoughtfulness, kindness and fun-loving spirit. We are grateful for her life and for her beautiful children, in whom her spirit lives on. Our love to you both. Roger and Karyl Condit

**Karyl Condit** - September 07, 2018 at 02:25 PM

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“ We send our love to you and your families, Becky and Brian. We loved spending time with your family when you were little. Your Mom's laugh will forever be with me, as is the awe I hold for her many talents and love of life. She was a leader and made her ambitions come true. She did so much for emergency care in Weld. It's been a long haul for you all. Someday peace will be yours.

Judy and Chuck Hoffhine

**Judy Hoffhine** - September 05, 2018 at 07:12 PM

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“ So sad to lose such a beautiful person. Sandi was great fun to work with and I'm glad that I had the pleasure of doing so. Being very familiar with her sewing talents, she created so many beautiful projects for family and friends. What a creative, caring and generous person. Condolences to the family.

**Sue Bartholf** - September 05, 2018 at 06:49 PM

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“ Prayers for family and friends. Sandi was a wonderful, thoughtful person. She'd give the shirt off her back to help another. Greatly missed. God Bless

**Nancy E Davis** - September 05, 2018 at 03:59 PM

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“ Becky & Family, Sandi enriched the lives of all she came in contact with and she was well loved by her entire Pinewood family. We are grateful to have known her. Hold your memories close, she was a very special human being. Sue Bell

**Sue Bell** - September 05, 2018 at 12:13 PM

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“ Paige Berry lit a candle in memory of Sandra H. "Sandi" Chipman



**Paige Berry** - September 05, 2018 at 07:46 AM

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“ Richard And Naomi Doughty lit a candle in memory of Sandra H. "Sandi" Chipman



**Richard and Naomi Doughty** - September 05, 2018 at 03:31 AM

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“ My Mom , Barbie Waugh, worked with Sandy and thought so much of her...God bless you all. Such an emotional journey.

**Patty Waugh** - September 04, 2018 at 09:22 PM

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“ Sandi was a lovely lady and EMT for the Wilton Volunteer Ambulance Service for many years. I could call her to say we are on our way to Weld, can you or Don get there before us. She always met us at the call site and already had assessed the situation. She would even stay at the station in Wilton to help cover for some other member. She was smart, funny and very dedicated and a friend to all. She was a Special person and I will miss her very much. Now she will be together again with her love of her life Don, who also served the Wilton Volunteer Ambulance Service.

My condolences to the family and remember how much she loved all of you.

Phyllis Lilley Jones, Wilton Volunteer Ambulance Service



**Phyllis Lilley-Jones** - September 04, 2018 at 07:45 PM

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“ Sandi treated the neighborhood kids to a Christmas cookie baking and decorating party for many years. Michel and Luke loved going to her home and looked forward to it every year. She was a wonderful friend and I know many will miss her. Keep good memories close to your heart, Becky, Brian and your families.

**Claire Vining** - September 04, 2018 at 05:46 PM

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“ Kent Wiles lit a candle in memory of Sandra H. "Sandi" Chipman



**Kent Wiles** - September 04, 2018 at 05:46 PM

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“ Sorry for your loss John, Becky and Riley Bell. <3

**Rhonda Storer** - September 04, 2018 at 04:49 PM

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“ Patti Parker lit a candle in memory of Sandra H. "Sandi" Chipman



**Patti Parker** - September 04, 2018 at 03:54 PM

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“ Mary & Greg O'Donal lit a candle in memory of Sandra H. "Sandi" Chipman



**Mary & Greg O'Donal** - September 04, 2018 at 12:20 PM