



Sharon Lee Hansen

APR 4, 1938 - APR 28, 2023



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Sharon Lee Hansen

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Sharon Lee Hansen, age 84 of Selbyville, DE, passed away on Friday, April 28, 2023, at AccentCare Hospice Center, in Wilmington, DE. She caused fireworks with her birth on July 4, 1938, in Corry, PA, to her parents, the late Andrew and Audrey Marie (Mason) Hansen.

During 1955 while in high school, Sharon traveled to Denmark and Sweden to learn about her Danish heritage. It was there, she insists, that she learned to drink beer. Her trip lasted eight weeks and along with exploring her heritage, she saw the devastation World War II in Europe had wrought, and it made a lasting impression.

Sharon moved to Philadelphia in 1956 to attend the all-girls Beaver College (now co-ed Arcadia University), graduating in 1960 with a B.S. While girls' sports were not offered in Sharon's high school days, by college Sharon was able to participate in field hockey, lacrosse, and basketball. From there, Sharon moved to the Baltimore area, where she lived and worked. From the 1960s through the 80s she was involved in both basketball and fast-pitch softball, where she excelled as a pitcher. In addition, in the early 70s, Sharon took up golf, and besides being a good golfer, was known to be one of the best-dressed players on the course. To round out her sports activities, in 1990 Sharon was elected to the Greater Washington, D.C. Softball Hall of Fame and then in 1997, inducted into the Maryland Women's Softball Fast Pitch Hall of Fame.

By the early 1970s, Sharon went back to school for her masters in microbiology at the University of Maryland in College Park, continuing later at the University of Maryland Medical School, where, in 1980, she was awarded her PhD. in Pathology, specializing in infectious diseases. Her professional experience took Sharon from research labs at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia in 1961, then to the Baltimore Biological Laboratories in Cockeysville, MD. She then moved in 1971, to the Baltimore VA as Chief of Microbiology, Urinalysis, and Serology. Next came Sharon's role as Chief of Clinical Pathology at VA. From there, her scientific work took her to the FDA in Gaithersburg, MD, as Chief of Microbiology at the Center for Devices and Radiologic Health. Sharon moved to the VA system from 1971-1990, for supervisory positions and later as a



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scientific laboratory expert. In addition to Sharon's laboratory employment, she shared her scientific knowledge with students at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, beginning in 1975, teaching Intro to Clinical Microbiology and going on to become Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathology from 1981-1986 and then Assistant Professor 1987-1993.

Sharon's employment took her all over the world giving guest lectures and indulging her love for travel, including trips to Belgium, England, Canada, Italy, and Morocco.

Dr. Hansen was a prolific writer, her work appearing in numerous journals and professional papers, including articles in Applied Microbiology (1974), Journal of Clinical Microbiology (1976) and Journal of Clinical Pathology in 1978. She served on the Editorial Board of the American Journal of Infection Control from 1981-1996, was guest editor for the Journal of Clinical Microbiology from 1984-1996, and on the Editorial Board for the publication from 1997-2000. At the end of her career, just before retirement, Dr. Hansen wrote for the Journal for the American Medical Association (JAMA).

Sharon also sat on a multitude of VA Hospital system committees for almost 20 years, from 1971-1990 and on national committees from 1980-1997, including service on the National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards, Chairman of Civil Service Affairs for the American Academy of Microbiology, and many more.

Sharon's special recognition and achievements included an FDA Commissioner's Special Citation and an FDA recognition award for work during Desert Storm/Desert Shield in 1992. Upon her retirement from the FDA and VA, on Dec. 31, 1999, Sharon retired to the Rehoboth/Lewes area in Delaware. Her retirement passions included golf (with the CAMP Rehoboth Golf League), where she continued to win best-dressed accolades. Sharon was celebrated for holes in one at both The Rookery and River Run courses. She was also part of the Founder's Circle for the CAMP Rehoboth Community Center, supported the Rehoboth Beach Film Society and Rehoboth Art League, while developing a wide circle of friends.

In retirement, Sharon continued to travel, including adventures in The Galapagos, Kenya, Tanzania, and the Far East. And if you never tasted her Thai spaghetti, chicken and biscuits, or pork with sauerkraut (always on the Weber), you missed something great.



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In addition to her parents, Sharon was preceded in death by her brother, Andrew Mason Hansen. She is survived by her nephew Mark; her nieces: Andrea Hansen and Susan Best; her sister-in-law, Wilda Hansen; and her cherished friend, Patti Duffy.

A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 11:00 AM, at Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE, where friends may visit beginning at 10:00 AM. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations to West Rehoboth Community Land Trust, Inc., PO Box 633, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971, or www.westrehobothlandtrust.org/donate.html.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.

FLORIST NOTE: PLEASE DELIVER ALL ARRANGEMENTS BY 3PM, TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023, TO OUR LEWES LOCATION.




Events


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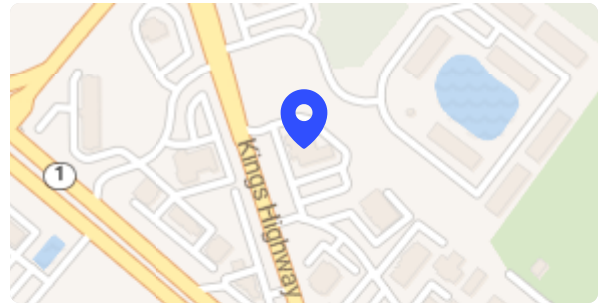
Visitation

 **Wednesday**, May 10, 2023

 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET


 **Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel**


16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958



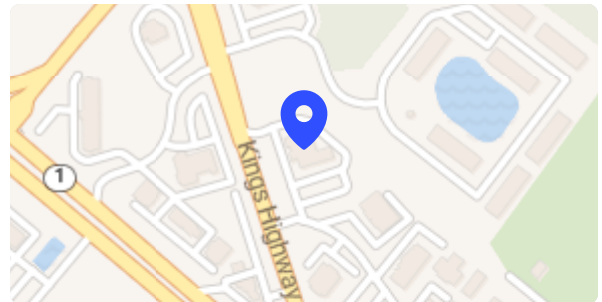
Celebration of life

 **Wednesday**, May 10, 2023

 11:00 AM ET

 **Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel**

16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958





Tribute Wall

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MH

Mary Hutton sent a virtual gift in honor of Sharon.

I was fortunate to be Sharon's catcher in fast pitch. She would hit my glove with speed and accuracy. Softball allowed me to get to know her off the field too. We had some great times. Sharon you are now at peace and pain free.



May 24 at 3:46 PM

BB

Barbara Brewer posted:

Ever-ready with a charming smile and kind word (or clever joke), Sharon added a bright spark to any group event or personal conversation. Not one to complain, in her later years, she'd rather talk about something more interesting than her ailments. With courage and calm, she persevered. She was memorable for many reasons and her twinkling eyes and bright smile will be missed.

May 9 at 3:47 PM

R6

Roni Lavache And Kids ❤️❤️❤️❤️ October 27 at 7:37 PM

There are so many wonderful memories I cherish having you for a dear friend. The world looks a bit dim without you in it. The light and laughter you shared with so many wonderful friends will always keep glowing in our hearts. I sure hope that's a huge beautiful golf course in Heaven so you can show all the angels how to do it right. You made the world a better place and now you can just enjoy all eternity. You are sorely missed but will always remain bright and happy in my heart. God bless!!

RB

Ron Bastek posted:

It is with fond memories that Sharon is laid to rest. I met Sharon at a party in Baltimore in 1981. Spent many a day at her homes and pool in Ellicott City; traveled to Cancun, Mexico; New York to the theater for Broadway shows; Cory, PA to visit her mom; visited her many times in Milton, DE; and our final big excursion to SE Asia - Hong Kong to Singapore with the highlight being Anghor Wat. She was feisty, full of hell, funny, challenging, could be ornery and knew it all. But, she could be loving, caring and she sure could cook - especially on the weber!! I will miss our talks and hope she is finally without pain and resting in a wonderful after life with the rest of the Farkles!!

May 8 at 6:28 AM

RD

Rita Delaney posted:

I PLAYED SOFTBALL WITH SHARON....WITH THE BALTIMORE JETS....WILL BE MISSED ...GOD BLESSED

May 5 at 7:09 AM



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Jack Knapp posted:

I remember Sharon well. Great customer at the HIPPOPOTAMUS where I was her bartender. Jack Knapp

May 5 at 6:01 AM



Kate Jobe posted:

Many good memories come to mind! Meeting her at Ron Bastek's home in Dallas... 1996 ? or so. Then vacationing with Ron and staying with her in Delaware 2001. Rest In Peace !Kate Jobe

May 4 at 7:48 PM



Thor posted:

Dear Mom! was a genuine rescue cat because I was found under a shed near downtown Lewes during the Winter of early 2017. It was so very cold that year that I had frostbite. You took me in without any hesitation and gave me a start to a warm, loving home. Thank you so much. I miss you and hope to see you at the end of the rainbow some day.xoxo. Thor

May 1 at 11:26 AM



Nancy Royston May 3 at 10:22 AM

Sharon was a long and dear friend to my sister ValJones.My husband Jack and I had many fun times with sharon & Val...Parties,Oriole games and visiting us at Ocean Pines! The four of you gals are now together!! God Bless!



Linda Porto May 1 at 7:25 PM

To my 4th of July birthday buddy. I will miss you more than you will ever know. Thank you for fixing my terrible golf swing and putting up with my jokes. I will always be thinking of you, especially when I use that special "Sharon Hansen" Lady Rave golf club that you handed over to me. Rest in peace, my friend! Sending you hugs!



Andrea Currie May 1 at 4:15 PM

I'm going to miss you my Fire Cracker!!



Emma Savage May 1 at 2:38 PM

Sharon Hansen, rest in peace you will truly be missed! I will always remember our good times my friend, until we meet again! I love ❤️ you and I know you are pain free!□□□□□□



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Sharon by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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