



Sharon L. Mason

August 7, 1940 - May 6, 2021

Sharon Mason, 80
Kearney resident

Sharon L. Mason, 80 of Kearney passed away Thursday, May 6, 2021 at CHI Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. Memorial services will be held 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at Kearney First United Methodist Church with Pastor Melody Adams and Pastor Laura Stubblefield officiating. Inurnment will take place at Kearney Cemetery.

Sharon was born August 7, 1940 in Kearney, Nebraska to Glen and Marian (Mougey) Wisch. She loved growing up in Kearney. She attended and was confirmed at Faith United Methodist Church. On August 24, 1963 she married Gary Mason, who she met while they were students at Kearney State College. Together they raised three daughters.

Sharon and Gary lived in Hildreth, NE, Park Forest, IL, Columbus, OH and Wichita, KS before returning to Kearney in 1979.

Sharon took an active part in her children's school, athletics and church activities, delighting in their time together. She later got to enjoy and participate in the lives of her 5 grandchildren. She and Gary liked to travel and were able to tour England, Israel, Egypt, Greece, Turkey, Hawaii, Alaska and

Scotland. Sharon considered Estes Park her “second home” traveling there almost every summer or fall during her lifetime, first as a young child, then after her marriage. For the past ten years she was also able to spend a few months each winter in Sun City, AZ. She was a lifelong reader and always had a book in her hand.

Sharon graduated from Kearney High School in 1958, Kearney State College in 1962, and received an MA in Library Sciences from the University of Denver in 1963 and an MA from Wichita State University in 1978. Always a great believer in the power of education, Sharon was very happy to say that her husband had his PhD and each of her three children had their Master’s Degrees.

Sharon began working as a high school student serving parties at the Fort Kearney Hotel. Her library career began as a student worker in 1956 at the Kearney Public Library. She held professional librarian positions at the Ohio State University Libraries, Wichita State University Library and the University of Nebraska at Kearney at Calvin T. Library, retiring in 2006. She was a life member of the American Library Association and was a past president of the Nebraska Library Association, and the College and University Section of NLA. She received distinguished service awards from both groups. Sharon served as a counselor for the ALA Council and she was a board member and officer for the State Advisory Council on Libraries and Meridian Library Systems. She was a frequent presenter at State, National and International library organizations.

She was on the Buffalo County Historical Society Board, serving as Treasurer, Secretary, and President and was on the United Campus Ministry Board for many years. She was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma honorary fraternity and Delta Zeta Sorority. She was a volunteer in the MONA Gift Shop for several years after she retired. She was a member of First United Methodist

Church and was involved with United Methodist Women. She taught Sunday School and was the Church Librarian for many years.

Left to cherish her memory are her husband, Gary Mason of Kearney; daughters, Carrie Jo (Kyle) Fairbairn, Laurie Beth (Shane) Schramm and Julie Ann Mason all of Omaha; grandchildren, Mason Fairbairn, Case Fairbairn, Luke Schramm, Taylor Schramm and Jake Schramm; siblings, Roger (Vicki) Wisch of Richmond Hill, GA, David (Charlotte) Wisch of Lincoln and Cynthia (Larry) Marrow of Lincoln; as well as many nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

Sharon was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorials are suggested to Kearney First United Methodist Church Library, United Campus Ministry (UNK) or the Buffalo County Historical Society. Condolences may be shared online at www.osrfh.com. Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremation Services.

Cemetery Details

Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I
Kearney, NE 68847
(308) 233-3244

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAY 12. 10:30 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
4500 Linden Drive
Kearney, NE 68847

Tribute Wall



“ Sharon L. Mason

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ In 1973, I came to Wichita State University to start a teaching career that ended up lasting 45 years. One of my first contacts was Sharon along with her husband who was a faculty member within my department on campus. Sharon and Gary were kind enough to house me in their nice home for nine weeks (free of charge) until I could move into the home that I purchased. That was an act of kindness that I've never forgotten. We were close friends during the years they resided in Wichita. She lived a good life. May she rest in peace.

Frank Rokosz

Frank Rokosz - December 29, 2021 at 12:07 AM



“ Gary and Family,
We are so saddened to hear about Sharon. She was such a sweet and kind lady. We can't begin to imagine your loss.

Larry

At this difficult time may you find comfort in knowing that others share in your sorry and loss. Treasured memories forever remain including our many dinners together at the Lodge.

Your friends,

Pat and Larry Deutsch

Larry Deutsch - May 20, 2021 at 04:00 PM

SD

“ *Sherrie Lee Dux-Ideus lit a candle in memory of Sharon L. Mason*



Sherrie Lee Dux-Ideus - May 12, 2021 at 02:40 PM

SD

“ *Sherrie Lee Dux-Ideus lit a candle in memory of Sharon L. Mason*



Sherrie Lee Dux-Ideus - May 12, 2021 at 02:37 PM

SN

“ *Sharon was a precious and gentle mama. I don't think I remember a time I did not see her smiling, being kind, or reading a book as I spent many childhood days at their house.*

Sonya New - May 12, 2021 at 08:59 AM

CS

“ *It was hard for me to accept that Sharon had been diagnosed with cancer, but I knew she was strong and would fight it. I was looking forward to your moving here to Omaha this May—we would all be living in the same city again. I shall miss Sharon immensely , even with such good memories of our early married lives—something to rest our minds on always. Much love and support to you, Gary, and your daughters and their families. Love, Charlotte Speck*

Charlotte Speck - May 11, 2021 at 05:05 PM

WG

“ Sharon, was a beautiful soul, one memory she always shared her clothing posts with us for our garage sales. Will miss her deeply. Great mother and grandmother. I know heaven just got a little brighter!

Wayne and Barb Garrelts

Wayne Garrelts - May 11, 2021 at 04:17 PM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Sharon L. Mason.



May 11, 2021 at 01:51 PM

TO

“ Condolences for Sharon's passing. We had good visits in Sun City Grand and while working out at Good Samaritan wellness center. May her memory be eternal.

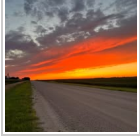
Tim O'Dea - May 11, 2021 at 01:36 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Sharon L. Mason.



May 10, 2021 at 07:03 PM



“ So sorry to hear about Sharon’ s passing - I remember her coming to games when Gary coached in Hildreth- my condolences ! Gary you were a great coach and teacher!

Wayne Hinrichs - May 10, 2021 at 06:39 PM



“ As manager of the MONA Museum Shop it was my privilege and pleasure to work with Sharon for several years. Always cheerful and helpful to our visitors, she was one of our best volunteers. What a great lady she was!

My sincere condolences to her family.
Janet Fox

Janet Fox - May 10, 2021 at 06:14 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Sharon L. Mason.



May 10, 2021 at 10:23 AM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Sharon L. Mason.



May 09, 2021 at 04:13 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Sharon L. Mason.



May 09, 2021 at 01:43 AM



“ *Sweet Tenderness* was purchased for the family of Sharon L. Mason.



May 08, 2021 at 11:21 PM