



## Sarah Long Farmer

February 17, 1945 - June 30, 2020

Sarah Long Farmer quietly entered heaven on June 30, 2020, surrounded by her family including her husband of 52 years, Daniel Cecil Farmer. She devoted her life to serving Jesus and serving others.

Sarah was born February 17, 1945, in Johnson City, TN to Raymond M. Long, Sr. and Iris Moise Moore. After graduating from Science Hill High School, she went on to East Tennessee State University to earn her Bachelor's degree and began teaching English and mathematics.

She and Dan were married November 11, 1967 at Central Baptist Church in Johnson City. After living in Crossville, TN and Augusta, GA for two years, they returned to settle in Johnson City and raise a family.

Once her children were older, Sarah went back to work as a church secretary. She used her education background to train Southern Baptist church secretaries around the country for 30+ years, served as President of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Secretaries Association, and was an officer in the National Association of Ministry Assistants. She served in several area churches including Southwestern Baptist Church, North Johnson City Baptist Church, Unaka Avenue Baptist Church, Grace Fellowship, and the Baptist Student Union at ETSU. Upon retirement, she managed the TN Baptist Adult Homes Village in Johnson City for 5 years.

A charter member of Southwestern Baptist Church, Sarah was very active in her church and lived out her faith not only through her local church, but also numerous church development and mission activities. At Southwestern Baptist Church she had served as the Sunday School Director, taught various Sunday School classes, and served on a multitude of committees including the Finance Committee, Long Term Planning Committee, and Pulpit Search Committee. In the Holston Baptist Association, she led the Discipleship Training committee several years and served in other volunteer roles. For 6 years, Sarah was elected to the Executive Committee of the TN Baptist Convention, one

of only a few women who were selected. She and Dan led a brick-laying mission team every summer helping over 40 different churches nationwide. Every December, she helped coordinate a toy and gift drive for the children of Hellier, KY. Together, they served as short term missionaries in Burkina Faso, West Africa in 1982.

Sarah is survived by her husband; her brother and sister-in-law, Raymond and Shonnie Long, Jr. of Johnson City; her two sons and their spouses, Daniel and MarthaKay Farmer of Orlando, FL, and Scott and Jeanie Farmer of Irmo, SC; her grandchildren Alex, Andrew, and Hannah-Catherine; and one niece and four nephews. In lieu of flowers, the family would prefer contributions made to the Sarah Farmer Memorial Mission Fund at Southwestern Baptist Church, 1112 Cherokee Road, Johnson City, TN 37604. A Memorial Celebration Service will be held at a later date at Southwestern Baptist Church. Burial will be at Happy Valley Cemetery in Elizabethton, TN.

# Comments

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“ Dan, we are thinking about you and remembering you and your family in prayer. I am sorry we did not have the opportunity to know this very special lady, Sarah. What a blessing she was to so many people throughout her life. We will miss you. Miss seeing you on the front row every Sunday ( if we can ever get back to normal service). Please take care of yourself. We will keep you in our hearts and prayers,  
In His Love, Vivian and Jerry Watson.

**Vivian Watson. Riverland Hills church** - July 22 at 12:51 PM

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“ I'm so sad to learn of the passing of a sweet friend and mentor. I saw Sarah the last time at a training session in Johnson City not long before my retirement in 1999. She served as President of our Tennessee Baptist Convention Secretaries Association of which many of us in northeast TN were members. Sarah faithfully served her local church through the years while encouraging and training many of us along that journey, all the while, holding our profession to a high standard of humble service. I am praying for her family as they celebrate Sarah's Homegoing.

**Sue Belcher** - July 09 at 09:15 PM

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“ Ray sorry for your loss I remember your sister well praying for you and her family

**Harry Cook** - July 09 at 07:11 PM

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“ Ed & Gennie McClure And Sharon And Don J lit a candle in memory of Sarah Long Farmer



**Ed & Gennie McClure and Sharon and Don J** - July 08 at 10:25 AM

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“ Sarah was a great friend and high school classmate with me at SHHS. She was always so friendly and gracious and just a great person. Because our last names began with L, we were always in the same homeroom. SHHS would not have been the same without her!  
God bless and keep you, Sarah. You won't be forgotten

Jim "Sunny" Lonon

Jim Lonon - July 07 at 09:35 AM

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“ I was in several of Sarah's classes at the Virginia Baptist Ministry Association and the National Association of Baptist Ministry Assistant Conferences - she was always nice and all of us in the classes enjoyed becoming friends with her and seeing her each time we attended the conferences. My sincere sympathy and love to her family  
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Penny Irby Garber - July 06 at 02:27 PM

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“ Sarah was precise and detailed in anything she accomplished. She taught so many secretaries and surely blessed the secretaries in Holston Association. She was my “go to” if I had a question. You could always depend on Sarah and she will be missed.

Kim Kitzmiller - July 06 at 11:06 AM

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“ My condolences to the whole Farmer family. Sarah was a treasure to all who knew her. She was always calm, gracious and unflappable. I still can hear her quiet laugh and genuine smile as she told us of funny misfortunes on past mission trips. I was fortunate to be able to fill in for her at SWBC one year while she took a much deserved vacation. It was an honor to "pretend" to be Sarah Farmer for a week! Those were some efficient heels to fill! We will miss her, but I know our Lord has lots of work and missions for her still!

Lori Dunn

Lori Dunn - July 06 at 10:51 AM

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“ We are truly sorry to learn of Sarah's passing. She was a kind friend to our family. May your wonderful memories and knowledge of her forever home in heaven give you comfort in the days ahead.

Jerry & Nancy Story and family

Nancy Story - July 05 at 09:45 PM

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“ Sarah and Dan was a great influence on me growing up. I remember our choir trip to DC when I was a teen. That was one of the best trips ever. Sarah had such a mild manner and was so accepting of all of us. Loved her signing voice, beautiful!!! She always was a very special person in my life!

Tracey Lovelady Behrer - July 05 at 07:46 PM

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“ I'm so sorry to read of Sarah's passing. She was always so kind to me and seemed to always be smiling and laughing when she would be at Cherokee. Dan, Danny, and Scott, you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Carol Garrison - July 05 at 06:48 PM

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“ Sarah and I went with her Mom to Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly every year during our pre teen and teen years. Never can forget the long drive, the stop for a treat, and the wonderful experiences we shared at the Assembly. During the many years apart, she has always been in my memory and will continue to be. Having visited Heaven once during one of my cancer treatments, I know the love and comfort she has been feeling since leaving this world. She is happy to be united with her Lord. I hope the family takes comfort in the fact that she ran a good race down here and her reward is one of joy. She will be waiting to receive each when it is your turn to pass into blessed eternity. Let me know when you have a celebration of her life.



**Elizabeth Ward** - July 05 at 05:09 PM