



Sandra Dawn Rowland

January 2, 1942 - January 6, 2026

Little Known Things about Me (Sandy Rowland)

I grew up in a very anti-Christian home, and my father was an abuser and he claimed to be an atheist. He was so anti-God that he refused to allow me to go to church. When I was 16 years old I wanted to go to church and I accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Savior that night. Jesus Christ became a very important part of my life, and I know I had to go against my father and find ways to go to church services and youth groups. As a young Christian I also spent hours locked up in my room reading my Bible which literally became the BREAD OF LIFE to me, and in much prayer. In order to get to church I sometimes walked up to 3 and 4 miles to church in the dead of winter. Someone at church would usually take me home. When entering the house my dad usually met me at the door and punished me, sometimes severely. He knew how much my lord meant to me so he even went so far as to tear up the Bible and threw it into the fire.

When I graduated from high school, because I had no money of my own, I had to find a job so I could move out of the godless house. I found a job working in my uncle's motel. I worked long hours. Since my uncle was my dad's brother my dad asked my uncle to make me work extra-long hours on Sundays so I couldn't go to church (I always went to morning, youth group and evening services). I still managed to get to service sometimes dragging in

exhausted and very dirty and soaking wet. My pay was a dollar per hour and I saved every penny, which wasn't much because my dad made me pay room and board.

I felt God calling me to go to Bible College in Los Angeles. This terrified me, but trusting God to provide and take care of me, I made secret plans to leave Corvallis and take a bus to LA. It wasn't long when I ventured out on my new journey with only \$600.00 I managed to save. Not knowing where I was going or how I was going to live and in a large city like LA (I had always lived in Corvallis) was very terrifying to me. That was totally a walk of faith. Knowing I didn't have enough money for even school tuition and supplies, a place to live and food I had to quickly find a job to support myself. In the area where the school was jobs were not easy to come by and I didn't have qualifications for most jobs. With God's help I finally found a job at the local Woolworths store just a few blocks from the school. Even though I made only about \$50.00 per week after all the deductions it was enough just to get me by since I was in walking distance and didn't need anything for transportation or food and lodging.

After a few set-backs I finally graduated in 6 years with a Bachelor in Theology as well as a BRE which is a Bachelor of Religious Education.

Shortly after graduation I was asked to be a co-pastor in Lafayette, Indiana. After a while I felt I had to come back to Corvallis as I was not well physically. I served faithfully in my home church as Christian Ed director and teacher training and remained in my home church in Corvallis to this day.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JAN 14. 11:00 AM (PT)

McHenry Funeral Home
206 NW 5th St.
Corvallis, OR 97330
(541) 757-8141
info@mchenryfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

SM

“ Sandy, my friend for 78 years. At the age of six, Sandy and I became friends ... a growing relationship for 78 years. We lived across the street from each other until I moved to another area in Corvallis. I recall, as if it were yesterday, Sandy's knocking at my door and asking, "Hey, can Sharon play?" That "refrain" at the beginning of our friendship has resonated in my heart throughout the years.

Even though we had been apart until meeting again at high school (CHS), our early friendship was then renewed and matured. Sandy's loyal and faithful character have been noteworthy; her strength and perseverance despite difficult challenges have helped her achieve the goals she established. I am so proud that she graduated from college ... a great accomplishment.

Because our life's paths have prevented our being together locally, it has not hindered the growth of our friendship. When possible, we met together, cherishing these memorable times. In these last few years, it has been my joy, pleasure and honor calling Sandy, texting her, sending her cards and praying with her. I will always hold dear the memorable friendship we had. I look forward to seeing you again, my friend, in heaven.

Sharon Morlin - January 12 at 08:32 PM

LG

“ I have so many good memories through all the years of our friendship.... It was a good thing we loved each other like sisters cuz we certainly had our share of arguments!! But ALWAYS, we forgave each other and went right on loving one another. I was honored to be a part of yours and Lloyd's 25th wedding celebration! We had so much fun shopping with Marsha (your sis) for the perfect dress, (remember the one you tried on backwards I couldn't stop laughing!!), getting your hair done and your make-up! You were absolutely beautiful and It was such a lovely ceremony ❤️ ❤️.

I couldn't bring myself to say goodbye when we left for Virginia because I knew how upset you would be! I am so glad, once again, you forgave me and we got to write to each other.

I know you are so happy to be with Jesus Enjoy, my friend.....I know, one day, we will be together again! Until then, keep your freezer stocked with frozen yogurt and we'll share a quart or two when I get there ❤️ ❤️ ❤️ Loni

Loni Godin - January 09 at 04:11 PM