



Sandra Jean Caldwell Davis

August 9, 1946 - March 17, 2026

Southwest Virginia and the Commonwealth at large have lost a highly respected citizen, businesswoman, benefactor, and humanitarian. Sandra Jean Caldwell Davis passed away on March 17, aged seventy-nine. The fourth child of Thornton William Caldwell and Senora Harmon Caldwell, “Sandy” was born August 9, 1946, in Radford, and grew to adulthood in Indian Valley, graduating from Floyd High School in 1964. At age seventeen she began a working career that lasted almost sixty years, starting with the State Health Department, where she advanced to become supervisor and Health Director in Radford and Giles County. Following that she took an entry position at the Bank of Christiansburg, and over the course of fourteen years rose to senior vice president, the first woman in Southwest Virginia to achieve that position.

Recognizing the underserved market for college housing at the time, she and her late husband Patrick D. Cupp founded BCR Real Estate and Property Management, renting apartments to serve both Virginia Tech and Radford University students. Following his accidental death in 2000, she assumed full management of the firm, which eventually grew to more than six hundred apartments and houses. She continued to operate BCR until she sold the Radford business in 2016, and later the Blacksburg properties in 2022.

Unable to afford college when she finished high school, Sandy felt a deep

commitment to the value of higher education, and the necessity of making it as open to all as possible. She and her husband began making donations to various scholarship funds at both universities. After his accidental death in 2,000, she became a benefactor of athletic scholarships at Virginia Tech and endowed the Cupp soccer stadium at Radford. In time she chaired the Virginia Tech Foundation Board of Directors, the Virginia Tech Athletic Fund Board of Directors, and served on the campaign steering committee for Virginia Tech's first \$1 billion capital campaign.

Interest in encouraging business growth in the region led her to serve on the board of Go Virginia/Region 2, to chair the boards of the Blacksburg Partnership and Radford's Carilion hospital, as well sitting on the board of the Business Council of Roanoke and co-chairing the New River Passenger Rail Commission. At the same time, her commitment to higher education led to her service on the board of directors of New River Community College and resulted in gubernatorial appointments to the Boards of Visitors of both Radford University and Virginia Tech, as well as a position on the board of the Via College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Her efforts in these endeavors resulted in her being named Citizen of the Year by both the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce and the Blacksburg Rotary, and in 2022 she was inducted into the Southwest Virginia Business Hall of Fame. Virginia Tech recognized her contributions to education by naming her an honorary life member of its Alumni Association, and bestowing on her the university's highest recognition, the William H. Ruffner Award. Radford University in 2019 awarded her the degree of Honorary Doctor of Business. In 2022 she was made a laureate of Junior Achievement's Southwest Virginia Hall of Fame.

In 2003 Sandra married historian and writer William C. "Jack" Davis, and together they co-endowed the Street-Davis performance hall at Virginia Tech's

Center for the Arts, Radford University's Davis Performance Hall, and the Davis College of Business and Economics, as well as many scholarships at both universities and New River Community College.

Besides her husband of 23 years, Sandra Davis is survived by her sister Mildred Weddle, two stepchildren, more than a dozen nieces and nephews in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, and Oregon, and her beloved Welsh corgi "Cuddles." Final arrangements will be made by McCoy Funeral Home and interment will be at Blacksburg's Memorial Gardens of the New River Valley in a private family ceremony.

A celebration of life will take place on Sunday, April 19, 2026, at 2:00 pm at Virginia Tech's Center for the Arts. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Humane Society of Montgomery County.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Gardens of the New River Valley

2551 N. MAIN ST.
BLACKSBURG, VA 24060

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR **19**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Virginia Tech Center for the Arts
190 Alumni Mall
Blacksburg, VA 24060

Tribute Wall

TP

“ *The Board and Staff of Blue Ridge PBS purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Sandra Jean Caldwell Davis.*



The Board and Staff of Blue Ridge PBS - April 17 at 02:52 PM

TP

“ *The Board and Staff of Blue Ridge PBS planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sandra Jean Caldwell Davis.*

The Board and Staff of Blue Ridge PBS - April 17 at 02:52 PM

CA

“ *I will always remember Sandy. She was the sweetest. Many prayers to her family.*

Caitlin - March 25 at 12:18 PM

BH

“ *I'm so saddened to learn of the passing of my high school friend and classmate. Sandra was a dear friend of whom I have many fond memories. Many prayers for her family and friends.*



Ben Harmon - March 22 at 04:20 PM

SB

“ *Sandra was such a special lady. So kind and so smart.*

Sue Anne Boothe - March 19 at 11:09 AM

VS

“ Sandra was one of the kindest people I have ever met. I feel so blessed to have known her and I will miss her so much. I am so sorry for your loss.

Vickie Stump - March 19 at 09:32 AM

VB

“ Virginia Tech Men’s Basketball purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Sandra Jean Caldwell Davis.



Virginia Tech Men’s Basketball - March 19 at 09:21 AM

VB

“ Virginia Tech Men’s Basketball planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sandra Jean Caldwell Davis.

Virginia Tech Men’s Basketball - March 19 at 09:21 AM

BH

“ I had the great pleasure of spending time with Sandra every Thursday. We shared a lot in those days. She really was a wonderful person that cared about me as her friend. I truly will miss our talks on Thursdays. She truly was a blessing to this world. We live in. I will miss you, my friend. She always made sure I had a diet coke with a straw

Beatrice Howard - March 18 at 06:30 PM

SP

“ I was so shocked to see that Sandra has passed away. She and I both grew up in Indian Valley, her Mom was my second grade teacher at Indian Valley Elementary School, and her brother, Joe Caldwell, was a great friend of my brother, Jack Quesenberry. Sandra was so much like her mom: kind, humble, and loving to everyone. She will be missed by so many people!
With love, prayers, and sympathy to her husband, Jack, and all her other family members,
Shirley, Doug, & Dave Phillips

Shirley Phillips - March 18 at 06:09 PM

RS

“ So lucky to know Sandy over the years, such a wonderful, kind and caring human being. She was just so nice. And a community philanthropist. This area is very fortunate to have had her working for all of us.

Randy Stith - March 18 at 12:43 PM

CP

Sandra and I became friends in the eighth grade when Indian Valley and Willis joined together for classes before going to high school. Along with our buddies we began to show our belief in God's miracles by dancing on the roof top during a friend's sleepover. We were hoping our dance would convince God of our deep need for snow to keep us out of school the next day. God saw our need for an education and send us back to work.
We continued our love of God and held on to our humor when dealing with things beyond our control.
I know Sandra's loving spirit is dancing on the rooftops with God.
I loved you Dear Friend and always will.
Love
Catherine Pauley

Catherine Pauley - March 18 at 09:33 PM

SS

We were so privileged to know Sandy. She was a kind, compassionate and loving friend. Condolences to the family. She will be missed! Love, Sharon & Steve Spradlin

Sharon H Spradlin - March 19 at 10:09 AM

NM

We met Sandy in 1975 when we returned to the area. We were blessed to have her become part of our family later. She was strong when needed and yet gentle. She was my "steel magnolia". Nancy (Cupp) McDonald

Nancy McDonald - March 19 at 10:28 AM

DC

I am so thankful to have lived across the street from Sandy for several years, and to have called her a friend. She was always so kind to everyone, especially my parents whom she welcomed as new residents into the neighborhood and included in her dinner parties and other events. Her smile and laughter were wonderful and uplifting to all who met her. And her many gifts to others and organizations will sustain her wonderful legacy. My condolences to Jack and the family.

Dr. John G. Casali - March 20 at 11:54 AM

AB

A most beautiful soul. Thank you Sandra. Thank you for being you. Thank you for the annual Christmas brownies. Thank you for hosting my parents. Thank you for loving me so well. My life has been enriched because our paths crossed. I know you are resting in peace. I love you so much.

Adnan Barqawi - March 21 at 01:51 PM

LE

My husband Chuck and I shared many meals, concerts and an Alaska cruise with Sandra and Jack. We love them both. Sandra always made everyone in any situation feel comfortable. She was a sweetheart. Sandra had a strong faith in God and I believe that she is now dancing with the Angels. May God bless you Jack as you go forward.

Linda Eaton

Linda T Eaton - April 19 at 04:21 AM