A Celebration of the Life of
Susan D. Crandall
November 21, 1948 – August 9, 2023

Little River United Church of Christ
Saturday, September 9, 2023
Order of Service

Prelude  
*Sunrise, Sunset, from Fiddler on the Roof*  
Craig Stapert

**Greeting**  
The Rev. Dr. Shelli M. Poe

Leader:  
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God  
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People:    
*And also with you.*

*Hymn of Adoration*  
*Sweet, Sweet Spirit*  
(See back of bulletin for music)

**Prayer**

Leader:  
The peace of Christ be with you.

People:  
*And also with you.*

Leader:  
Let us pray.

All:  
*Almighty God,*  
whose will is sovereign and whose mercy is boundless,  
look upon us in our sorrow and enable us to hear your word.  
Help us hear so that, through patience and encouragement  
of the scriptures, we may hold fast to the assurance  
of your favor and the hope of eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our risen Savior, Amen.

**Old Testament Lesson**  
Ruth 3:10–11

**New Testament Lesson**  
Matthew 6:28–34

**Words of Remembrance**
Affirmation of Faith
We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus
and we know that in everything
God works for good with those who love God,
who are called according to God’s purpose.
We are sure that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
Will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Savior.
Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving

* Hymn I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry
(SEE BACK OF BULLETIN FOR MUSIC)

Communion
Leader: God be with you.
All: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them to God.
Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.
All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.
Leader: Holy God, we praise and bless you for creation ...
With the faithful in every place and time,
we praise with joy your holy name:
All: Holy, holy, holy God
Of love and majesty,
The whole universe speaks of your glory,
O God Most High.

Leader: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, ...

Consecrate, therefore, by your Holy Spirit,
these gifts of bread and wine,
and bless us that as we receive them at this table,
we may offer you our faith and praise,
we may be united with Christ and with one another,
and we may continue faithful in all things.

All: In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you,
gracious God,
and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not in temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.
Prayer after Communion

We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all of Christ’s gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Commendation

Song of Simeon

Holy One,
now let your servant go in peace;
You word has been fulfilled:
My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:
A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.

Benediction

The Rev. Dr. Shelli M. Poe

Postlude

Craig Stapert

Please join the family for a reception in the social hall following the service.

In honor of Susan’s memory, the family invites you to support scholarships for all students at Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC). Donations to NVCC may be made by visiting the secure donation portal on the NOVA Foundation website https://giving.nvcc.edu/make-a-gift. Choose ‘other’ from the designation drop down menu and type “Susan Crandall” in the space provided. Other ways to donate are emailing novafoundation@nvcc.edu or mailing a check noting “Susan Crandall” in the memo line to NOVA Foundation, 4001 Wakefield Chapel Road, Suite 275, Annandale, VA 22003.
Susan Denise Crandall  
November 21, 1948 – August 9, 2023

Susan was born in Akron, Ohio, to Don B. and Shirley D. Crandall. As a child, she moved around a lot and grew up in Chillicothe, OH, Oak Ridge, TN, and Sandusky, OH. As a teenager, Susan moved to Rome, Italy, as part of the 1966–67 AFS-USA foreign exchange student program. There she met her “Italian family” and this experience forever cemented her lifelong love of Europe.

A lifelong learner and educator, Susan received a BA in Economics, George Washington University (’73), a MA in Counseling, George Washington University (’77), and a MA in Psychology, Marymount University (’97). Susan was also a licensed professional school counselor in both Maryland and Virginia.

As a young woman, Susan moved to the D.C. area and worked for the federal government. She held positions at the Federal Reserve Board, the U.S. Army, and the Department of the Navy. Eventually Susan became a counselor and had a private practice in Frederick, MD, before becoming a full-time school counselor. As a school counselor, Susan worked at St. John Regional Catholic School in Frederick, MD (1992–2000) and at Sanders Corner Elementary School in Ashburn, VA (2000–2015).

For her retirement “career” Susan joined the team at Two Twisted Posts in the tasting room and obtained her wine educator certification from WSET. She found great joy in sharing her knowledge of wine and learning from others. She was able to combine her love of travel, wine, and learning about other cultures by taking “educational” trips to wineries around the world with new and old friends.

Throughout her life, Susan believed in leaving things better than she found them and would frequently volunteer her time within her community and to advocate for others. Susan volunteered with Planned Parenthood, the Girl Scouts, and the Loudoun food pantry. In retirement, Susan maintained a busy volunteer schedule. She got Ralph (her cat) certified as a therapy cat to take to nursing homes, she ushered at Wolf Trap, weeded at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, and for seniors in need, delivered meals with Meals on Wheels, worked COVID-19 vaccination clinics with the Virginia Medical Reserve Corps, and mentored students at Douglass High School.

Susan is survived by her daughters Laura Brincefield (Matthew) and Emily Spence (Jesse) and her granddaughter Angeline. She is also survived by her brother David Crandall (Maureen); her nieces Katherine Adege (Julian), Taylor Crandall (Kevin), Taylor Adams, and Samantha Adams; a grand-niece Zoë; and many beloved cousins. She is predeceased by her parents, her brother Mark E. Crandall, and nephew Shane.
There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Refrain

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here.
with us, filling us with your love; and for these blessings

we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we'll know

that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.
I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

1. I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
2. I was there when you were but a child.
3. When you heard the wonder of the word I was rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.
4. If you find someone to share your time and you were baptized, to see your life unfold.
5. In the middle ages of your life, not too living God, to whom you now belong.
6. When the evening gently closes in and you through the night, complete what I've begun.

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faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you
join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your
shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have
wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell.
vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.
al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.