



## Sarah Copps Love

October 15, 1970 - October 4, 2021

Monday, October 4, 2021, Sarah Benedict Copps Love, loving daughter, sister, wife, and devoted mother of four children passed away at her home in Centreville, VA at the age of 50.

Sarah's life touched so many. She showed her children kindness and comfort and was blessed with a rare ability to refrain from the judgment of others—to accept people for who they are. Not one to hold or harbor grudges, she was nevertheless fierce when it came to defending her own values and independent in forming her opinions. Sarah had a side-splittingly funny sense of humor in casual social situations yet, she was essentially a quiet and reserved person—she did not like the spotlight and she held her feelings close. And if she loved you, her love was total and unconditional.

Sarah grew up in the historical coastal town of Marblehead, Massachusetts with her parents and siblings. Her family moved to South Laguna, California in 1978 and she immediately embraced the active outdoor life. She loved to go to the beach to body surf and ride her horses. After high school at St. Margaret's Episcopal School, she set off on her own and lived on a small island off the coast of Cape Cod, where she worked the family farm and tended to horses. She later moved to Northern Virginia where she began working on a college degree. It was in Virginia that she met her husband James “Jim” Love and started a family.

Sarah who was known to friends and family as Sarahbarah, Sahara, Sweet Pea, and Mrs. Beasley, was a private person yet, quietly bold and adventurous. She was deeply sensitive but knew her mind and was steadfast in her convictions. As a child, she played soccer and swam competitively. She was an accomplished equestrian, earning many medals in show jumping, particularly “hunters.” Sarah was also quite adept at the potter’s wheel, creating fine bowls, plates, and pitchers with simple yet elegant designs.

She cherished the simple comforts of home, but she also had managed to travel extensively in the United States, particularly the Pacific Northwest and her home ground of New England. She visited England to enjoy the theater and filled a backpack and traveled to Europe. She meant to see as many countries as she could in ten weeks but ended up staying in Italy for the majority of her trip, where she spent her days learning about the cuisine, art, and architecture.

In 1995, while Sarah began working on a degree at George Mason University, she was diagnosed with breast cancer. When she received the difficult news, Sarah stepped up to the challenge without hesitation, fighting with tenacity and without complaint. She defeated the cancer.

A family friend wrote, “I always admired Sarah's rebel spirit and fearlessness, which was glaringly evident in her horsemanship—just the way she attacked 6-foot jumps with abandon. I wish I had her bravery and devil-may-care attitude. She dove headfirst into life and lived it on her own terms.”

When Sarah recovered from her medical journey, she returned to college and in 2002 Sarah met Jim Love. They were married and four remarkable children soon followed. Sarah embraced motherhood and enjoyed spending time with her family and friends at the family farm in West Virginia. She was an avid

reader, music and movie lover, and much to everyone's surprise a proud fan of the television programs "Game of Thrones," "Heartland," "Jeopardy," "Judge Judy," and "Supernatural." Her greatest passion by far was raising her children and she was involved in her children's sports, arts, and music programs. She loved spending time with her kids in the outdoors, summers by the pool with the kids, going to the girls' soccer games, and her son's baseball games. Everything revolved around her children and family.

Sarah had a career that allowed her keen intelligence and ability to adapt quickly shine. Over the years, she worked as an insurance agent, for the Department of Transportation, Fairfax County Public Schools, Outback Steakhouse, and most recently as a Software Analyst at Margin Edge where she found a work environment that felt like family to her and her attention to detail and quiet managerial skills soared. She loved her work and was motivated by her ability to contribute to her family's well-being.

In the spring of this year, Sarah and her family got the news no one wants to hear. Her cancer had returned. There was every expectation of a good outcome. She went to every doctor appointment with a smile on her face and, no matter how bad the news, the theme remained... "FIGHT!" The cancer proved more aggressive this time, insidiously alluding treatment, steadily claiming her fragile body. Still, she never surrendered in spirit and continued to work until the week before she passed away at home with her family by her side.

"My sister was the bravest person I know," said her sister Annie. "She kept us optimistic and hopeful throughout her difficult journey. I learned so much from her about not worrying about the little things. She was super chill about all the things I unravel over. It was a joy to watch my baby sister as a mother."

Sarah is survived by her husband, James "Jim" C. Love V; her son James C. Love VI; her daughters Katherine "Kylie" Love, Abbigail Love, and Elizabeth "Lily" Love; her brother Edward Copps and his wife Maha Copps, her sister Annie Copps; her parents Edward and Nancy Copps; her mother-in-law Verna Colosi Love; father-in-law James C. Love IV; brother-in-law Matthew, his wife Allison, and their children Ellis and Finley; sister-in-law MaryBeth Love Knight, her husband Pete, and their children Verna, Petrus, and Everett; brother-in-law Michael Love; grandmothers-in-law Mary Jane Colosi and Audrey Love; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, in-laws, and dear family friends.

There will be a viewing at Pierce Funeral Home (9609 Center St, Manassas, VA 20110) on Wednesday, October 13, from 5 to 8 pm, and a funeral Thursday, October 14, at 10 am at Saint Timothy Catholic Church (13807 Poplar Tree Rd, Chantilly, VA 20151). Sarah will be laid to rest at Little Georgetown of Grace Cemetery (5370 Trapp Branch Rd., Broad Run, VA 20137).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **13**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home  
9609 Center St.  
Manassas, VA 20110  
(703) 257-6028  
pfh@piercefh.com  
<https://www.piercefh.com>

## Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **14**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Timothy's Catholic Church  
13807 Poplar Tree Road  
Chantilly, VA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Sarah Copps Love.



October 13, 2021 at 01:19 PM



“ *XOXO Joyce and Russ Brown* purchased the *Arrive in Style* for the family of Sarah Copps Love.



**XOXO Joyce and Russ Brown** - October 13, 2021 at 12:14 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Sarah Copps Love.



October 13, 2021 at 09:56 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Sarah Copps Love.



October 13, 2021 at 09:08 AM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sarah Copps Love.*



October 13, 2021 at 08:15 AM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sarah Copps Love.*



October 12, 2021 at 10:42 PM



“ *My Sarahbarah, you are more like a sister to me!! Sing and dance with our angels... until we meet again. I LOVE YOU!!!* ❤️💕😘

**Betsy Smart Wilkinson** - October 12, 2021 at 10:22 PM



“ *We are thinking of you all. Sarah was a wonderful daughter, sister, wife. And friend.*

**Rick Johnson** - October 12, 2021 at 10:10 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Sarah Copps Love.*



October 12, 2021 at 09:45 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sarah Copps Love.*



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October 12, 2021 at 09:04 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sarah Copps Love.*



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October 12, 2021 at 09:04 PM



“ *Such tenderness and beautiful words described your sister Annie. What a truly a magnanimous family filled with love and sprinkled with Grace. I'm blessed to know you Annie. My heart is filled with tears of Joy and tears of sorrow for you immense loss of Sarah in this physical world. May you all find comfort in Sarah's gentle and strong memories.*

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**Amy Engelhardt** - October 12, 2021 at 08:58 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sarah Copps Love.*



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October 12, 2021 at 08:48 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Sarah Copps Love.*



October 12, 2021 at 08:23 PM



“ *We are so sad that such a gentle soul has gone from our midst. Her spirit, however, remains with us all as we remember her courageous life. Whatever trials come our way, we will draw on her strength and example. The obituary was lovely and nailed her personality and her presence and the full life she embraced in her short time on earth. Much love and many prayers to her children, husband, parents and in-laws. Aunt Lisa & Uncle Joe Colosi*

**Liaa Colosi** - October 12, 2021 at 06:19 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Sarah Copps Love.*



October 12, 2021 at 06:08 PM



“ *Outback Steak House ( Herndon) purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Sarah Copps Love.*



**Outback Steak House ( Herndon)** - October 12, 2021 at 03:09 PM