



Sarah Hahn Donalson

OCT 30, 1952 - APR 2, 2026



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McCALEB &
FUNERAL HOME
SACRED PARK CEMETERY
A Life Celebration Home

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Sarah Hahn Donalson

OCT 30, 1952 - APR 2, 2026

Weslaco - Sarah Hahn Donalson, 73, passed away on Thursday, April 2, 2026, surrounded by her children. She was born on October 30, 1952, to Charles “CR” and Claudia Hahn in Hickory, North Carolina. At the age of four, her family moved to Tyler, Texas, the place she and her brother Robert “Bobby” called home. She attended Tyler Junior College and Southwest Texas State University, studying art and education.

After graduating from college, Sarah moved to the Rio Grande Valley for a teaching job. A close friend introduced her to Paul Donalson, and they were engaged six months later. The two married on August 4, 1979, in Tyler and became devoted parents to their two children, Dana and Robert.

Sarah’s purpose and passion was teaching young children. What started as playing “class” with her dolls as a young child turned into a 32-year career in education, primarily teaching first grade. She talked about her students often, taking so much joy in watching their growth and development displayed through play and conversations. Sarah shared her love of teaching at the First United Methodist Church of Weslaco, where she taught Sunday School for many years and was a faithful member for the rest of her life.

A lifelong dancer since childhood, Sarah joined the Tyler Junior College Apache Belles and Southwest Texas State Strutters drill teams. She performed at the Super Bowl VII halftime show, as well as a Dallas Cowboys game in Chicago. For years, Sarah danced in the ladies class at the Rita Robertson School of Dance. In retirement, she took on an administrative role at the dance school, where she loved getting to see the young dancers and their families each week.

Sarah was an active leader in her community, serving as President of her PEO chapter for seven years, President of the Weslaco Museum’s Guild, and in various roles with the Literary Review Club.



Obituary

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Caring and generous, she showed up for others and maintained strong friendships from all stages of life. Sarah had a liveliness to her and loved to laugh, often the first person on the dance floor at weddings. She had an enthusiasm for Longhorn football, flying her burnt orange flag at home each game day, and she was a season ticketholder for Weslaco Panthers football games for over 25 years.

Sarah was a loving, devoted wife, mother and grandmother. Her marriage to Paul was strong and supportive until his last day, taking joy in the small everyday outings to stays at the family ranch as empty nesters. Sarah was the little league team mom and fan in the stands for Robert and shared in dance recitals with Dana, always being an active presence in their lives. In retirement, Sarah visited her grandchildren in Austin often, treasuring birthday parties, holidays, and cartoon cuddle time in “Nana’s Room.”

Sarah was deeply cherished by her family. She is survived by her daughter, Dana Such and her husband Chris of Austin, son, Robert Donalson and his wife Sarah of Weslaco, grandchildren, Emma and Henry Such, brother, Robert Hahn and his wife Julie of Dallas. Sarah is preceded in death by her loving husband, Paul, and her parents, Charles “CR” and Claudia Hahn.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, April 9, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., with family present from 4-7 p.m. at McCaleb Funeral Home. The funeral service will be held on Friday, April 10, at 11 a.m., at the First United Methodist Church in Weslaco.



*In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation
to the Weslaco Museum, 500 S. Texas Blvd.
Weslaco, TX 78596, in memory of Sarah Donalson.*



Events

Sarah Hahn Donalson

OCT 30, 1952 - APR 2, 2026

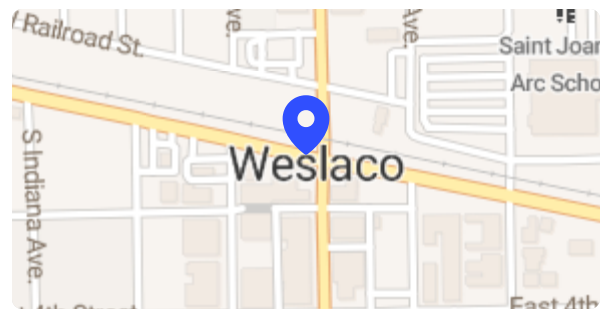
Visitation

- Thursday**, April 9, 2026
- 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM CT
- McCaleb Funeral Home**
900 West 4th Street, Weslaco TX 78596



Funeral Service

- Friday**, April 10, 2026
- 11:00 AM CT
- First United Methodist Church**
Weslaco TX 78596





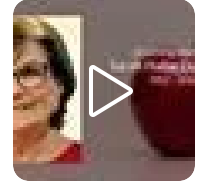
Tribute Wall

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Mccaleb Funeral Home & Sacred Park Cemetery shared a **Video**.



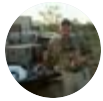
April 9 at 11:07 AM



Larissa Riojas posted:

I remember in middle school and high school, Dana joking about how her mom and I loved the same music—artists like Stevie Wonder and Michael McDonald. All I can say is, we have great taste in music ☺ Mrs. Donalson, your smile and thoughtfulness will be so deeply missed. Love you always ☐

April 12 at 4:24 PM



Lex Hart posted:

She was a great person!! Always friendly and laughed so much. She will be missed. Lex Hart

April 11 at 4:38 PM



Sylvia Zavala shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Will be missing you Sarah, may you rest in peace. Great memories of working together at Gonzalez Elementary and of times we would get together for dinner. Thank you for being my friend, I love you.



April 9 at 6:08 PM



Pam Miller (Rita's Daughter) sent a European Sympathy Dish Garden to the Donalson family.



April 9 at 9:44 AM



Pam Miller (Rita's Daughter) planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Sarah.



April 9 at 9:44 AM



Tribute Wall

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David & Carolyn Isbell And Family sent a Classic Sympathy Dish Garden to the Donalson family.

April 9 at 9:10 AM



Anonymous sent a Peach, Orange & White Sympathy Standing Spray to the Donalson family.

April 8 at 11:25 AM



Barbara D. sent a Red & White Sympathy Floor Basket to the Donalson family.

April 8 at 9:48 AM



Rita'S Dance Studio sent a White Funeral Standing Spray to the Donalson family.

April 7 at 3:01 PM



Julissa M. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Sarah.

April 7 at 10:28 AM



Anonymous sent a Lavender & White Sympathy Floor Basket to the Donalson family.

April 7 at 9:13 AM





Tribute Wall

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Rodger D'andreas-Wahl posted:

I was in Sarah's first class of students when she arrived in Weslaco to begin her teaching career. In later years, Sarah, Paul, and their children were my parent's neighbors. She became a dear friend of my mom, Lois Wahl. After my mom passed away in 2022, Sarah would often share how much she missed her. Although I moved to California many years ago, I always enjoyed seeing Sarah's Facebook posts with her children and grandchildren, as well as her excitement when the Longhorns won. Rest in peace. Rodger "Rocky" D'Andreas-Wahl

April 7 at 1:55 AM



Anonymous sent a Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White to the Donalson family.



April 7 at 1:04 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Sarah.



April 7 at 1:04 AM



Weslaco Museum sent a Lavender & White Standing Spray to the Donalson family.



April 6 at 9:26 PM



Weslaco Trb planted a grove of 5 Memorial Trees in honor of Sarah.



April 6 at 4:33 PM



Frances L. planted a grove of 5 Memorial Trees in honor of Sarah.



April 6 at 1:53 PM



Tribute Wall

Sarah Hahn Donalson

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Anonymous sent a Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket to the Donalson family.



April 6 at 11:59 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Sarah.



April 6 at 11:59 AM



Carla posted:

We are saddened to learn of Sarah's passing. We have many fond memories of being with her and doing fun things! Sarah loved her family, friends, Weslaco, and the UT Longhorns! We have lost a great friend, Love Terry and Joella Barbee

April 6 at 9:28 AM



Connie Graham posted:

I knew Sarah for many years in the Methodist Church. We shared time together with the youth group in the 1980's. But, most recently I loved seeing her on Monday's when I took my granddaughter to Rita's Dance for her classes. She was such a loving person to the children. I enjoyed sharing laughs and visiting with her. I will miss seeing her behind that desk as we come in. You were a special person Sarah, and you will be missed by many. Love you, Connie Cook Graham

April 6 at 8:53 AM



Stephanie Castillo sent a virtual gift in honor of Sarah.

Mrs Donalson was my kindergarten teacher in 2005. She was a warm, kind, gentle person who always brightened up every room she walked into. Not only was her classroom a great learning environment, it was the starting point of many friendships who lasted through our years in school. Through every milestone in my life I stayed connected with Mrs Donalson and she cheered me on, even when I became an Aggie too. Mrs Donalson will forever be missed, she was my favorite teacher and the kindest person. ❤️



April 5 at 10:50 AM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent a Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White to the Donalson family.

April 5 at 10:22 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Sarah.

April 5 at 10:22 AM



Melanie R. sent a Healing Tears - Yellow and White to the Donalson family.

April 4 at 9:46 PM



Melanie R. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Sarah.

April 4 at 9:46 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Sarah.

April 4 at 4:31 PM



Anonymous sent a Multicolor Bright Sympathy Floor Basket to the Donalson family.

April 4 at 3:10 PM





Tribute Wall

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Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Sarah.

April 4 at 12:12 PM



Thomas D. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Sarah.

April 4 at 6:50 AM



Anonymous sent a Lavender & White Sympathy Floor Basket to the Donalson family.

April 3 at 6:03 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Sarah.

April 3 at 6:03 PM



Anonymous sent a Simply Lily to the Donalson family.

April 3 at 5:54 PM



Jeryl Ignacio posted:

To Mrs. Donalson, my 2nd grade teacher at Memorial Elementary. You positively impacted me playing a part in the man I am today through displaying patience, kindness, and genuine care in your profession as an educator. Thank you for everything. Rest in peace.

April 3 at 5:15 PM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent a Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket to the Donalson family.



April 3 at 5:11 PM



Media

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Mccaleb Funeral Home & Sacred Park Cemetery shared a Video.

April 9 at 11:07 AM





Media

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Sylvia Zavala shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

April 9 at 6:08 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Sarah by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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