



## Ms. Sarah Baker Essex

April 12, 1961 - May 18, 2024

Sarah Baker Essex, 63, of DeWitt passed away Saturday, May 18, 2024. She was born April 12, 1961, in Stuttgart to Jack Walton and Meredith Cooper Essex.

Sarah graduated from DeWitt High School in 1979 and attended the University of Central Arkansas for two years before transferring to Texas Women's University (TWU) in Denton, TX. She graduated from TWU with a degree in early childhood education.

When Sarah started kindergarten, she loved her teacher Miss Jane so much, she decided then that she wanted to be a kindergarten teacher just like her! Sarah was a kindergarten and preschool teacher in the Denton, TX, area for nearly 40 years. She was a fun and caring teacher to countless students. She was always on the lookout for fun projects to help her students or to do with her students. Who else would get silkworms for a classroom activity?! Sarah's classroom pets would come home to Arkansas each summer, and they were enjoyed by her nieces and nephews. The Guinea pig, Unique, and the gerbils, Jeff and Drew, were particular favorites to play with in the summer.

In her free time, Sarah loved going to the movies, and would see almost any kind of movie, she didn't have a favorite. She was always up for an adventure and a good time, it could be an Elton John concert, a trip to the beach, or a quick trip to Target.

She had moved back home to DeWitt last August to be closer to her family. Sarah was preceded in death by her parents Jack and Meredith Essex; an

infant sister Loma Sue Essex; her niece Loma Essex; and her stepmother Mary Strain Essex.

She is survived by her brothers Stewart Essex of England, Jess Essex and Cooper Essex (Connie) both of DeWitt; her nieces and nephews; the Strain family; and a host of family and friends.

Sarah was a loving daughter, sister, and aunt, a faithful friend to many, and a fantastic teacher. She was loved and will be missed.

A memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 22 at DeWitt Methodist Church. Memorials may be made to Rainbow Preschool, c/o DeWitt Methodist Church, 608 S. Grandview Dr., DeWitt, AR 72042.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY **22**. 10:30 AM (CT)

DeWitt Methodist Church  
608 S. Grandview Dr.  
DeWitt, AR 72042

# Tribute Wall

HB

“ I remember the day Sarah was born.  
Someone (Digie Brown I think) on the school ground came up and told me that Stewart , Jess, and Cooper had a new baby sister.

That was big news .  
Harlan Butler

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**Harlan Butler** - May 25, 2024 at 01:04 AM

JD

“ Stewart, Jess and Cooper, you are in my thoughts and prayers. I have a special memory with Sarah. When I lived in DeWitt, I helped with Vacation Bible School and Sarah was in our class. I enjoyed playing with her in our classroom. One day she asked if she could go home with me for lunch and I said that would be great if her mother said it was ok. We asked Mrs. Essex and she said Sarah could go home with me for lunch. We had a good time playing games. To me that was a very special memory and I never forgot how she made me feel very special that day. Jean Currie Dabbs

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**Jean Currie Dabbs** - May 22, 2024 at 11:20 AM

JR

Stewart I want to let you know  
my condolences are with you and your family my prayers are with you  
your friend Jim Reinold

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**Jim Reinold** - May 22, 2024 at 08:01 PM

LD

“ Oh Stewart, Jess, Cooper, Please accept my sincerest condolences. I am asking The Holy Spirit to pour His peace and contentment, comfort and joy down over you all and yours, like warm honey. Sarah was always a favorite of mine. And, she was such a bright light in her family. Especially putting up with her 3 “stinky older brothers”! Blessings and Love. Libbie Terry Dougan. Phil. 4:13

Libbie Terry Dougan - May 22, 2024 at 09:08 AM

CP

“ I taught Kindergarten with Sarah and have been a friend for 34+ years. We could be apart several months and come back together and resume our conversation where we left off. I'll never forget the concerts, movies, parties and just getting together to talk. Sarah had the sweetest heart and she will be deeply missed.

Cheryl Pellett - May 21, 2024 at 08:24 PM

DK

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Thinking of your family.



Donna Kerns - May 21, 2024 at 05:59 PM

PC

“ Prayers For Stewart Essex & His Family in the Loss & Loving Memory of his Sister Sarah.



Patricia Carter-Lewis - May 21, 2024 at 05:32 PM

JC

“ To the Essex brothers and families: I'm very sad for your loss, and I empathize with your losing a sibling. May you find peace in your memories ❤️ Judy Nell Muller Cockrum

judy nell muller cockrum - May 21, 2024 at 04:29 PM

PM

“ So sorry to hear about Sarah's passing. She was a sweet girl when we were in school together and I know she was a wonderful person all of her life. My deepest condolences for all of her family. May God comfort each of you as only He can...

Patti Morehouse - May 21, 2024 at 02:57 PM

JU

“ Sarah was a great friend and I was privileged to spend some Thanksgivings with her! Rest in peace Sarah we love and miss you.  
Jaimie,Jr,Baylee and Callie



Juan - May 21, 2024 at 01:47 PM

JS

“ Janis S. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Sarah Baker Essex.

Janis S. - May 21, 2024 at 10:04 AM

JF

“ So sorry for you loss. Prayers for the families.



James Hageman Family - May 21, 2024 at 07:26 AM

LR

“ Lisa Uerling Rands planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Sarah Baker Essex.

Lisa Uerling Rands - May 20, 2024 at 10:27 PM

LR

“ Lisa Uerling Rands purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Ms. Sarah Baker Essex.



Lisa Uerling Rands - May 20, 2024 at 10:27 PM



“ Forever Beloved was purchased for the family of Ms. Sarah Baker Essex.



May 20, 2024 at 12:55 PM

GD

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I have such fond memories of Sarah.

*Gail Neal Doles*

Gail Neal Doles - May 20, 2024 at 10:31 AM

JW

“ Jason and Melinda Whaley planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Sarah Baker Essex.

Jason and Melinda Whaley - May 20, 2024 at 09:31 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ms. Sarah Baker Essex.



May 20, 2024 at 09:31 AM

RG

“ Rhonda Gardner lit a candle in memory of Ms. Sarah Baker Essex



Rhonda Gardner - May 20, 2024 at 08:43 AM

RG

“ To the entire Essex family, I am very sorry for the loss of Sarah. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you.

Ray Gilbert - May 19, 2024 at 07:27 PM

HC

*Sarah was such a friendly person. I taught with her in Sanger at Tenderfoot. She was always so kind and helpful. So sorry for your loss.*  
- Heather Cox

Heather Cox - May 20, 2024 at 06:35 AM

MH

*Heartfelt condolences 🙏*

Mike Hornbeck - May 20, 2024 at 10:18 AM

DT

*So sad to see the news of Sarah's passing. Your family was a second home to all of Cooper's friends growing up in DeWitt. Sarah was that little sister to all of us as we ran wild playing at your house. She was the pride and joy of Stewart, Jess and Cooper as she followed along behind us all. What a great little Sis who was loved by all. Prayers of comfort to the entire family and all who had the honor to know Sarah.*

David H Thigpen - May 22, 2024 at 10:09 AM

JS

*I met Sarah in 1996 when I went to work at TWU. That day was the beginning of a long and wonderful friendship. We both left TWU but continued our life's journeys together. Through the years, Sarah joined my family's celebrations including birthdays, outdoor barbeques, graduations, grandkids, holidays and just chilling at the house, She became more than a friend. She was part of our family. We will miss her and her infectious laugh. She will never be forgotten, and she will be forever loved. Rest in peace sweet Sarah, you have earned it.*

Janis Smith - May 22, 2024 at 12:10 PM

FV

*My deepest sympathy for the family sadly missed but never forgotten*

Floyd Vent - June 15, 2024 at 07:32 PM