

A Brief History of Her Life

Sara Jane Turner Landess was born on September 30, 1938 in Springfield, Ohio the youngest daughter of Harry and Violet (Zimmerman) Turner. She graduated from Springfield High School in 1956. Making plans for further education, she turned down a full scholarship in Voice to Miami University of Ohio to attend the University of Michigan where she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing in 1961.

After graduating, Sara was employed in the newborn nursery by White Cross Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. She later worked for North American Aviation as the plant nurse, before returning to Springfield, where she was hired by City Hospital, which became Community Hospital.

She was a life long volunteer. From the time she was a teenager she participated in after school childcare programs and later worked helping to pattern the joints of handicapped children. For many years she mentored young mothers in The Parent/Infant Center.

Sara was also involved in many church activities, including the choir, teaching Sunday School, and serving on the Women's Fellowship activities Board, as well as, the Board of Deaconesses. She served as a trustee on the boards of the Clark State Foundation, The Springfield Museum of Art and Aid for College Opportunities.

Sara nurtured a talent and love for music throughout her life. She was a piano student from her early years and developed a particular love of singing. She shared her beautiful soprano voice with the Choral Union Society of the University of Michigan, the Fortnightly Musical Club of Springfield, and the Chancel Choir of Central Christian Church, while also singing regularly for private engagements.

She married her high school sweetheart, Lawrence Landess, in 1958. They were married for 46 years and had five children and fifteen grandchildren.