



## Joyce A. Sidorfsky

August 5, 1927 - September 20, 2020

Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford

Joyce A. Sidorfsky, 93, passed away Sunday, September 20, 2020, in Oxford, MS. A graveside service will be held Friday, September 25, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. at the Garden of Memories Pavilion (295 Highway 7 North, Oxford, MS 38655). Bro. Fish Robinson will officiate. Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford is in charge of arrangements.

Joyce was born in Kansas to the late Frank and Ethel Sidorfsky. Joyce obtained her Bachelor's degree from Philips University, her Master's at LSU, and her Doctorate in music from the University of Southern Mississippi.

During her career, Joyce taught at many schools including teaching elementary band in Oklahoma, junior high and high school band in Pensacola, Florida, and at Pensacola Community College. Joyce was an excellent teacher who expected and received the best from her students. After receiving her Master's degree from LSU, Joyce fell in love with the Deep South. Her friend, Carolyn Ross and she then chose Oxford, MS, as their retirement home.

While living in Oxford, Joyce and Carolyn enjoyed going to author readings at Square Books, with John Grisham being one of their favorites. Joyce also

played the oboe in the summer band for the 4th of July concerts in Oxford, MS, for 20 years until she was 90. Joyce and Carolyn also traveled extensively, going on numerous bicycling trips in Europe and across the United States as well.

Joyce was a very generous, kindhearted, and thoughtful person. She enjoyed woodworking as well as being an avid reader, but her true love was music. She was a member of the Double Reed Society as well as being a talented oboist. Joyce also enjoyed working with her beautiful flowers, creating a “park-like” look and feel in her backyard.

Joyce is survived by her sister-in-law, Dona Sidorfsky; her two nephews, Timothy (Michelle) Sidorfsky and Christopher (Emily) Sidorfsky; her great-nieces, Soren and Natasha Sidorfsky; and her great-nephew, Theo Sidorfsky.

Joyce was preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Ethel Sidorfsky; her brother, Frank M. Sidorfsky; and special friend, Carolyn Ross.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made the Music Department at The University of Mississippi (<https://music.olemiss.edu/friends/>) or the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra (2533 Columbus Street Suite 2020, New Orleans, LA 70119).

Please leave online condolences on the Tribute Wall at [www.colemanfuneralhome.com](http://www.colemanfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Garden of Memories Cemetery

295 Mississippi Highway 7 North  
Oxford, MS 38655

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

SEP 25. 1:00 PM (CT)

Garden of Memories Cemetery  
295 Mississippi Highway 7 North  
Oxford, MS 38655

# Tribute Wall

DA

“ Dr. Sidorfsky, it was a pleasure being able to participate in the Pensacola Junior College Band. My brother, Gerald, and I appreciated all the positive encouragement you gave us. You will be missed.

Sincerely,  
Darryl Adams

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**Darryl Adams** - May 17, 2024 at 10:34 AM

PS

“ Dr. Sidorfsky was a teacher you will remember 50 years from now! I was blessed to have her as my band and oboe teacher!

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**Pam Strubhar** - March 04, 2024 at 01:09 PM

DI

“ Dr S was a wonderful band teacher at Tate High School. She had faith in me and my trombone and Sousaphone skills. She was direct and played no favorites. Will be greatly missed.

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**Dr Horace Edward Hall II** - June 12, 2022 at 06:11 PM

DM

“ I met Joyce Ann through my roommate at Northwestern University Graduate School, Carolyn Jones Ross. I visited Joyce with Carolyn in Pensacola, and then both of them in Oxford. So many memories, but I do recall Joyce giving me a clarinet (?) lesson, and we both agreed I was hopeless! I remember Joyce and Carolyn stopping on one of their bike trips in Oshkosh, WI and making a hit with our three kids. I was saddened to learn of Carolyn’s death in 2014, and now Joyce during the year of Covid! They each made the world a much better place for everybody! Deanie Youker Minniear. Now Naperville, IL.

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Deanie Minniear - February 07, 2022 at 06:14 PM

KI

“ About 30 years ago, she gave me this figurine, admonishing me to *\*never\** stop playing the flute. It has travelled with me endlessly, surviving move after move, as I've made my home in more cities than I can count. But despite so many life-changes, I have never stopped playing. And to this day, this statue maintains a cherished place in my home - and heart. Also, I never end sentences with prepositions.

*Sad to learn of your passing...will miss you, Dr. S. Hoping we'll meet again someday, so I can take another lesson.*

*-Kim*



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Kim - March 25, 2021 at 10:23 PM

SS

“ i guess i didn't know her super well but i will miss her wonderful letters and Christmas presents every year. she always seemed very smart. i'll miss you joyce!

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Soren Sidorfsky - October 24, 2020 at 02:05 PM

PR

“ My dear Dr, Sidorfsky, how I will miss you!

*I met Joyce when I was a freshman at PJC, and it felt like she was the first person that believed in me. I have such great respect for her. She would bend over backwards for any student that put forth effort, as she did for me. We kept in occasional contact over the years, and I was very dismayed to learn of her passing. I once sent her a thank you note for making me learn a flute part from a miniature score 25 years earlier, because I was thrust into a situation where I had to play it in a concert with no notice! She used to chastise me for ending sentences with a preposition...and I would tease and say "that's a practice I just don't believe in." I remember her perfect handwriting and calligraphy skills. I remember the shows we played in the orchestra pit, the concerts with the civic band and symphony, all happy memories. I remember her cat, Mr. Pickwick, and summer lessons at her home in Cantonment. I was so impressed to learn she took a bike trip through Austria over the summer before I started classes; I remember seeing the pictures from it hanging on the wall in her office. I can only hope to be as adventurous.*

*She touched a lot of lives, and she certainly made a difference in mine. I am so grateful!*

*My condolences and kindest regards to her family,  
PJ Rohr*

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PJ Rohr - October 17, 2020 at 12:46 PM

JH

“Joyce's generosity and enthusiasm were outstanding, whether she was sharing books or conversation. Oxford was fortunate that she and her good friend Carolyn chose to move here and to take an active part in the life of town and campus. With much sympathy to her family, former students, and friends from around the world.

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**Joan Wylie Hall** - October 03, 2020 at 11:32 PM

AH

“What a life changer she was! I can remember almost everything about her - including that distinctive swaying walk that she had. What integrity and grit she had. A distinctive role model for me. She influenced and changed lives - and she played no favorites.

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**Allen Hatcgher** - September 24, 2020 at 08:31 PM

SZ

“I'm so sorry she is gone, but I'm glad she died peacefully. As a former band student, I very much enjoyed visiting her these past few years and sharing our love of music, books, and gardening. Sylvia Zurko, Durango, CO

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**Sylvia Zurko** - September 24, 2020 at 04:20 PM