



Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare

January 26, 1937 - December 13, 2024

It is with heavy hearts and profound gratitude for her life that we announce the passing of our beloved mother, Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare, who departed this world peacefully on December 13, 2024, surrounded by her loving family in New Orleans, LA. She was 87 years old.

Her life's journey began on January 28, 1937 in Kolhapur, India, where she was the fourth of eight children born to Judge Kashinath Deshmukh and Mrs. Anandibai Deshmukh. Sulochana's journey was one of remarkable achievement, perseverance, and quiet grace. She was truly an inspiration and beacon of hope. Her children and those near her were showered with constant love, abundance, hospitality, and heartfelt dedication.

In 1961, she married Keshav Sitaram Mandhare, an ambitious man from a caring, humble farming family in Bauvdhan, Maharashtra State, India. He came to Mississippi State University in America in 1962 to complete his PhD in Chemistry, during the height of the civil rights movement. Sulochana worked as a teacher in India, saved money for airfare, and joined her husband in 1965. Marriage is when she says she experienced love for the first time. She spent 40 years in Thibodaux, LA where she worked as an Educator/Librarian in neighboring school districts, along the side of Dr. Mandhare, Professor of Chemistry at Nicholls State University. Together, they were a remarkable team who hurdled incredible challenges together. They gave their children their all, along with wonderful values, experiences, support, and love.

She had a pioneering spirit, progressive nature, intelligence, and an endearing

smile. With two young children and a third on the way, she made the decision to obtain a Master's degree in Education from Loyola University in New Orleans. Later, her love of books led her to complete another Master's degree in Library Science from Nicholls State University. Through self-study, she cultivated a keen understanding of healing, gratitude, spirituality, peace, and fulfillment ahead of her times.

Ms. Sue or Mama Sue, as she was affectionately called by friends, was a self-made, honorable, hardworking, talented woman. At a young age, she excelled in the art of knitting, embroidery, singing, and cooked exquisite Indian and Cajun meals. She hosted lavish dinner parties for the University staff and the Indian community. She seamlessly transitioned to the Western culture with an open mind when few Indians were in America. The Mandhaves were the first and only Indian family in Thibodaux, LA for 10 years. Chemistry students frequently came to the house for tutoring on weekends or to visit after graduation. Both were advocates for education and helped anyone who crossed their path. Sue was always beautiful and impeccably dressed with rings on every finger, bracelets up her forearms, polished nails, and styled hair. Compliments were always given to her, even at 87 years old.

Sulochana is preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Keshav Mandhare in February 2000. She is survived by their four children – Asha, Vijay (Sandhya), Usha (David), and Vidya (Ravi) and seven grandchildren. She is also survived by two remaining sisters in India, Ms. Kumudini Thorat and Mrs. Tilotama Mahadik. Sue was proud of her Indian heritage and a member of the New Orleans Marathi Mandal. She loved lighthouses and always offered guidance, protection, and hope.

A celebration of Sulochana's life will be held at L.A. Muhleisen & Son in Kenner, LA. Public visitation time will be on Tuesday, December 17, 2024 from 1-3 PM. The children of Sulochana Mandhare invite you to pay homage to an extraordinary, virtuous and kind woman. She will be deeply missed and always remain in our hearts. We know she is in a peaceful, loving place.

Previous Events

Hindu prayers and rites

DEC 17. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

L.A. Muhleisen & Son Funeral Home
2607 Williams Blvd
Kenner, LA 70062
(504) 466-8577
info@muhleisen.com

Tribute Wall



“ L.A. Muhleisen & Son Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare



L.A. Muhleisen & Son Funeral Home - December 17, 2024 at 11:13 AM

AG

I will always cherish the wonderful Memories I have with your Mom.

She will be forever missed, your Mon is a phenomenal Woman. Lean on the Memories to remind all You'd the joy She brought into your life's.

Alejandro Garcia - December 17, 2024 at 12:24 PM

SM

What a wonderful compilation of photos! My heartfelt condolences to the entire family. Asha, Usha, Vijay and Vidya you are all in my prayers 🙏❤️ Our parents were such close friends and I firmly believe they were the Best parents. May she rest in peace 🙏, she was well loved.

Sharmila K Mulkey - December 17, 2024 at 06:49 PM

GD

*They say that body Dies, but Soul is immortal.
Soul can never be created nor Destroyed, it can only be converted from one form to another.
May Tridev give Atya's Soul Rest in peace & Salvation,*

*Gunwant Deshmukh (INDIA)
9371409617*

GUNWANT DESHMUKH - December 19, 2024 at 09:53 PM

MC

*Our hearts are heavy to learn of the loss of your beautiful mother, Sulochana, and we extend our deepest condolences to you, Asha, Vijay, Usha, Vidya, and all the family. What wonderful, deep love and devotion to family and friends radiates from her special video tribute! Sulochana touched many hearts in her daily life and careers in education and library science. She is truly an inspiration to us all! With our deepest sympathies,
Maria and Larry*

Maria Clay-Emerson - January 02, 2025 at 06:24 PM

RG

“ *Ranjit and Gautami purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare.*



Ranjit and Gautami - December 19, 2024 at 09:48 AM

RG

“ *Ranjit and Gautami planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare.*

Ranjit and Gautami - December 19, 2024 at 09:48 AM

GH

“ *The first thing that comes to mind when I think of Ms. Deshmukh is her beautiful smile and when she chuckled as I joked about having a dance contest with her. Most importantly I felt special when she gave me permission to call her “Mama Sue”. A beautiful soul now shining brightly. I will miss you deeply. Rest in power, dear one.*

Georgia Hodnett - December 18, 2024 at 03:59 PM

GA

“ Genevia Arsene planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare.

Genevia Arsene - December 17, 2024 at 01:08 PM

GA

“ Genevia Arsene purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare.



Genevia Arsene - December 17, 2024 at 01:08 PM

FU

“ From all of us purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare.



From all of us - December 17, 2024 at 11:00 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare.



December 17, 2024 at 09:34 AM

KS

“ My dear Thibodeaux, Louisiana, USA family,

My deepest heartfelt condolences on the passing of Mum.

On my second day in the US in August 1974, I met Dr Mandhare at the student registration at Nicholls State University. I was 19 with no relatives in the US. I am from Malaysia but of Indian origin. Dr & Mrs Mandhare immediately "adopted" me.

I spent a lot of time in their house. Indian Food. Wow !!!

4 full years. They attended my graduation in May 1978 representing my parents. Thanks to the Mandhars I never felt homesick. A beautiful & caring family.

My family has played host to Vijay & Asha. We are waiting for the rest of the family.

*At this difficult time, remember your Dad & Mum had a great life !!!
And you all brought great happiness to them.*

I was hoping your Mum would drop in to visit my Mum on her way to India but . . . My passed away in August 2020 also aged 87.

We are going to miss your Mum.

*Kuldip Singh son of Durbara Singh.
Petaling Jaya
Malaysia.*

kuldipsingh1955@hotmail.com

Kuldip Singh son of Durbara Singh - December 17, 2024 at 08:59 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare.*



December 17, 2024 at 06:53 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare.

December 17, 2024 at 06:53 AM



“ *Craig & Cathy Benoit and Barbara Cortez purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare.*



Craig & Cathy Benoit and Barbara Cortez - December 17, 2024 at 04:24 AM

SP

“ Even as a teenager, I remember Aunty Sulochana”s quiet introspective nature. While all us teenage kids were running around and having fun, she always had a smile on her face and alway stopped to ask how we were doing.

She brought 4 beautiful,kind and successful children into this world who are all giving back to the world at large. What more can a mother be proud of ?!?

We are blessed to have been with her and Uncle Mandhare. Thank you for your beautiful spirit and friendship through the years and beyond. We will miss your presence here but see you in that star beyond . Love , The Patil Family



sarla patil - December 17, 2024 at 12:31 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare.



December 16, 2024 at 09:32 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare.

December 16, 2024 at 09:32 PM

TF

“ The Algu family purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare.



The Algu family - December 16, 2024 at 11:23 AM

AF

“ Alejandro and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sulochana Mandhare.

Alejandro and Family - December 16, 2024 at 10:34 AM

AF

“ Alejandro and Family purchased the Purple Violet Yellow Wildflower Mix (Silk Cemetery Flowers) for the family of Sulochana Deshmukh Mandhare.



Alejandro and Family - December 16, 2024 at 10:34 AM