



# Ministry Updates

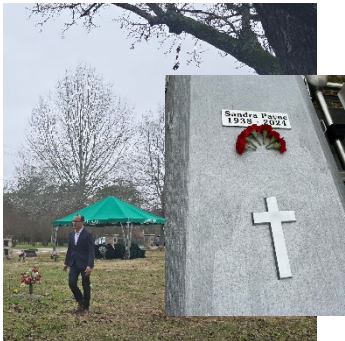
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## **Taste and See** ([Psalm 34:8](#))

Some years ago, we shared a link to the movie [Monumental: In Search of America's Treasure](#). The film communicated that our nation's truest treasure is the knowledge of God and His Ways transmitted across generations. That's the treasure Debbie and I share with families in W. Africa. While men glorify themselves in images, **monuments** ordained by God are portrayed in Scripture as passing key moments of decision from one generation to another. It is one generation's testimony of experience with God to those who follow. In contrast, **markers** in the present and biblical times indicate points of measure or accomplishment to delineate land ownership or mark a path. Individuals' lives can similarly be **markers** to point others to God. Likewise, our friends at [Benchmark Adventure Ministries](#) build off this significant heritage of understanding to enable men and women to walk with God in this time.

In our last update two weeks ago, when Verlin prepped to travel from Africa, we shared that Debbie's mother, Sandra, had passed into eternity. In many ways, her life provides benchmarks for members of our family. This update records some of her life's influence on our family and ministry. It leaves us an example and further marks the path of exemplary service to God she could model in our days.

## **Come and See** ([Psalm 66:5](#))



The [obituary linked](#) is what Deb wrote in collecting commentary from her father, sibling, and children with their edits. The obit gives context for the life **marker** Sandra left us. Working side-by-side with Sandra at the Parthenon Pavilion for three years, Verlin testifies with Debbie that Sandra lived these along with other [distinguishing markers of belief](#): she knew Jesus as the Christ, had faith in Him, loved God and others, lived obediently as best she knew to God's commands, demonstrated the fruit of the Spirit, lived in holiness and separation, persevered in faith, lived in commitment to the Great Commission, and practiced in union with other believers.

Deb also helped coordinate the family team in making the final arrangements for the celebration of Sandra's life. One granddaughter collected and scanned photos, while another composed a slideshow. One grandson found the burial plot needed. Grandsons and inlaws provided oral tribute and served as pallbearers. As her father told me, Verlin, Debbie handled what she needed to do and got the required done, as always. The following links presently contain or will later be updated on our blog site to share memories compiled by family members on Facebook, slideshow, and/or Substack: [Daughter #1](#); [Daughter #2](#); [Firstborn granddaughter](#); [Firstborn grandson](#).

A godly theme that marked the celebration of Sandra's life and carried throughout the funeral home and graveside services was that [we did not bid "Goodbye"](#) to Sandra but ["See you soon."](#) We greatly appreciate Rev. Craig Batts, Rev. Doug Little, and Rev. Allan Crowson officiating parts of the day.

## **Prayer and Praise**

🙏 Rejoice that Verlin made it safely to the U.S. on Christmas Eve. Replacing the laptop battery after identifying and correcting the cause of Google-initiated shutdowns, replacing a water heater valve, and maintaining a transport vehicle to stop knocking, let us send this update today.

🙏 Pray Debbie and I successfully rearrange the circumstances of our lives in the U.S. and W. Africa to provide for family and ministry after this life change.

🙏 Pray that our marking life with God in Africa shows its strength and weakness to successfully maintain momentum among African partners as CHE strategic use continues propagating in West Africa amidst our closest partners during this sooner-than-anticipated brief absence.

Your partners in the Gospel,  
Verlin & Debbie

Last Week: [Sandra Moves On-241221.PDF](#)  
Prior videos: [Worth - Simple Servants](#)  
2023 Q2Report: [Pruning Priorities -  
2023 Q2 Report 230722 PDF](#)

'22 Budget: [CHSC-0118 ANDERSON-Budget 2022](#)  
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