



Clara Sanders

August 19, 1927 - January 9, 2012

Big Stone Gap, VA

Clara Mae Shortt Sanders, 84, went to live with the Lord on Monday, January, 9, 2012, after passing away at the Lonesome Pine Hospital in Big Stone Gap, Virginia.

She lived most of her life in Big Stone Gap, VA. She was a successful business woman owning and operating the former Clara's Beauty Salon for many years. Clara was very active in her church and community. She was baptized at an early age by her father the Rev. George Shortt. She loved volunteer work and was a member of the Dogwood and Intermont Garden Clubs working with the June Tolliver and John Fox, Jr. houses. Although Clara never had any children, she and her husband Robert were instrumental in helping raise both his and her siblings.

She was preceded in death by her parents, the Rev. George W. and Debbie (Bowen) Shortt.

Surviving are her husband of 65 years, Robert J. Sanders; four brothers, Carl Shortt of Dayton, OH, Charles (Mary) Shortt and Marvin Shortt, all of Kingsport, TN, and Joe Shortt of Big Stone Gap; two sisters, Fay Rutherford of Big Stone Gap, VA and Phyllis (Jack) Upchurch of Kingsport, TN; and

several nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Thursday at Holding Funeral Home (17 E. 3rd St., N.) in Big Stone Gap.

The funeral service will be conducted at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday in the funeral home chapel with Pastor Mike Jones officiating.

A committal service will be conducted at 11:00 a.m. on Friday at Powell Valley Memorial Gardens. The family and friends will meet at the cemetery by 10:50 a.m. on Friday.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be sent to the Oak Grove Baptist Church, 14 E. 11th St., N., Big Stone Gap, Virginia, 24219.

To view the obituary and sign the online registry, please visit www.holdingfuneralhome.com.

Holding Funeral Home is honored to serve the Sanders family.

Tribute Wall



“ Clara Sanders

October 07, 2023 at 10:50 AM



“ Clara Sanders was one of the kindest and sweetest women that I have ever known in my life. She never forgot a birthday or anniversary, and she was usually the first person to call me or my husband on our birthdays. Also, she would remind us to call my husband's siblings on their birthdays. When she picked a birthday card, it was always special and from her heart. Before she got sick, Clara and I would go shopping. We both loved to shop and would shop for hours. After she was no longer able to shop, she would ask me to shop for her because she would say that I knew what she liked. No matter what I brought her from a shopping trip, she was always excited and would show it to all of her friends. I will never forget our great shopping trips and her excitement over finding a bargain. She will be missed by all of her family and friends.

Mary Shortt - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM



“ Dear Robert and Family,

I am sorry to hear about the passing of Clara Mae. I will always remember coming to visit and going to her beauty shop. It was a fun place to be. Clara Mae was so nice and sweet. She was a very good friend to my mom, Gladys Goff. Mom loved to go visit when we would come up. I will miss coming by on my visits to BSG. You are in my thoughts and prayers. She will be missed. Love Diane Goff Woolard

Diane Goff Woolard - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM

GG

“ Dear family,
Robert and Clara were best friends of my parents - Glenn and Nadine Robinette. My mom worked for many years with Clara in her beauty shop and Clara gave me my first haircut when I was a small child. Robert & my dad worked together for Interstate and later Southern RR. I consider both Clara and Robert special people who will always hold a special palce in my heart.

Glenda Grant - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM

JH

“ So sorry for your loss. Our love and prayers are with the family. God Bless!

Jerry and Betty Head - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM

JH

“ Robert, I am sadden by your loss.I hope the best for you. I will always remember you.

Jerry and Betty Head - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM

AH

“ Clara was a wonderful friend. Robert, I hope you remember all the good times we had growing up. You and Clara were always included and you never dated anyone else after the two of you go to going together, as far as we knew. She is in a far better place and resting in heaven now. Love to the whole family. Anne "Barker" (Conley's sister)

Anne Barker Howard - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM



“ *I am so sorry for the loss of a beautiful lady. She will be missed by many but she is in a better place which has no suffering.. varina*

January 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *May God shelter you at this time.*

January 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM