



## Shirley Ann Harris

September 13, 1936 - November 8, 2022

Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Shirley Ann Harris, 86, passed away on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

Shirley lived a full, interesting life. In her younger years, she played the accordion and pursued a modeling career in New York. As a wife and mother, she also managed to be active in church and work full time. She was involved in her children's activities and pursued many of her own hobbies, such as sewing, crafting, decorating her home, cooking, and gardening. Two of her proudest accomplishments were dancing with the Original Ziegfeld Follies Girls and participating in senior beauty pageants. Shirley managed to make each one of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren feel special and loved. She was the matriarch of her family; cooking Sunday dinners from scratch, establishing traditions like Christmas cookie decorating, and supporting her family whether she agreed with them or not. Shirley can best be described as vivacious, opinionated, funny, charming, and determined. She taught her family to stand up for their beliefs and work hard, while also living life to the fullest.

She was predeceased by her husband, Tom; parents, Woodrow and Bertha Phillips; and brothers: Delbert, Dick, and Larry. Her family is comforted knowing she is once again reunited with those who passed before her.

Shirley is survived by her six children: Sheri, Lori, Stacie, Beth, Nick and Chris; as well as thirteen grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

In honor of Shirley, the family has chosen to have a celebration of life service on Saturday, November 26, 2022, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Big Stone Gap, Virginia. Visitation will be at noon, with the service taking place at 1:00.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Alzheimer's Disease Research. They also ask that you remember Shirley's motto on how to live life, "Keep your sense of humor, stay active and you'll stay young." Shirley will be greatly missed by the many people whose lives she touched.

A memorial video has been created for family and friends at:

<https://www.tributeslides.com/tributes/show/H7PJSBHP5B37674Q>

You may go online to view the obituary, sign the guest registry, or leave the family a condolence at [www.holdingfuneralhome.com](http://www.holdingfuneralhome.com)

Holding Funeral Home is honored to be serving the family of Shirley Ann Harris.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **26**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
1821 Holton Ave., E.  
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

## Celebration of Life

NOV **26**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
1821 Holton Ave., E.  
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

# Tribute Wall



“  *Holding Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Shirley Ann Harris*



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**Holding Funeral Home, Inc.** - November 18, 2022 at 05:57 PM



“  *Shirley Ann Harris*

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October 07, 2023 at 10:50 AM



“  *As one of Mrs. Shirley's CNA's at Greystone, I immediately just fell in love with her. She was such a special lady, and even though she had Alzheimers we still had several very meaningful conversations. She would tell me of her days dancing in New York and we shared a love of Italian food when she'd tell me stories of her aunt and uncle. She was one of a kind and will always hold a special place in my heart. I miss her so much.*

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**Crystal Shipley** - November 27, 2022 at 04:48 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann Harris.*



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November 22, 2022 at 11:32 AM



“ *I had the pleasure of meeting Ms. Shirley while she was a resident at Greystone. She and my mom became fast friends when they met. Though Shirley and Ms. Mary had Alzheimers, they held many meaningful conversations and Ms. Mary always looked out for Ms. Shirley. They had a special friendship. On most of my visits I would either get a hug or tell her how pretty she was and she would smile. It was an honor to get to know her.*



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**Kim Lady Moore** - November 19, 2022 at 07:31 PM

LK

*Thank you for always stopping to see mom.*

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**Lori Kimberlin** - November 22, 2022 at 07:25 PM

BW

“ *Shared many special times with Tom and Shirley especially a pie in the face which was a running joke. So sad about her passing but realize she is now with her beloved Tom. B.K. and Layne Walker*

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**BK and Layne Walker** - November 15, 2022 at 06:40 PM

DC

“ I had the honor of meeting Shirley and Tom  
Many times. She always looked so beautiful and always had kind  
words, he too always was a  
Pleasure talking with them both on every visit. Sending prayers to  
the family in your days ahead. 🙏

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**debbie caudill** - November 15, 2022 at 10:15 AM