



Shirley Ann Kyre

May 25, 1934 - April 19, 2020

Shirley Ann Kyre, 85, a feisty little lady of Grand Ledge, formerly of Charlotte, died Sunday, April 19, 2020 in Lansing. Shirley was born May 25, 1934 in Grafton, West Virginia, the adopted daughter of Bordman Walton and Anna M. (Detrick) DeWitt. She graduated from Fairmont High School before marrying George Ray Kyre and the two started their family. They moved to Maryland, and eventually Charlotte, MI, where Shirley worked for many years at Wildern's Drug Store and at Weymouth Elementary School, where she was both feared and loved by students and teachers alike. She and George enjoyed spending time up north in Harrison, MI, and travelling.

George would do anything for Shirley, including buying her a Ford Mustang, which he continually kept clean while she drove it around town in style, even though she had to scoot her seat all the way up and pull herself up over the wheel to be able to see! On most Fridays, you could catch her at either a CHS Football Game or a CHS Basketball Game where George and his buddy Gordon would be working on statistics for the local paper and she would be tossing back a box of popcorn. She and George were huge WVU fans and they would drive back to West Virginia from Michigan for most home Mountaineers football games. In the fall she would have football on all day long both college and NFL. Her favorite teams being WV, MSU, Steelers and the Lions. When George died in 2002, a part of Shirley faded as well but she never lost her spunk, she was still Shirley.

Shirley liked to play tough, but she was one of the most caring and loving women one could have ever met.

The last couple years of her life she made a lot of new friendships, and was involved in community activities such as bingo, and exercise classes, which she would brag that she could do more than the 60, 70 year-olds in her building. Although many will miss her, the many "Shirley Stories" will live on in her memory.

Shirley is survived by her son Russ; grandchildren, Cassi (Frank) Hobyak, Jamie Kyre, Jon-Eric Kyre, Carly Kyre, Donny Kyre, and Logan Kyre; great-grandchildren, Jaydin, Kalin, Mitchell, Jameson, and Spencer; daughter-in-law, Jackie Kyre; and her grand-dog, Ace. She was predeceased by her husband, George; and two sons, Jon Kyre and Mike Kyre.

Visitation will take place on Wednesday, April 22, 2020 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., followed by interment at Maple Hill Cemetery in Charlotte, where she will be laid to rest alongside George.

If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to the Tri-County Meals on Wheels. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Shirley on her Tribute Page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Cemetery Details

Maple Hill Cemetery

801 Tully Brown Rd.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 22. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall

MC

“ When George was alive he made sure that Jordan was included when he passed. Jordan crater is her grandson. Russ's son . He should have been put in the obituary like George did. Sorry to hear this news

Melissa J Crater - November 07, 2024 at 02:32 PM

PP

“ Russ and family.
I thought the world of your Mom. I ran into her at the doctors office a few months ago and we had a brief but wonderful visit. She was a firecracker for sure and a great lady. My sympathies to you all.

Peggy Langmaack Papoi - May 06, 2020 at 09:02 PM

LK

“ Just thinking of Shirley brings a grin to my face. From our days as young Moms with our kids running through the Cherry and Bonnie Steets neighbor hood, to the last time I saw her at a funeral, we always greeted each other with the most wretched greetings we could come up with! Of course, since Shirley was short and I was tall, that was always part of the discussion. I miss her, but have lots of fun memories! Shirley was one of a kind’

Leila Klaiss - April 27, 2020 at 09:52 PM

KH

“ Well it has been a week and the loss of this amazing, spunky, kick butt woman has not gotten any easier. The Kyre Family has always been and will always be, my other family. From the days on Cherry Street to the end of time, I will always be thankful for the love and support that they so openly shared with me. I was one of the lucky ones, I was truly blessed to be a part of the orbit of this wonderful family. Shirley liked to be the tough one but when she looked at me with that special sparkle in her eye (usually after calling me a dumbass:-) I knew there was love. That was one thing about Shirley, you always knew where you stood. No games, no uncertainties...she either loved you or she didn't. And that was what made her so special. In a world where everything is a ploy or a move, Shirley NEVER played that game. And that is why she was such an adored, loved, and sometimes feared :) woman. Shirley was one of a kind and there will never be another woman who exuded such confidence in such a tiny body. I ask each person that takes the time to read this, to be more like Shirley. In this world of craziness and uncertainty, to take a moment and think...How can I be more genuine? Am I truly my real self? I guarantee you, THAT is why Shirley loved you. She could see right through the BS and that's why you were a part of her life. Don't let her passing make you slack off...that would just tick her off. Be real and make sure you love fiercely....because that was what Shirley would expect of us all. Rest in Peace Shirley and know that we are all stronger people for knowing you. And to the Kyre Family...please know how much I love each and everyone of you. While the loss of Shirley is hard, I hope the knowledge of how much she was loved and cared for eases that pain just a bit. You are her legacy, and I know that she is so proud of each and every one of you.

Kerrin Marie Hetland - April 26, 2020 at 10:35 PM

JD

“ Sorry for yet another loss of family, especially your mom. I knew your mom since shortly after we both lived here. Her and I spent many hours teaching 6th grade at church. We also were in the same circle. Over the last few years we enjoyed going out to a movie's and eating out. Although I am stuck in Raliegh, NC at this time I will think of the good times we shared.

Jean DeWalt - April 24, 2020 at 12:36 PM

DS

“ When I heard of Shirley's passing I immediately remembered her presence around Weymouth Elementary in the library and how helpful she was to me, suggesting new stories for me to read to my second graders. She loved keeping busy and was a great asset to the students and staff! I can only imagine what it was like to be her close friend, neighbor or a friend to one of her boys;-) You touched many lives Shirley...

Dawn Shattuck-Watkins - April 23, 2020 at 07:44 PM

PH

“ Shirely was an amazing person with a huge heart. Now I'm writing this tribute with a heavy heart and tears running down my face. I was fortunate to spend my childhood growing up with her in my life. She had a huge heart. She was like a second grandmother to me. I was lucky to spend countless hours working next to her in Wildern's Drug Store and I always felt her protection when I did stupid mistakes. She was a constant face at all the CHS basketball and football games. I also would see her at the Charlotte CC pool when she took her grandkids. She always welcomed me with a hug when I saw her around town. She was special to me and I will always be grateful for the fact that she took my parents under her wings with her husband, George. You will be missed Shirely. I love you.

Peter Hunt - April 23, 2020 at 08:44 AM

CB

“ *BOY’S, everyone in the city will miss the talks we all had with your mother*

capt. BLY - April 22, 2020 at 11:48 AM

DH

“ *We were a young married couple new to Charlotte and then this couple with three young sons and big hearts themselves took us under their wings as if we were two of their own. That meant so much to us.. we were several hours away from our own supportive parents so they did that when they didn’t have to and when they were busy with their own young family. So many football games, so many basketball games at CHS and even some golf. Most of all “rooting” for our Spartans. We will always remember the several “Spooky “Halloween parties in the Kyre garage on Cherry Street. And we won’t forget Shirley and George’s dachshund dog, Heidi. She was almost human to them and the boys. Thank you Shirley for all those years of loving and caring for us. Shirley, you even took care of our son Peter when you both worked at Wildern’s Drug Store! Well we have to say goodbye now and you have to rest. Rest In Peace! We love you. We loved you both.*

Dave and Pam Hunt - April 22, 2020 at 09:41 AM

MP

“ Russ was one of my closest, dearest friends growing up. I spent countless days at the Kyre house eating lunch, watching “Blazing Saddles“ every time it came on, and/or just hanging out. Whatever we were doing at his house, Shirley was always there making sure we were taken care of. She always made me feel welcome and like I was part of her family. Her genuine, loving heart always made me want to spend time at the Kyre residence. Even the last time we were in town and were able to see her with Russ, it was like I never moved away. From the hug and her big smile, it felt just like old times. Although I don't get home often, I will miss her deeply. My thoughts and prayers are with Russ and his family.

Mark Pena - April 21, 2020 at 11:38 PM

CR

“ So very sorry for your loss. Shirley was certainly a lovable character:). Going to miss running into her and hearing all her comments about me from my youth! Prayers to all her family.....

Cindy (Mohre) Robinette

Cindy Robinette - April 21, 2020 at 08:14 PM

WC

“ I'm so sorry to hear about Shirley. Wilma Campbell

Wilma Campbell - April 21, 2020 at 05:58 PM

DM

“ Russ, I am so very sorry to hear of the passing your your Mom, Shirley. I always enjoyed laughing and visiting with her and had so much respect for her role of loving Mother to all you boys, and to all her grandkids. My heartfelt sympathy to you and the family. My guess is she is safely back in the arms of your Dad, George, keeping up with her Mountaineers and reunited again with your brothers. All my best,
Deb Moore, Clearwater Beach

Deb Moore - April 21, 2020 at 03:54 PM

KD

“ The Kain Sister's have many fond memories of Shirley, George and their sons! They began when our fathers George & Rodney, moved their families to Charlotte to open Owens Illionois Glass Plant. As kids we went to school together and hung out at the CCC enjoying golf, swimming and goofing off! As we have moved through life our paths have have crossed through our children, class reunions, running into each other at Frontier Days, and at the restaurants and bars in Charlotte. Our friendship is special in every way! Russell our thoughts and prayers are with you and the entire Kyre family. Shirley was one fantastic friend to many.
With deepest sympathy, Kim, Kandy and Tracy

Kimberly A Dane - April 21, 2020 at 01:34 PM

JB

“ Russell - I am so sorry to hear of your moms passing. There is no question how much she will be missed. Even with all the "shenanigans" Jon and I got into she always cared and treated me like one of her own every time I saw her when I was in town. Be comforted by the knowledge that she is home with our Lord and back to being the Shirley of old, who will always be loved.

Jeff Bartolacci - Tampa, FL

Jeff Bartolacci - April 21, 2020 at 12:57 PM

TE

“ Russ, Very sorry to hear of your moms passing. She was a very one of a KIND person !

Tom Earl

Tom Earl - April 21, 2020 at 08:01 AM

BM

“ May you find comfort in your grieving process knowing what a wonderful person Shirley was and how blessed those of us are that were fortunate to have her touch our lives. (I was a student at Weymouth in the late 70's/ early 80's).

Barbara Merritt-Searle - April 20, 2020 at 10:07 PM

CH

“ Very sorry to hear of Shirley's passing. From our first meeting when they arrived in town, to our lifelong family friendship we'll always remember all of our friends the Kyre's. Shirley was always for a fair deal, for everyone. Good way to go.

Craig Holmes - April 20, 2020 at 09:34 PM

DM

“ Shirley was such a friendly lady. She always greeted everyone with hello and a smile. She was great with the students and always had a great sense of humor with students and staff.

Deb Marquardt - April 20, 2020 at 09:32 PM

MB

My little Shirley, How I enjoyed her family stories. She was such a great Mother, grandma , and friend. Knowing her, she sacrificed for her family they were first and foremost with her. What a comfort knowing she is with her beloved George, Mike and John. Condolence to all the family,

mary Boyd - April 21, 2020 at 11:24 AM

NG

So many treasured memories of knowing Shirley and her family through school days, and later as she worked with me in my own classroom. She brought smiles to so many, and will be dearly missed.

Nancy Caughey Gensel

Nancy Gensel - April 21, 2020 at 01:51 PM

AB

What a Blessing it has been knowing Shirley. I loved her sense of humor and smiles she shared with me. I believe Shirley experienced many changes in her life, but managed and thrived in all of them. I will miss seeing her at all our activities here at Serenity Place. She loved our Sunday afternoon Bingo and she was very lucky winning the big prizes of nickels and dimes. To the loved ones of Shirley, may precious memories be your comfort and know she is Resting in Peace.....A Friend~

Arlene Baldwin - April 22, 2020 at 12:31 AM



“ Shirley was a wonderful person. She always had a smile on her face. May God's peace and comfort be with the family during this difficult time.

Kevin Berg - April 20, 2020 at 09:01 PM