



Shirley Hicks Boatwright

December 17, 1930 - March 31, 2018

Shirley Mae Hicks Boatwright, 87, of Topeka died March 31 at Midland Hospice House.

She was born December 17, 1930 in Florence, KS, the youngest daughter of James L. and Marie (Alexander) Hicks. Shirley attended Topeka public schools including Sumner Elementary and Roosevelt Junior High, graduating from Topeka High School in 1948. She attended Washburn University and graduated with a Bachelor of Education in 1952. Shirley was listed in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities (1952), was a member of NONOSO Honorary Women's Society, received the Oxford Alumni of the Year Award and served on the Washburn University Alumni Association Board of Directors. She was a lifelong member of Delta Gamma Sorority serving as Pan-Hellenic President, Alumni President, and Chairman and Treasurer of the House Corporation. Shirley returned to college attending Emporia State University for her specialist certificate in Library Science. She taught school in Ferguson, MO and Prairie Village, KS in addition to teaching and serving as librarian in Topeka 501 Schools.

Shirley married Paul L. Boatwright December 17, 1951. They celebrated their 66th anniversary in December. Shirley and Paul have been active members of Crestview United Methodist Church for more than 50 years. Shirley served on the Board of Trustees, as a Sunday school teacher and librarian and sang in

the choir. Supportive of her husband's professional associations, Shirley served as President of the Shawnee County Dental Auxiliary and Legislative Chairman of the Kansas State Dental Auxiliary. She was an avid reader and loved music, rodeos, and history. She spent hours tracing her own family history back generations. She served on the Shawnee County Historical Society Board of Directors and was the recipient of the Junior League's Volunteer award for service to the community.

Shirley was a woman of strong faith and devotion and a dedicated daughter, wife, mother and grandmother. Paul and Shirley were blessed with three sons: Mike (Brenda) of Wamego; Todd (Marci) and their children Clay, Carly, and Courtney of Parker, CO; and Matt (Patti) and their children Miranda and Austin. She was preceded in death by her parents Jim and Marie Hicks and her sister Audrey Jackson of Patterson, NY.

Funeral Services will be held Thursday, 10 a.m. at Crestview United Methodist Church, 2245 SW Eveningside Drive, in Topeka. Visitation will be held Wednesday 5-7 p.m. at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road Topeka KS 66614. Burial will be at Memorial Park Cemetery.

The family suggests memorial contributions to: Crestview UMC, 2245 Eveningside Drive, Topeka, KS 66614; Topeka Jazz Workshop, P.O. Box 452, Topeka, KS 66601; or Kansas State Historical Society, 6425 SW 6th Avenue, Topeka, KS 66615.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

3616 SW 6th Street
Topeka, KS 66606

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 4. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Funeral Service

APR 5. 10:00 AM (CT)

Crestview United Methodist Church
2245 SW Eveningside Drive
Topeka, KS 66614

Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Shirley Hicks Boatwright



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - April 03, 2018 at 05:42 PM



“ Shirley Hicks Boatwright

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ Our p



Strobel family - September 25, 2018 at 06:21 AM



Prayers

Strobel family - September 25, 2018 at 06:35 AM



Tony miss her

Strobel family - September 25, 2018 at 06:36 AM

TM

“ Paul and family, I'm so saddened to hear of the passing of Shirley. Please accept my deepest condolences to you at your loss. What a wonderful soul. I'm so thankful to have known her at Crestview.
Tori Mason

Tori Mason - April 18, 2018 at 12:08 AM

KA

“ To the Boatwright family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. We enjoyed visiting with Shirley and many of you at the Alexander reunion. I know she will be deeply missed by you, and everyone she met. We enjoyed and appreciated her knowledge of the Alexander family and the pictures she brought to the reunion. Our family is blessed because she was part of it.Royce and Kathie Alexander

Kathie Alexander - April 09, 2018 at 05:29 PM

MS

“ Dear Paul, Todd, Matt, and Mike: We send our heartfelt condolences to you with the passing of Shirley. Her caring spirit was abundant in all she did . She was a kind, giving person. Mary Alice Parmley recalls with love the many kindnesses Shirley shared with UMW friends at Crestview Methodist through the years. And with Paul being Mary Alice's Sunday school teacher over the years, this exchange of Christian love created a special bond with the Boatwright family. Mary Ann remembers the encouragement and endorsement for the Delta Gamma Sorority from Shirley for her during recruitment so long ago...at KU.....and how the DG philanthropy and legacy has been a significant part of her friendships since college. Many prayers for your family. Love, Mary Alice Parmley, Mary Ann and David Siller..... TEXAS

Mary Ann Siller - April 09, 2018 at 12:17 AM

SM

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. I have been so thankful that Shirley reached out to our family at the death of my Dad, Adrain Alexander. We enjoyed meeting more of the family at the Alexander reunion. Her knowledge of the family history was extensive including her collection of pictures. Alicia Troike, Carolee Alexander Dorton's daughter is also exploring family history and wants to make sure our families stay connected . She is sorry to miss the funeral. May you be blessed with your many memories with Shirley. I know I have been blessed that this amazing woman was family.

Sharlene Alexander Mueldener

Sharlene Mueldener - April 04, 2018 at 02:11 PM

JP

“ April 3, 2018

*To The Boatwright Family,
Don and I, plus Kathy Campbell, Jeff Campbell and family, want you to know that Shirley and Paul and their family meant so much to us. We have so many wonderful memories of Shirley and the family from the time we met Shirley and Todd at a tag football game, where Jeff and Todd meant one another, Paul and Shirley going to see Kathy's art work on display in a art show in Lawrence to the week Shirley and I visited on the phone and planned the next week so Paul, Shirley, Don ,I could go out for lunch. Everything changed, Shirley had a stroke. Paul called later and said "I looked at Shirley's calendar or date book (not sure which) to let us know ours plans changed."*

We send our deepest sympathy to all of you. What a caring person and family. Words say very little at a time like this, but knowing people are praying for you and caring maybe helps. We hope so.

*Sincerely and lovingly,
Don and Jackie Petersen, Kathy Campbell, and Jeff Campbell and family*

Jackie and Don Petersen - April 03, 2018 at 07:12 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Shirley Hicks Boatwright.*



April 03, 2018 at 05:06 PM

SH

“ Oh behalf of the Topeka Alumnae Chapter of Delta Gamma, we send our condolences to Shirley's family. We are saddened by the loss of our beloved sister. She was a devoted Delta Gamma throughout her lifetime and will be missed by all who had the honor of knowing her.

Susie Hoffmann - April 03, 2018 at 02:41 PM

PG

“ Patricia Golden lit a candle in memory of Shirley Hicks Boatwright



Patricia Golden - April 03, 2018 at 12:22 PM

PG

“ I have known Shirley primarily as Dr. Paul's wife and as a role model representing Delta Gamma Sorority. She always gave me a hug when I'd run into she and Paul out and about. I also remember her serving goodies during Rush Week back in 1959. She was gracious, warm, and caring and I was impressed! She and Paul have been a devoted, loving couple for a very long time and I am especially sad for Paul at this time of loss and grief. May Shirley rest in peace and may God keep her family in His loving arms until they are together again.

Paula Gerlach

Paula A Gerlach - April 03, 2018 at 01:23 AM

DH

“ *Doris Henderson lit a candle in memory of Shirley Hicks Boatwright*



Doris Henderson - April 02, 2018 at 06:34 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Shirley Hicks Boatwright.*



April 02, 2018 at 04:45 PM

KB

“ *Kim Barnes lit a candle in memory of Shirley Hicks Boatwright*



Kim Barnes - April 02, 2018 at 04:21 PM

PM

“ *Patty Meier lit a candle in memory of Shirley Hicks Boatwright*



Patty Meier - April 02, 2018 at 03:58 PM

MH

“ *Shirley was one of my all time favorite ladies. She had such a bright spirit and beautiful smile. She was a joy to be around! I am proud to be her Delta Gamma sister. My sympathies to Paul and their family!*

Marcia Haag - April 01, 2018 at 10:38 PM