



Shirley Clennan

January 1, 1934 - January 23, 2013

Shirley Ann Clennan, 78, Topeka, was escorted on angels' wings to the Lord's home, Jan. 20, 2013, surrounded by her family, in her home. She was born Nov. 18, 1934, in St. Marys KS, the daughter of Glenn and Katherine Zeller Paxton. She was a graduate of Saint Xavier School. Shirley met the love of her life as he worked delivering milk to her parent's door. They married April 8, 1953. Shirley's joy in life was surrounding herself with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Through her years she has taught everyone the meaning and importance of unconditional love. She never met a stranger. Her passion and love of taking pictures was evident as she gathered and positioned her participants then disbursed copies to all. She is survived by her adoring husband, John Clennan; sons, Michael, Martin (Molly) of Topeka; daughters, Marla Kentch (Keith), Melea Huston (Pete), Michele Mainey (Ed), all of Topeka and Mark (Jennifer) of Phoenix AZ; and brother Richard Paxton (Katie); fifteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Shirley was preceded in death by her daughter, Melanie Ann Clennan-Warren. Family will greet friends from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Wed. at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd, Topeka KS 66614, where a rosary will be prayed at 6:30 followed by a Shirley Clennan Love Affair. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thurs. at Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church. Burial will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Cotton-O'Neil Cancer Center (for children's care) and Most Pure Heart of Mary Church, sent in care of the funeral home.

Tribute Wall



“ Shirley Clennan

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ John, Mark, and the whole family,
I just found out today that Shirley passed and I'm so sorry. I just saw her a month or so ago with that big smile and the friendly voice wanting to know how everyone was. Mark, she was a great lady!! My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Lorraine Eggen - February 03, 2013 at 01:15 PM



“ John & family,
Love & prayers to all of you. We are so happy to have spent a day with Shirley at the reunion in September. Take care & know that many continue to pray for you & the family as you work your way through God's plan for our lives.

Love,

Jack & Lyda

Jack & Lyda Zeller - January 28, 2013 at 03:09 PM



“ Dear John and family, we are thinking of you and praying for you during this time.

Richard and Dorothy Taylor

Richard Taylor - January 25, 2013 at 07:58 PM

JS

“ John - so sorry to read of your loss, I understand and feel your pain...having lost Gayle in 2008 I know there are no words...but this little tidbit eventually made some sense to me - try it: People told me - you'll get over it...and it didn't set well - so I coined a response - don't intend to get over it, as its to big but I do intend to get around it and look back with a huge grin on my face and say...what a run...42 years with a "10" and most guys never even meet one...just let it work...

John Summers - January 24, 2013 at 03:44 PM

MG

“ John, Just found out about the passing of Shirley, as you know lam out of town but my prayers are with you and the family my friend.

mike gassen - January 24, 2013 at 02:27 PM

GF

“ John and family, we're so sorry to hear about your loss. We have so many great memories of the times our families shared together so many years ago. You're in our thoughts and prayers. Greg and Lori Fagan

Greg & Lori Fagan - January 24, 2013 at 01:00 PM

AP

“ John,

What a blessing it is to have known Shirley. Some of my best memories include the two of you at the Knights of Columbus with my grandparents (Don & Swany Fagan) & Godparents (John & Muriel Fagan). These are memories I treasure daily.

You will be in my thoughts & prayers in the difficult days ahead.

Angel Poertner - January 24, 2013 at 10:08 AM

JH

“ Our Family sends our condolences to yours. Aunt Shirley was a special lady and her smile and pan of tacos will always be a cherished memory. peace and good to all.

Jeffrey and Theresa Hall - January 23, 2013 at 04:08 PM

JD

“ Melea and family: We are so sorry to hear of the loss of your mother. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you. May precious family memories comfort you during this time of sorrow.

Jackie, Jose & Tori Davis - January 23, 2013 at 10:29 AM

AM

“ I am so sorry to the family for their loss. She will be sorely missed. A scripture that has helped me in my time of sorrow has been John 5:28, 29 where God promises that we can see our loved ones again. I hope it will give you comfort as well! I will keep the family in my prayers!

A. Mixon - January 22, 2013 at 10:41 PM

BB

“ Dear Clennan Family,
My thoughts and prayers are with you. I have known your mom for many years. Whenever I would see her at Dillon's she would always greet me with a hug. We would have a short, but meaningful visit. I always enjoyed running into her. May your memories of her time with you carry you through this difficult time. God bless you all.
Beth Foster Blumreich

Beth Foster Blumreich - January 22, 2013 at 09:01 PM

JM

“ *Clennan Family, our thoughts and prayers are with you. Shirley was a wonderful and special lady. She will be dearly missed.*

A friend shared this quote stating that it help him in a time of mourning, I would like to share it with you because it made me smile when I read it and thought of Shirley:

“I know for certain that we never lose the people we love, even to death. They continue to participate in every act, thought and decision we make. Their love leaves an indelible imprint in our memories. We find comfort in knowing that our lives have been enriched by having shared their love.”

God Bless

Joe & Claire McDermott - January 22, 2013 at 06:59 PM

CC

“ *To the Clennan family, Shirley always had a smile from ear to ear and loved you all so dearly. May God hold her in the palm of his hand and May the perpetual light shine upon her. Thank God for the memories and may the Holy Spirit Comforter be with you all during this difficult time. Nehemiah 8:10 "the Joy of The Lord is our strength." Isaiah 54:7-8 God says, "You are precious to me and I Love You!" I will keep you in my Prayers until we all meet on that Glorious Day in Heaven with our Lord and Savior. As it says in the Bible in Isaiah God will wipe away our tears and in Revelation "no more pain or sorrow." May Gods Agape Love and His Peace be with you all! God Bless You all!*

Connie Fouraker Christenson - January 22, 2013 at 06:46 PM

SS

“ *John and Family: So very sorry to hear of Shirley's passing. She was a wonderful woman and she will be missed by many. My love and prayers to you and your entire family.*

Susie Foster Sachs - January 22, 2013 at 01:33 PM

CF

“ *Marla and family,
I'm sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. She was a very kind, sweet woman who will be missed. I'm sure she's up with Melanie right now, watching over all of you. May God Bless you...*

Carol Martin Flynn - January 22, 2013 at 01:13 PM

JA

“ *Marla, Leah and family--we want to let you know that thoughts and prayers are with you at this time of Mom and Grandma's homegoing. I would like to thank you for the honor of introducing her into our lives, however brief yet impactful. Truly, as you said, you did not feel like a stranger in her presence. I feel she would want you to find your laughter again. Be gentle with yourselves and take time to process the grief knowing you are not alone...she will always be with you to help.*

Jan & Ron Ash - January 22, 2013 at 10:52 AM

LM

“ *Marla Im so sorry to hear of your moms passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this most difficult time. I pray that the memories with be great remembrance and a comfort to you at this hard time. I know she will be missed. Linda Michael*

Linda Michael - January 22, 2013 at 10:34 AM

KK

“ John and family -

I will miss Shirley dearly. She was always such a bright light when she came in and could always make you smile. She truly loved those she came in contact with and always had a smile on her face, even when she wasn't feeling grand. Shirley was a blessed woman to be surrounded by such loving family throughout her life. My prayers and thoughts are with your family.

Katie K - January 22, 2013 at 10:19 AM

JB

“ Dear John and family.....Shirley was such a bright shining face always. Her sweet demeanor continued, even during her courageous battle with cancer. Please know we are sending love your way as we all mourn your loss.
Joy & Greg Brennan

Joy Brennan - January 22, 2013 at 09:46 AM

GH

“ Marla and family, I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your mom. Know that you all are in my thoughts and prayers.

Gina Herman - January 21, 2013 at 09:00 PM

ST

“ John and family...Sorry to hear about Shirley. We remember all the fun times we had over the years. She was special. Love and Prayers John and Sandy Tinsley

Sandy and John Tinsley - January 21, 2013 at 03:54 PM

JP

“ Love you Uncle John. Aunt Shirley was such a jolly beautiful woman and she will be so very missed by everyone. I'll remember lots of laughs from the last time we were all in Phoenix years ago. Take care of yourself. XOXO

Jackie Clennan Price - January 21, 2013 at 02:47 PM

RG

“ Uncle John and Family. Sorry to hear about Aunt Shirley. My family sends their condolences and prayers. You all are in my thoughts. GOD BLESS

Raymond Gonter - January 21, 2013 at 02:43 PM

GM

“ John and family,
Sorry for your loss. The world will not be the same without Shirley.
God bless you all.

Gary & Judy Menke - January 21, 2013 at 02:22 PM

CD

“ Marla and family,
I'm so sorry to hear of your loss of your mother, she always had a smile for everyone. She will be missed. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.
Cheryl Martin Dew

Cheryl Martin Dew - January 21, 2013 at 11:57 AM