



Shirley Reece

December 9, 1934 - November 8, 2023

Shirley Lynn Reece, 88, Topeka, Kansas, passed away Wednesday, November 8, 2023.

She was born December 9, 1934, to Cecil and Donna Byers Denton in Horton, Kansas. Shirley grew up in Denton, Kansas, living on the family farms and graduated from Denton High School. She then attended Washburn University in Topeka.

Shirley married Jack Baker on June 19, 1955, four children were born to their union, they later divorced. She married Vernon E. Reece on October 11, 1986. He preceded her in death February 16, 2011.

Shirley was a member of Our Lady of the Mountain Catholic Parish in Estes Park, Colorado, Christ the King Catholic Parish in Topeka, and a member of The Order of the Eastern Star. She was a jewelry associate at JC Penny and was a pastoral assistant in Estes Park.

Shirley is survived by her children, Jack Eric Baker (Twila), Scott Denton Baker, Laura Baker, and Susan Calvin (Kevin); sister, Patricia Donaldson (Patrick); sisters-in-law, Thelma "Pat" Denton and Carol Scherer; 14 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Vernon; parents; siblings, Cecil Denton, Jack Denton and his wife Betty, Bruce Denton, and Stanley Denton.

The rosary will be prayed Thursday, November 16, at 6 p.m. at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614. Following the rosary, family will greet friends until 8 p.m. The family has chosen to have a private Mass of Christian Burial and inurnment on a later date at the family cemetery in Denton, Kansas.

Memorial contributions may be made to Shriner's Hospitals for Children and sent in care of the funeral home.

Previous Events

Parish Rosary

NOV **16**. 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Visitation

NOV **16**. 6:15 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



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



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - November 15, 2023 at 04:01 PM

ST

“ 10.23.2024- I am missing you so much. I've gone to call you more than a dozen times and have to remind myself you're not there. I know you're all around me, so I talk to you out loud. I hope you found my Grandma up and are the best of friends. I love you and miss you tons.

11.11.23: Oh honorary Grandma Shirley. Laura called me with the news last weekend and my heart shattered into a billion bitty pieces. I loved you like my own. I'm so happy with our memories together and our bi-weekly phone calls. I'm so glad you continued your workouts even after leaving Estes Park. I will love you forever. Rest in Heaven you sweet sassy woman! -Stacie Shay



Stacie - October 23, 2024 at 02:03 PM

TG

“ To Shirley's family. Peace. Shirley was a wonderful, joyful role model and friend to me. I will never forget her. Theresa and Eric Minde

theresa Garrity - December 08, 2023 at 04:24 PM

PA

“ Shirley was a very unique person with an unforgettable sense of humor. With a straight face several times she told my wife “Nancy, if I was 20 years younger I would be after your husband. I would be a cougar.”

The last time that I spoke to Shirley was October 30. I called and Laura answered. I asked for Shirley and Laura inquired as to who was calling. “Tell Shirley it’s one of her boyfriends.” Without missing a beat Shirley was on the phone and immediately said “Now Patrick, you know that you are my only true boyfriend. And don’t tell Nancy!” We will deeply miss ShirlGirl but we know she has been born into eternal life and has been reunited with Vern. God Bless you Shirley and thank you for your friendship.



Patrick Almus - November 17, 2023 at 09:58 PM

DE

“ *Condolences to all her children and their families; my heart goes out to each one of you.*

Shirley became our babysitter/caregiver for me and my 4 siblings when my parents divorced in the 1960s. She was ever patient, quick to smile or laugh, and had a big heart full of love and kindness! She made a positive difference in so many lives! I feel grateful to have known her and felt so cared for by her! Shirley's loving presence is still with me, even to this day.

Deb Eckheart - November 17, 2023 at 07:01 PM

JS

“ *Sorry to learn of the passing on of Shirley Reece. Sympathy to her entire family. I was a extra-ordinary minister at Our Lady of the Mountains Church in Estes Park, Colorado and took communion to her and Vernon many times and got to know them very well, and also enjoyed our visits. Shirley was always so congenial and had a good sense of humor, and will be missed. Again, condolences from John Schwery & wife Mary Lynn.*

John & Mary Lynn Schwery - November 15, 2023 at 04:25 PM

GF

“ Shirley was one of the most vibrant and delightful people I have ever known. A Jayhawk through and through. I spent many a morning having cookies and coffee with her at the church. My wife, Sandy and I provided her a ride home from a dinner party. Scott was waiting there for her. Shirley insisted that I activate the emergency lights of my police car as we arrived at her home. She jumped out of the car and planted her hands on the hood to simulate being arrested. All of this for Scott's benefit. She laughed until she cried. Her laugh was infectious with us all. You will be missed on earth! Happy Heaven! We love you!

Gregg and Sandy Filsinger

Gregg & Sandy Filsinger - November 15, 2023 at 03:50 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Shirley Reece.



November 14, 2023 at 11:01 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley Reece.



November 14, 2023 at 10:54 AM

YT

“ Your friends at Fundamental Technologies planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shirley Reece.

Your friends at Fundamental Technologies - November 14, 2023 at 10:54 AM

DS

“ Eric, we are so very sorry to hear about your mom’s passing. Sending prayers to you and Twila at this time. Debbie and Danny Skidmore

Danny Skidmore - November 13, 2023 at 11:24 PM

JP

“ Eric and family. We are so sorry for your loss and you have our sincerest condolences. Jerry and July Manweiler

Jerry W. Manweiler, Ph.D. - November 13, 2023 at 02:14 PM

SH

“ Eric, Scott, Laura and Susan, I am so sorry for your loss. Your mom was one special woman! She had a smile that would fill the room and make you feel at home. Growing up she always welcomed me in your home with that smile. Then as we got older that smile was always present, but she did add a slight head tilt and a look of I know you are up to something. LOL. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Scott Halsey

Scott Halsey - November 13, 2023 at 12:59 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Shirley Reece.*



November 13, 2023 at 11:35 AM



“ *Thinking of you Eric & family. Praying that you can find comfort in each other and in sharing beautiful memories of your mom. ~Cindy, Dave and the Bracker's crew*

Cindy Elizabeth - November 13, 2023 at 10:52 AM



“ *Carol Martindale lit a candle in memory of Shirley Reece*



Carol Martindale - November 13, 2023 at 08:49 AM



I'm sorry to hear about Shirley. You all are in thoughts and prayers 🙏. Shirley was a beautiful lady. I was her housekeeper at Aldersgate. She will be missed. 🙏❤️

Carol Martindale - November 13, 2023 at 08:52 AM