



Shirley Harwell

September 27, 1943 - March 31, 2018

Shirley Fay Harwell, longtime resident of Terrell, passed away peacefully on March 31, 2018 with her family at her side. She was welcomed into Heaven by her beloved husband, Rayford who, no doubt, was waiting with that special smile he always had just for her. Shirley was also reunited with her parents Jim and Grace Taylor, parents-in-law, Jim and Lola Harwell, brothers: Lumpy and Oscar Taylor; sister, Yvonne Lyon; brother-in-law, Dennis Harwell and wife Libby; sister-in-law, Patsy Harwell; brother-in-law, David Cox; niece, Deborah Crow, and nephews, C.J. Taylor and Jason Taylor.

Shirley was born September 27, 1943 in Kaufman County, Texas. She attended Kaufman public schools and graduated from Canton High School in 1963. She met Rayford Harwell and on Sept. 25, 1964 they married and were inseparable until his passing on Dec. 6, 2015. Shirley was a beautiful feature in the Terrell community helping Rayford with the businesses that they owned together. Not only did she keep the finances in line by doing the bookkeeping at the station, she also kept Rayford in line and later, their son, Cary! So much was her ability to keep the business running smoothly, she was lovingly (but respectfully) known as “Hitler”. Shirley also found it very humorous, and very flattering, to be known by her other names: “Rayford’s wife” or “Cary’s mother”. She held these two titles dearest to her heart and her love and devotion to Rayford and Cary are true testaments to what a wife and mother should be. Shirley loved bowling and was a member of several bowling

leagues in Terrell including the Coffee Cup league and Traveling League. Her loving and generous heart was always evident and she volunteered for over 25 years with Terrell State Hospital and was active with the Terrell Pilot Club. She loved working in her yard and she truly enjoyed growing gorgeous flowers. Shirley was content to always support others in their endeavors "behind the scenes" yet, somehow, she never escaped others' notice. Her grace, elegance and calm countenance at all times gave all who met and knew her an indescribable sense of peace. Getting to visit with Shirley made each person feel encouraged and treasured and she will be missed greatly for the quiet strength and devotion that she demonstrated every day of her life.

Shirley leaves to cherish her memory her son, Cary Harwell; brother, George Taylor and wife, Terri Ann, of Elmo; sisters: Dorothy Crow of Kaufman, Leona Harwell of Garland, Betty Gutierrez and husband, Leonard of Mineola; sisters-in-law: Donna Harwood of Kaufman, Beverly Taylor of Rowlett, Nadine Day and husband, Jerrell, of Terrell, Linda Taylor of Forney, Charlotte Corley of Longview; brothers-in-law: James Harwell of Terrell, Joe Harwell and wife Claudette, of Greenville, Gary Harwell and wife, Linda, of Van; special family friends, Jerry Clower and wife, Barbara, of Wills Point as well as several nieces, nephews, extended family and a host of friends.

Celebration of Shirley's life will be at 11:00am, Saturday, April 7, 2018, at Terrell's First Assembly of God Church, 203 Main St., Terrell. Shirley's family asks that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Relay for Life in support of the American National Bank Team (mail: PO Box 40, Terrell, 75160) and/or the City of Terrell Team (mail: 301 E. Nash, Terrell, 75160) or donate online at:

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?fr_id=88398&pg=team&team_id=2244576

Memorials may also be made to support the Weaver Cemetery Association, a place that was very dear to Shirley and Rayford's hearts, 4699 VZCR 1507, Grand Saline, TX, 75140. Condolences and stories may be shared with the family at www.maxslaytonfunerals.com.

Cemetery Details

Weaver Cemetery

CR 344
Terrell, TX 75161

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Assembly of God
203 Main St.
Terrell, TX

Tribute Wall



“ *Shirley Harwell*

October 08, 2023 at 07:43 PM



“ *Shirley was such a lovely and thoughtful lady. Her sweet smile was a reflection of her caring spirit. We shared many years of friendship and will miss her.*

Joe and Linda Hogan - April 06, 2018 at 11:13 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Life Tributes*



Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations - April 06, 2018 at 03:07 PM



“ *What a special lady! Her kind, gentle and caring spirit will always be remembered. The history of our friendship goes back a long way and on behalf of the Pulley Family we send our love, thoughts and prayers to you! May the comfort of the Holy Spirit strength you in this time of great loss. Love to all, Kay and Carmen Pulley*

Kay Pulley - April 06, 2018 at 10:54 AM



“ 91 files added to the album Life Tributes



Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations - April 05, 2018 at 04:08 PM

CH

“ *Sweet Shirley, always with that beautiful smile. She was a pleasure to know and Rayford and Cary always knew she was the glue that held them together. Mother always enjoyed bowling with her so much. Our sympathy goes out to all of the Harwell and Taylor families. She was definitely one of a kind.*

Cindy Hunter - April 03, 2018 at 10:17 PM

DM

“ *Harrell Family*

Please accept our heartfelt condolences for the loss of your loved one.

*Sincere sympathy,
Jim and Dorothy McAllister*

Dorothy and Jim McAllister - April 03, 2018 at 10:03 PM

JC

“ Cary, you are so blessed to have this lady as your mother. She was always one of my favorite people. I have known her since we were 12 yrs. old, & I guess you could say we grew up together. She was truly a wonderful person, & will be. greatly missed. R.I.P sweet lady. Prayers for you Cary. Jerry Crow/

Jerry Crow - April 03, 2018 at 06:53 PM

PS

“ Cary, I am so very sorry for the loss of your precious mother, Shirley. She was such a sweetheart. When growing up, I remember going to church and listening to her and the Taylor Sister's sing. It was such beautiful and harmonious music to my ears as a little girl. My sister and my cousins would then go home and pretend to be the "Taylor Sisters" and sing! She was a loving woman with a precious spirit and soul. She will be missed greatly. You are in my prayers dear. Sincerely, Pam (Pierson) Sitzes

Pam Sitzes - April 03, 2018 at 03:59 PM

CE

“ Cary,
I'm so sorry for the loss of your beautiful precious momma. Praying for you, my sweet friend.



Chad and Monica Ezell - April 02, 2018 at 03:18 PM

LA

“ Cary, May God Comfort you in the Loss of Your Sweet Mama... We are so Sorry... She was the kindest , sweetest most Beautiful Ladies.. I will always Remember how Your Mama would laugh at everyone of your Daddy’s jokes..Everyone.. Prayers for you Cary and your Entire Family 🙏

Lark Allison - April 02, 2018 at 01:56 PM

SD

“ Cary, we are so sad for the loss of your precious mom. Sending prayers and our condolences. Love you, Scott and Steph

scott & stephanie deford - April 02, 2018 at 12:48 PM

MP

“ Cary,

I am so so sadden to hear that your mother passed away. I want you to know that you and your family are in my prayers! She was one of the sweetest lady's I had ever come across in my life. I think of you often and I pray that GOD gives you strength and helps you thur this difficult time. May she rest in peace

Love,

Melissa Burchfield Page

Melissa Page - April 01, 2018 at 10:36 PM

KS

“ Cary we were so very sorry to hear about your sweet Mom! Plz know our prayers go out to you, George, her sisters & all of your family. With Deepest Sympathy, Karo & Wilson

Karo Stewart - March 31, 2018 at 04:58 PM

WR

“ Cary so sad to here of your mom's passing. My prayers are with you and Shirley's sister Betty and her brother, all of your other family members. I'm here if you need me.
Wanda Renfro

Wanda F. Renfro - March 31, 2018 at 03:30 PM

WR

“ I loved this woman like my sister. I've known Shirley Harwell every since I've lived in Terrell and we've bowled together for 16 years and traveled together. I will miss her dearly.
Wanda Renfro

Wanda F. Renfro - March 31, 2018 at 03:26 PM

TC

“ Praying for peace & comfort for Cary & all the family & friends. Shirley will be missed so much, so beautiful inside & out. We love you so much . RIP dear Shirley .

Thomas & Connie Clowet - March 31, 2018 at 11:08 AM

KP

“ Cary, so sorry to hear about the passing of your sweet momma, know that our thoughts and prayers are with you my friend!! Much love...

Kellie (Webb) Perry - March 31, 2018 at 11:03 AM

RS

“ Cary,
*My heart is broken! May God wrap His arms around you and give
you peace and comfort.*
Love,
Rita Scott

Rita Scott - March 31, 2018 at 09:57 AM