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Shirley M. McCreynolds

1937 - 2023



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1937

FUNERAL HOME[Desert Rose Heather Cremation & Burial](#)

1040 North Columbus Blvd

Tucson, Arizona

Shirley Mcreynolds Obituary

So, My Sweet Shirley: a number of years ago I asked you to write your own obituary so I would have the facts if you predeceased me. You wrote that you were born in Berwyn, Illinois in 1937 to Marguerite and Vernon McReynolds. Nine years later your brother, Gary, was born and soon after the family moved to Tucson. You had a 30 year career at Hughes Aircraft (Raytheon); then after you retired once, you became employed at Microsoft Information Systems. Those were the facts. Oh, but you were so much more! You loved the outdoors, whether gardening with Community Gardens of Tucson (family and friends enjoyed the fruits of your passion regularly) or hiking the mountain trails of southern Arizona with friends. We enjoyed eating Mexican food once a week, family holiday celebrations, "date days" every Friday for lunch and a movie. You and I explored the beauty of many areas of the United States in our RV, the wonder of Europe and Canada on guided tours, and sailing the high seas on several cruises. We also were blessed to leave the sizzling summer Tucson heat for relief in the White Mountains for five summers. Despite these activities, Shirley and I agreed that the greatest achievement was finally getting legally married in San Diego in 2013, with Betty and Hershel as witnesses and loving honor attendants. Dear Shirley, your traits of character that sustained others and me throughout the years included intelligence, humility, compassion for others, honesty, and especially, love. Although shy at times, you were friendly to all. I loved your playfulness and wicked and subtle sense of humor (right up to the end). You are my rock, and will never be forgotten by me and others who knew you. For too many years, Shirley battled the devastation of dementia, trying to adjust to the changes in her brain. Then abdominal cancer returned recently, creating a terminal crisis. Your amazing courage was honored by all, until you finally closed your eyes and found peace. So, Sweet Shirley, rest until I meet you again down the road. Special thanks to those who understood and comforted us on this journey: Alzheimer's Association; Bayada at The Fountains of La Cholla; Copper Canyon Memory Care; Traditions Hospice; and all of our loving, giving friends. Shirley is survived by her friend of over 55 years and wife of 30, Peg Mittendorf; in-laws Betty and Hershel Craig, who were always there; and her brother and nephew, Gary and Jessie

McReynolds. A private Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Arrangements by DESERT ROSE HEATHER.

Published by Arizona Daily Star on Jan. 8, 2023.



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Memories and Condolences for Shirley McCreynolds

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4 Entries

Dear Peg, we met years ago. I worked with Shirley at Hughes Aircraft. She was pure joy. She was a mentor and friend. We shared many fun times over the years.

Jane Stash

Jane stash

Friend

January 14, 2023

Hi Peg,

I was so sorry to hear about Shirley. What a kind and fine person she was. I got to know her through her work at Presidio Garden and since we didn't live far from one another, she shared a ride with me after she stopped driving. Shirley called me "Kid." I loved that, especially since I was only a dozen years younger. I always enjoyed Shirley's and my conversations on those little trips to and from the garden. I have looked and looked for a photo I wanted to share with you. Shirley had just harvested an enormous head of cauliflower and was wearing that happy, sheepish grin. Another wonderful memory is the day, soon after you two had gotten married, when Shirley invited me in to see your beautiful wedding photos. She was so happy, and what a gift it was to me that she wanted me to meet you and to share photos of that long-awaited day. I send you all my best wishes, Peg. Carol Evans

Carol Evans

Friend

January 13, 2023

Dearest Peg,

Patricia and I are heartbroken to hear of what you and Shirley faced in the later years but heartened by what you shared of your life together. We will always have fond memories of you both attending our Commitment Ceremony. We are sending our love and prayers to you, and lifting Shirley up in our hearts always.

Melissa Mitchell & Patricia George

Melissa Mitchell

Friend

January 11, 2023

May your hearts soon be filled with wonderful memories of joyful times together as you celebrate a life well lived.

Suzi (Cree) Byrnes

January 8, 2023