



Shirley Elizabeth Howard

APR 5, 1930 - JUN 20, 2018



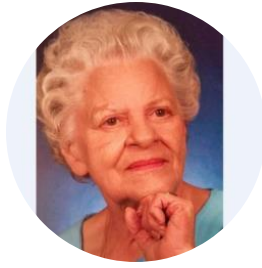
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Shirley Elizabeth Howard of Leesburg, Florida passed away on Wednesday, June 20, 2018, at the age of 88, while under the care of hospice at the home of her son & daughter-in-law, Alfred & JoAnn, in Yalaha. She was born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada on April 5, 1930, to the late Alfred and Dorothy (Walkemeyer) Christensen. She had a Master's Degree in Gifted Education and was the first recipient of the Fulbright Scholarship from Rollins College in Orlando, from where she earned her BA in Music. While attending Rollins, Shirley made a lasting friendship with Fred Rogers who was also a student there, although a year ahead of her.

A resident of Leesburg for over 60 years, she taught music at several area schools, sharing her passion and love of the arts with children of all ages. In addition to her years teaching, she was active in helping those with terminal illnesses through participation with Women for Hospice, and in support of our veterans through volunteer service at the Amvets Auxiliary of Mt. Dora. In 2014, after countless years of involvement as musical director, board member, and actress, Shirley was awarded Lifetime Membership at the Melon Patch Theater in Leesburg. She was also an active member of the choir, the Episcopal Church Women (St. Mary's chapter), and the congregation of St. James Episcopal Church in Leesburg.

She is survived and lovingly remembered by her sons David Lee (Martee) Howard, Jr. of Cocoa Beach, and Alfred (JoAnn) Howard, of Yalaha, and grandchildren Alexander Howard, Hunter (Linsey Hunlock, fiancé) Howard, Christian Howard, Casey (Jentzen) Judice, Gage Marchand, and Reagan Marchand, and nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she is predeceased by her sister and brother-in-law, Bernis & Malcolm Howell.



Obituary

Shirley Elizabeth Howard

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A memorial and interment service will be held at St. James Episcopal Church, 204 Lee Street, Leesburg, FL 34748, with Father Thomas Trees presiding on Monday, July 2, 2018 at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family would request that you honor Shirley's memory with donations made to St. James Episcopal Church of Leesburg or Cornerstone Hospice in Tavares.

Online condolences may be sent at pagetheusfuneralhome.com. Arrangements under the care of Page-Theus Funeral Home and Cremation Services.



Events


Shirley Elizabeth Howard

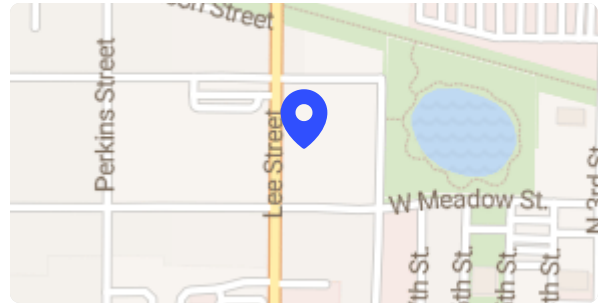
APR 5, 1930 - JUN 20, 2018

Memorial Service

 **Monday**, July 2, 2018

 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET

 **St. James Episcopal Church**
204 Lee Street, Leesburg FL 34748





Tribute Wall

Shirley Elizabeth Howard

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Midy Belle lit a candle in honor of Shirley.

May 12 at 9:01 AM



Midy Belle lit a candle in honor of Shirley.

May 12 at 9:01 AM



Ruth Norrie Montgomery lit a candle in honor of Shirley.

I remember when Shirley Howard was teaching music when She was miss Christianson. Then she was our chorus teacher as Mrs. Howard. She was a wonderful teacher and a great person. I was in the choir with her at St. James Episcopal Church. I respected her very much. I am so sorry she is gone. I will miss her but I know she is in a better place at Jesus feet. I was going to go to the service for Shirley but came down sick. My heart and prayers are with her family. Ruth Norrie Montgomery

July 3 at 4:07 PM



Patricia Perry posted:

Mrs. Howard was a tireless, steadfast, and loving advocate for handicapped persons who touched her daily life in our community. I was a witness as she "stood in the gap" many times over 15 years. She was always ready with an encouraging word and gentle firmness as she interacted with others who were the recipients of her support. She is a truly great woman and fabulous friend to those of us who experienced her strength and loving kindness. You definitely left this earth a better place than you found it!! Thank you Mrs. Howard, for all of your love and care. Ann Perry, LMHC

July 2 at 9:32 AM



Tribute Wall

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Penny Heydt posted:

I remember your mother with great fondness. I believe it was 9th grade girls chorus when I had her at LHS in about 1959. She was a caring and compassionate lady who gave me a love of music that I use to this day in our church choir. I remember so well when she had the lead role in Annie Get Your Gun with the Melon Patch Players. She played it with great spunk and enthusiasm! I know you will miss her so much and I pray God will comfort you with many happy memories. With my deepest sympathy,Penny Ash Heydt

July 2 at 8:18 AM



Anonymous sent a Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All Red to the Howard family.



July 1 at 3:49 PM



James Pyles posted:

Mrs. Howard was a wonderful loving teacher. As a substitute teacher she was one of the few that had such an amazing impact on so many of us. Her memory will last a life time.James "Graham" Pyles

June 30 at 6:41 PM



Carolyn Colter Samuel lit a candle in honor of Shirley.

I am so sorry to hear of Mrs. Howard's passing. She was a great educator and she had a gift of making children happy, She was also a great person as a co-worker.Carolyn Colter SamuelRetired AdministratorLake County /schools



June 29 at 6:53 PM



Karen West posted:

I had the joy of teaching with Shirley for 10 years at Oak Park Elementary School whereshe taught chorus and inspired young people to love beautiful music. What a giftshe gave them - she was indeed a gifted teacher as well as teacher of the gifted.Karen West

June 29 at 5:45 PM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent a Floor Plant for Sympathy to the Howard family.



June 29 at 8:57 AM



Tami Waters posted:

Shirley Howard was our sweet neighbor for 34 years. She lived her faith in the Lord and demonstrated the love of Christ to us and everyone around her. She embodied what Jesus called the most important commandment which is found in Mark 12:28-31.28 One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"29 "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."We are so sorry to hear about her passing. She is a beautiful soul. One day, we will all rejoice again with Shirley in Heaven.Love, David Firebaugh, and Rudy, Tami and John Waters

June 29 at 7:13 AM



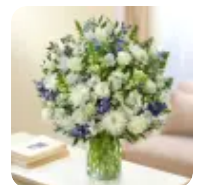
Barbara Wilson-Smith posted:

Shirley, known as Mrs. Howard at Eustis High School, had the largest chorus in Lake County when I entered EHS in 1957. Students filled every seat during her 6 music periods. Every student volunteered to be a member of the high school chorus. Practice for a concert had to be held at night in order for all 6 sections to practice together. Students were sad when she left us to take over the music program at Leesburg High School. She made a great contribution to Lake County Schools and was a great role model for young women.

June 29 at 3:48 AM



Anonymous sent a Sincerest Sorrow - Blue and White to the Howard family.



June 29 at 12:32 AM



Tribute Wall

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JH

Jeanne Hays posted:

We always enjoyed time with Shirley when our family gathered for a special event which usually included a feast of favorite family recipes. Shirley seemed to fully enjoy those times and always complimented the cooks. Alfred, JoAnn, Gage and Reagan provided tender loving care for her during her final years. Well done!

June 28 at 5:15 AM

BD

Barry Draper posted:

Alfred, I only got to meet your mother recently at the 1776 rehearsals. What a legacy she left for you in her love of the theatre and music which she obviously passed down to you. May God bless you and your family and give you peace and strength as you remember your mother - and the many blessings I know she added to your life. Barry Draper

June 27 at 8:07 AM

MR

Melissa Berger Reading posted:

I have such fond memories of "Ms. Howard" from elementary school back in the early 80's. I remember watching Disney musicals in her class like Fantasia and the Sorcerer's Apprentice and how she let us play on so many different musical instruments. I haven't seen her for years and I just wanted to let you know that she left a warm place in my heart and she'll never be forgotten.

June 27 at 7:49 AM



Anonymous sent a Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White to the Howard family.



June 27 at 4:39 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Shirley by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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