



## Shirley Meppelink

February 2, 1948 - July 8, 2020

Shirley Ann Meppelink, 72, of Oskaloosa, Iowa, passed away Wednesday, July 8, 2020, at Comfort House in Pella, Iowa. Private family services will be held through the Langkamp Funeral Chapel in Oskaloosa with a private family burial to be held at Evergreen Cemetery in Leighton, Iowa. Graveside prayers and services are to be performed by Pastor Phil DeBoef of the Third Reformed Church in Pella, Iowa, of which she was a member.

Shirley was born February 2, 1948, to Raymond Earl and Selma Leora (Jensen) DeVore in the Decatur County Hospital, Leon, Iowa. Shirley graduated from Oskaloosa High School in 1966, having simultaneously earned her two year Office Education degree. She attended Vennard College and held executive secretary positions at Look magazine and the Clow Corporation until her marriage to Alven Meppelink.

Shirley and Alven met in June 1968 and committed to marry by the time he left for deployment to Vietnam in August 1968. They were engaged on September 9, 1969, and married at the Wesleyan Church with their reception held in the girls' dorm lounge at Vennard College on December 20, 1969. Shirley and Alven had one son, David.

Shirley was a homemaker until Dave was school age. After that time, she worked as the Director of Publications at Vennard College, where she wrote the alumni quarterly newsletter and press releases. After leaving this position, Shirley took many adult education classes at Indian Hills Community College and Central College in a variety of subjects - desktop publishing, writing, voice, and music.

Shirley led a great life, driven by her faith in God and love for her family. She had a few things of which she was very proud: traveling and visiting 27 of the 60 National Parks (Rocky Mountain, Glacier, and Yellowstone were the favorites, and they visited them more than once); being called upon on September 11, 2001, to be an intercessor after the terrorist attacks; and creative writing. Most important to her, Shirley was proud of her grandsons. She and Alven were fantastic grandparents and were very involved in all aspects of their grandsons' lives.

Shirley was preceded in death by her parents and in-laws. Shirley is survived by her husband of 50 years, Alven of Oskaloosa; son, David (Shannon) of West Branch; five grandsons: Aaron and fiancé, Nicole Barrett, Nicholas, Matthew, Rafe, and Jacob; brothers: Larry (Judy) DeVore, Darrell (Sandy) DeVore, sister Nancy DeVore, all of

Oskaloosa; sister-in-law Ilene Meppelink of Pella; many cousins, nieces and nephews; and special 'son' Eric Barrett.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Third Reformed Church in Pella

<https://trcpella.com/giving/giving-at-third-church/> , the National Parks Foundation

<https://give.nationalparks.org/site/Donation2?>

[df\\_id=1520&1520.donation=form1&mfc\\_pref=T](https://give.nationalparks.org/site/Donation2?df_id=1520&1520.donation=form1&mfc_pref=T), or Pella Hospice

<https://www.pellahealth.org/services/hospice/> .

# Cemetery

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## **Evergreen Cemetery**

Easton Ave. and 205th ST

Leighton, IA, 50143

# Comments

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“ A tribute video has been added.



**Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory** - July 09 at 11:53 AM



“ Beautiful woman, tribute and a life to be proud of

**Pat and Eldon** - July 09 at 07:54 PM



“ Beautiful woman of God. She didn't know a stranger.

**Mardis DeVore** - July 09 at 09:28 PM

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“ Prayers for Alvin and family. Have known Shirley since Jr. High . Always had a smile and was a real pleasure to be around.

**Donna Arendt** - July 13 at 02:52 AM

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“ "A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies".Prov 31:10

Shirley & I were acquaintances who met up every so often at local social events, yet every single time I saw Shirley, I felt an immediate sense of her outgoing, genuine warmth toward others. Her always happy & beautiful smile that she gave to others radiated her precious & lovely inner spirit, which was a reflection her deep relationship to our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ. Shirley clearly walked HIS walk & talked HIS talk as a woman of beautiful virtue & honor ..in her family's lives... in her clarity of character...in her sweet & kind hearted talk with others. Shirley was a woman to be admired for being a wonderful, soft-hearted, tender & loving witness of her faith in Jesus Christ. The first time I met Shirley, I felt an instant "kinship" with her sweet spirit ....and, I feel certain that even though I'm very sad that Shirley has left our presence here on earth, I'm looking forward to a wonderfully happy reunion with her in Heaven! Shirley ALWAYS made me feel AT HOME in her presence & HAPPY inside every time we would see each other.

She was a IMMEASURABLE TREASURE to her family, friends & community..and I will ALWAYS CHERISH her memory & her inimitable BEAMING SMILE of WELCOME to ALL she loved & knew. I also thank God that I had the privilege of knowing such a precious lady. My heartfelt condolences embrace Alven & all the Meppelink family.

God Bless You ALL with the deepest comfort of our Lord & Savior..knowing

especially that Shirley is rejoicing now in HIS presence eternally.



Carrie VanderLinden - July 11 at 06:27 PM

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“ I am so grateful I got to know Shirley the last couple of years. With her sister, Nancy, we would go together to dine and have conversations and she was very much a Godly woman. My sympathies go out to all of her family and friends, and especially to all of her grandchildren. She will be missed by many here on earth, but one day we will all be together again . Blessings to all. Kathy Grubb

Kathy Grubb - July 10 at 11:13 AM

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“ Alven, I am shocked and saddened by the news of Shirley's passing. Please accept my deep sympathy for your loss. We had good times with you both at the old Pepsi Christmas Parties. She was a wonderful friend and lady and will be missed by all who knew her.

Lou (Krusemark) Albers



Lou Albers - July 09 at 01:07 PM

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“ 68 files added to the album LifeTributes



Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory - July 09 at 11:47 AM



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“ Shirley and Alven joined my sister Melissa Jensen and our mom, Emmy to explore Sedona, Arizona. Our time together was very special. We were so glad we could have that time together. I am so grateful I got to see them again last Summer at Danika Jensen’s wedding. I am so sorry for the loss of Shirley. She was an utter joy to be around, had a kind heart, sense of humor and a strong faith. I will miss her so much. I know 50 years of marriage must have flown and wasn’t near enough. Knowing Shirley and Alven got to experience 27 out of 60 National Parks together, warms my heart. I remember how excited she was to have a parks national passport book to stamp all the places they traveled. Praying God with wrap His loving arms around you and comfort you in this most difficult time.



**Sabrina Jordan** - July 09 at 09:31 AM



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“ Thoughts and prayers are with all of Shirley’s family in your time of loss.



**Judy Lewis** - July 09 at 09:02 AM



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“ Doyce DeVore lit a candle in memory of Shirley Meppelink



**Doyce DeVore** - July 08 at 11:50 PM

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“ To the Meppelink family my prayers and condolences upon the death of a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother Every time I saw Shirley she was smiling as it was an event for David and Shannon or those beloved Grandboys! I hope your memories help take away some of the sadness you feel right now.  
With love, Sandy Dennis

**Sandra K Dennis** - July 08 at 09:32 PM



“ Alven and family so very sorry to hear of Shirleys passing. She seemed to always be smiling and enjoying her family. She led a full life with many close friends and relatives. I hope all of your wonderful memories will help you thru the coming days and weeks.

**Doyce DeVore** - July 08 at 11:22 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



**Melissa Jensen** - July 08 at 07:28 PM



“ Shirley & Alven have visited our family in both Arizona and Idaho. They attended our kid's weddings and we have enjoyed all the fun we had with them. We have been blessed beyond measure by their kind attention and loving encouragement. Shirley is a treasure -- kind, loving, funny and sweet. I'm heartbroken to lose her because she is such a sweet soul. Earth is a lot dimmer today without her bright spirit. I do find comfort in knowing she is in the loving arms of her Lord and Savior. Our prayers are with Alven, David and all the Meppelink-Jensen family. Melissa & Scott Jensen

**Melissa** - July 08 at 07:34 PM



“ So sorry, she was a great person and class mate.

**Karen Powell** - July 08 at 05:31 PM