



Shirley J. Wells

January 1, 1929 - January 28, 2020

Shirley J. Wells, 91, of Oskaloosa passed away Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at the Mahaska Health Hospice Serenity House in Oskaloosa.

Shirley was born on January 1, 1929, the fifth of six children born to William T. and Hazel Mae (Teal) Jones in Oskaloosa, Iowa. As a youngster, she enjoyed swimming and playing softball, and she worked detasseling corn in the summer with her friends. While attending Oskaloosa High School, she was active in Hi-Tri, Girl Reserves, Student Government, Sub Debs, Craft Club, and Girl's Glee Club; she was also a Homecoming Attendant and a Relay Queen Nominee. She graduated in 1947 and then worked briefly as a Northwestern Bell Telephone operator. She married a young Air Force veteran, Vernon Gene Wells, August 17, 1947, in Oskaloosa. In the early years of their marriage, Vernie's job required much time away, so Shirley was the sole parent much of the time. She devoted herself to raising her daughters, and they remember her as a mom that liked to get the housework done first and then allowed time for fun. Shirley enjoyed nature, and the family enjoyed many picnic lunches while bird watching in the country. She enjoyed playing bridge and was an avid reader. In her later years, Shirley and Vernie wintered for over 30 years in Arizona and enjoyed many trips world-wide. She was a member of St. James Episcopal Church.

Her family includes her husband of over 72 years, Vernon of Oskaloosa; her daughters: Kristine Wells (John Waters) of Des Moines, Mary (Stephen) Moore of St. Louis MO, and Dede Horn of Oskaloosa; six grandchildren and

11 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, Shirley was preceded in death by her three sisters: Eileen Suiter, Johnita Jones, and Evelyn Zach; and two brothers: Bill and Bobbie Jones.

As was her wish, Shirley's body has been cremated. Private memorial services will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions can be made to Old White Cemetery, Inc. and will be used for music scholarships for Mahaska County students. Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory is handling her arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ Shirley J. Wells

October 05, 2023 at 11:57 PM



“ I just learned of Shirley's passing. My heart and prayers go out to her family. Shirley was a first cousin to my mother and they shared a lifelong friendship.

Jon Stout - February 06, 2020 at 11:19 PM



“ Vernie and girls, very sorry to hear of Shirley's passing. Don and I have fond thoughts of our past neighbors and send our sympathy and prayers.

Donna Arendt - February 01, 2020 at 07:32 PM



“ Vernie and family, we are thinking of you and the fond memories of Shirley. She was a VERY caring person !!!

Dean and Barbara Bone

Dean and Barbara Bone - February 01, 2020 at 08:22 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Shirleys passing. Spent time in grade school at their home with Mary. Such a sweet lady. My thoughts to Vernie, Kris, Mary, and Deede.

Lynhon Hough Stout - January 30, 2020 at 07:34 PM

CW

“ Vernie and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Shirley was a very special lady and will be missed by many. Sending prayers and hugs.

Carol Wonderlich - January 29, 2020 at 10:20 PM

MW

“ Dede...So sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. Prayers go out to the entire Wells family.

Marcia Wells - January 29, 2020 at 09:15 PM

CW

“ Vern, Dede, and family,
Please except our deepest sympathy on the lost of you wife and mother. I I know Lee's mom enjoyed playing bridge with her So much.

May God give you comfort, peace, and strength during this difficult time in your life. May you have comfort in the coming days a head.
Lee and Connie Wright



Connie Wright - January 29, 2020 at 06:00 PM

MS

Vernie and girls. So sorry to hear about your wife and Mom. I knew your Dad and had met your mother.but didnt know her well. Love and prayers

Mary Sandholdt - February 18, 2020 at 03:43 AM

JB

“ You have our deepest, heartfelt sympathy on the loss of Shirley.
She was absolutely lovely, both inside & out. She will be so missed!

Jann & Jerry Broyles
Charlene Van Gorp

Jann Broyles - January 29, 2020 at 04:33 PM



“ 6 files added to the album Life Tributes



Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory - January 29, 2020 at 04:27 PM

LA

“ Lou Albers lit a candle in memory of Shirley J.
Wells



Lou Albers - January 29, 2020 at 03:42 PM

MS

“ So sorry for your loss.
Mary Stout

Mary R. Stout - January 29, 2020 at 02:11 PM

CV

“ *Cliff and Leilani Warwick VandeWall*



Cliff VandeWall - January 29, 2020 at 02:02 PM



“ *7 files added to the album Memories Album*



Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory - January 29, 2020 at 01:54 PM

KL

“ *Our love for this family runs deep. So many memories from Shirley and Vernie's high school days all the way to today. Our love and prayers go out to this very special family.*

*The family of Roy C. Ellis
Don and Mary Job family
Morgan and Ruth Kisor family*

Kathy Larsen - January 29, 2020 at 01:49 PM

BA

My sympathy to you all. Becke Arnold

Becke Arnold - January 29, 2020 at 03:49 PM