



Shirley Batten Parrish

May 16, 2023

Shirley Batten Parrish, age 88, peacefully entered into the arms of Jesus on May 16, 2023 at her home in Portsmouth.

Shirley was the oldest of three daughters born to John Batten and Lucy Batten Raines in Johnston County, NC. She graduated from Selma High School on June 1, 1953 and went on to marry Billy Parrish on June 12, 1953. Shirley and Billy celebrated 66 loving years of marriage before his death in 2019. Together they had three children: Larry, Shirley Jean and Darlene.

Shirley was a faithful member of Highland Baptist Church for 60 years! You didn't have to be around Shirley long to know her sweet, kind-hearted and gracious spirit. She delighted in gardening, flowers, country vegetables, cardinals and coupons.

Shirley was a bus driver for Portsmouth Public Schools for 28 years before retiring in 1997 to care for the first of her grandchildren, Courtney. Seven years later, her only grandson Dylan was born. And just as he was entering preschool, the baby granddaughter Kendall was born. Shirley enjoyed being a part of their lives. She loved them, cared for them and was a major part in their up-bringing.

Shirley was predeceased by her parents, her husband Billy, five brothers-in-

law: Douglas Parrish, Lebert Parrish, Tink Parrish, Donald Jones and Marshall Holloman; two sisters-in-law: Grace and Sue Parrish. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her but especially by her son, Larry Parrish and wife Linda; her daughter, Shirley Chetister and husband Harry; and her daughter, Darlene Tanner and her husband Jack; her grandchildren Courtney Chetister, Dylan and Kendall Tanner; her sisters, Dorothy Holloman and Janet "Rose" Jones; her sister-in-law Hersey Mae Parrish. She was sweet "Aunt Shirley" to Gary Parrish (Connie), Brenda Placenti (Joey), Johnny Parrish (Susan), Thomas Parrish (Tina), Bobby Holloman (Debbie), Ricky Holloman (Jonah), John "Worth" Jones, Janet Tucker (Norman), Christi Brubaker and many great and great-great nieces and nephews. Her Pastor Kevin Wilson (Robin), Highland Baptist Church family, Highland Park neighbors (Garfield, Carol, Dawn, Connie) and special family friends: Edna Whitt, David and Linda Mason, Bob Hollister, Chris Heilman, Nancy Ward, Gail Raynor, Ellen Tucker, Ruby Kelly, Mindy Thevenin, Temple Baptist Church Sunshine Club members, Jerry and Joy Greco and Pastor Watson Morgan.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Krishnagiri, Churchland Internal Medicine staff and Sentara Home Care staff for the exceptional care they provided Shirley.

A funeral service will be held at Loving Funeral Home on Saturday, May 20, 2023, at 2 pm with visitation one hour prior. Pastor Kevin Wilson and Pastor Watson Morgan are conducting the service. A private burial will take place at a later time.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 20. 1:00 PM (ET)

Loving Funeral Home Churchland Chapel
3225 Academy Ave
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Celebration of Life

MAY 20. 2:00 PM (ET)

Loving Funeral Home Churchland Chapel
3225 Academy Ave
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Tribute Wall

BR

“ *BrendaPlacentiGaryParrish&Fami planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shirley Batten Parrish.*

BrendaPlacentiGaryParrish&Fami - May 22, 2023 at 12:15 PM

RW

“ *Shirley has been a wonderful friend, church member and neighbor. One of the sweetest people I have ever known.*

ROBIN SUE WILSON - May 22, 2023 at 11:46 AM

JB

“ *Shirley was one of my dearest lifelong friends. We have been friends for over 60 years. I'll miss our phone conversations where we reminisce about being newlyweds together and driving the school bus. We had lots of laughs and I love Shirley and will miss her dearly, love Jackie*

Jacqueline Boggs - May 21, 2023 at 10:45 AM

CL

“ *I knew Billy and Shirley from Highland Baptist, where my son and I have been attending for 11 years. They're such lovely and godly people! I feel privileged to have known them, and their family members are in my thoughts and prayers.*

Cindy Leary - May 20, 2023 at 12:27 AM

BS

“ Shirley and her family were my neighbor for about 20 years. Our daughters were good friends. They were the sweetest family. Rest in Heaven now with Billy.
Betty Satterfield

Betty Satterfield - May 19, 2023 at 08:24 PM

CB

“ I met Shirley and her husband years ago, when I was a supervisor at Portsmouth Shipyard. Larry Parrish, her son worked with me and I must say he was a great gift, great person to the Department. He worked all the time. Larry often told me stories about his family and wife. All great stories. I am sorry for your loss, but she is enjoying Jesus now, and all family members that went before her. RIP
Shirley

Love,

Carolyn Burton

Carolyn Burton - May 19, 2023 at 06:26 PM

CP

“ Our hearts and prayers are with you all in the passing of your sweet Mom. Aunt Shirley was so loved by so many and none more than Gary Wayne. He loved calling her in the mornings and checking on her and if she needed anything. I know it was a joyous and loving reunion in heaven when Uncle Billy met her at heaven's gate. We wish we could be there with you all but Gary is doing much better here in Florida and we take every day as a blessing. Love to everyone, Gary, Connie and family.

CONNIE R PARRISH - May 19, 2023 at 04:47 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Shirley Batten Parrish.*



May 19, 2023 at 12:42 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Shirley Batten Parrish.*



May 19, 2023 at 10:45 AM