



Cynthia Ann/Shirk Meek

November 2, 2024

This is the story of an amazing woman by the name of Cynthia Ann/Shirk Meek. She was a wonderful daughter, sister, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, citizen, and friend to all who knew her. She passed from this world on Saturday, Nov 2, 2024. Cynthia was unbelievably loved and although she is gone, those who loved her know that she led an incredible life while she was here and she is already dearly missed.

Her story begins on January 24, 1933 in New Castle, Indiana where she lived with her parents, the late J. Bernard Shirk and Harriet Faye Shirk, and her younger brother, Joe. She grew up in New Castle, attended and graduated from New Castle High School, which was where she met Stan when he asked to take her to a school dance. She then went on to IU for college, although she did attend 1 semester at Purdue and was the family outlier in a sea of Purdue graduates. In college, she joined the Tri Delta sorority and majored in business and journalism, despite the fact that several professors told her that women shouldn't be taking math or business courses. She refused to listen to them even when it meant she was the only woman in several of her classes.

On December 27, 1952, she married the love of her life, the late Stanley Meek. They were married for over 54 years and worked together in the family business, Meek Florist, which they ran and owned until their retirement in 1995. While riding horses was not her preferred activity, it never stopped her

from being the most supportive mother. From making show clothes for her daughters to holding and even hauling horses when necessary, she was still always involved. She even regularly attended her granddaughters' horse shows once the family hobby was passed down. She was a longtime member of Henry County Saddle Club and held several leadership positions over the years.

Surviving are her loving brother Joseph B Shirk (Rosemarie) of Pittsburgh, PA and children, Dr. Lisa Meek (Michael Warren) of Noblesville, IN, Lynn Meek Loeb (Keith) of Rochester Hills, MI and Laura Rauh (David) of Carmel, IN. She also leaves behind six grandchildren; Heather Greiert (Kyle) of Phoenix, AZ, Craig Loeb (Dr. Katie Marchetti) of Pittsburgh, PA, Amelia Warren of Indianapolis, IN, Megan Rauh of Westfield, IN, Jacob Rauh and Joshua Rauh, of Carmel, IN and three step-grandchildren, Kess Warren (London, OH) and his children Aja Holmes, Jacob Warren, Mazzy Muncy and D. Kess Warren, Chet Warren (Cindy) and their children Charlie, Elijah, and John of Brownsburg, IN and Abraham Warren of St. Petersburg, FL; three great-grandchildren Lincoln and Declan Greiert, and Owen Loeb.

Graveside Services will be held for the family at Elkhorn Cemetery, Richmond, IN.

As Cynthia and Stan were lifelong florists, to honor their memory, please give flowers to someone you love.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Sproles Family Funeral Home. You may send the family a personal condolence at www.sprolesfamilycares.com.

The Sproles family and staff are honored to serve the family of Cynthia

Ann/Shirk Meek.

Cemetery Details

Elkhorn Cemetery

5362 Esteb Rd
Richmond, IN 47374

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Remembering Cynthia*



Helen Steussy - November 23, 2024 at 08:04 AM

JE

“ We are sorry and deeply saddened by your family’s tremendous loss. Please know each of you is being held close in thought and prayer during this painfully difficult time. We are sending our heartfelt condolences and many hugs for all.



Jay Ard & Debra Jo Endres-Ard - November 17, 2024 at 09:06 PM



“ *Basket of Memories* was purchased for the family of Cynthia Ann/Shirk Meek.



November 06, 2024 at 05:56 PM

BP

“ *Bill and Loujean Pendergraft lit a candle in memory of Cynthia Meek*



Bill and Loujean Pendergraft - November 05, 2024 at 07:35 PM

JS

“ Cynthia Shirk Meek
My Big Sister
(1933-2024)

Think about a beautiful tree growing in the front yard at 1229 Southern Avenue, New Castle, Indiana. Then seven years later, another tree is planted close by. As each tree grows over the years and becomes larger, they eventually become closer and closer - almost touching - they almost become as one. This describes my relationship with my big sister, Cynthia, as the years passed by.

I was the little brother Cynthia had to contend with. We were dropped off at church on Sunday mornings and each went to our assigned Sunday School in church. After church, Cynthia went to Denton's Drug Store to meet up with her friends. Naturally I followed at a distance and wandered around the store while she chatted with her friends. When she walked back home after having Cokes with friends, I walked behind her, frequently stepping on the back of her heels.

I recall her getting even with me when she had her girlfriends over - they pinned me down on the living room floor tickling me and they all kissed me all over my face with their newly applied bright red lipstick leaving marks all over my face. I was so embarrassed!

Her accomplishments were always held up to me: "Cynthia got straight A's", "Cynthia was on the school newspaper staff", "Cynthia was in the Honor Society", Cynthia was first chair violin in the High School Orchestra while in Junior High, etc, etc, and so on. No wonder she did so much more, I found out that they had changed the school year ending date, and she had gone to High School for four and a half years.

As time went by, she dated and then married Stanley Meek, to me, a giant of a man. To spy on them, I ran a hose from my bed to the

glider couch that they would be sitting in order to listen in. I held the hose up to my ear to listen in and I hear a strange gurgling noise. Stan has poured water in the hose and blew hard - I was soaked! Nothing got by Stan!

After they were married, I used to visit their first home on Crescent Drive. I recall a crazy dog named Freddie, a Hamster Hotel with dozens of hamsters and a adorable baby girl. I helped Stan build a large retaining wall by the garage.

Later they moved to the "country" and built a home in the woods, and erected a large barn for the horses. They became very active in the local saddle club - although Cynthia did not actively ride, she became an active member of the club and contributed to the clubs success. I recall their horse, Moe", he would stand near the house so he could be seen from the window. He would let them know when he wanted to be fed.

As the years went on and I moved away to Texas, then to Indianapolis, Chicago and Pittsburgh, we became closer as we lived further apart. She and Stan raised three beautiful daughters - all named with an "L" name: Lisa, Lynn & Laura. All Lovely, Likable and Lively, and like their mother, Loquacious.

Cynthia will forever be on my mind, I love her so much, I miss her.

Joe

Joseph B Shirk - November 05, 2024 at 02:04 PM

DD

“*Dear Lisa, Lynn, Laura and families: so sorry for your loss. Dianna (Lorton) Dalton*

Dianna Dalton - November 05, 2024 at 12:52 PM

SH

“ Sincere condolences to Joe and all of Cynthia’s family. Living next door to the Shirks, Cynthia was my first babysitter. Throughout the years it was always a pleasure to speak with her, usually long-distance phone. A grand lady, she was.

Stephen Himes - November 05, 2024 at 09:48 AM

SG

“ Barry and I loved this beautiful lady. She and Stan always shared their home with us every time we came to New Castle for the horse shows.
Cynthia, you will be missed.
To her family, sorry for your loss of an extraordinary lady.

Sandra Grimes - November 05, 2024 at 02:18 AM