



Shirlee Last

November 25, 1932 - January 14, 2021

Shirlee Mae Killpack Last, our beloved mother, grandmother and great grandmother passed away in her home surrounded by her children on January 14th. She is one of the many victims of the Coronavirus.

Shirlee was born in Ferron, Utah, the second child, to a local farmer/rancher, Alton Bradley Killpack, and Zina Mae Scott, a school teacher, on November 25, 1932. She lost her father due to appendicitis when she was 9 months old. She spent most of her young life in a coal mining town in the mountains of Carbon County. During the Depression it was the only teaching job available to her single mother.

After eighth grade, rather than take a 70 minute bus ride twice a day for school, Shirlee lived with her grandmother on the family farm outside of Provo to attend High School. She had a special relationship with her grandmother. She felt loved and important with her.

She graduated from Lincoln High School in Orem and moved on to BYU pursuing a teaching degree. Two years into her schooling a most fortunate thing for all of us occurred. Her older brother happened to be a bunkmate with a Garth Last during the Korean War. The brother had a photo of Shirlee in his wallet. The end result was a marriage in the Manti temple March 26, 1953.

Shirlee and Garth graduated from BYU in 1955. By then two children, Greg and Danna were born into the family. Shirlee taught fourth grade for 3 years while Garth was in medical school and until Brad was born.

Paula was born in Spokane, Washington where Garth completed his medical education.

After Garth's residency, he chose Hurricane to set up his practice. While this proved to be an ideal place for the family Shirlee was somewhat hesitant to move to this hot, dusty, rural area. However, characteristically she adapted to the community and quickly came to love the area and especially the people here. Becky, Ken and Ginnette were born here.

Shirlee loved all of the fine arts. She worked with other community members to bring cultural programs here. She took her children to most theatre productions at Dixie College - especially the musicals. She was an early supporter of the Shakespeare Festival and made sure her children had a chance to see the plays. Along the way she collected one of the foremost private art collections in the area. She was happy when she could talk about her various paintings, sculptures, and pottery.

Shirlee, through the years, had a number of significant church callings and civic commitments. She had a deep and abiding faith that she shared with friends and strangers alike through the years. Her children and grandchildren were always blessed with her confidence in things spiritual.

As a dedicated spouse to a busy country doctor and in an era before pagers and cell phones, she learned to calm worried patients when her husband was not immediately available.

With her passing many lost a trusted, kind, empathetic friend. Shirlee had an amazing ability to connect with people. She visited others extensively throughout her life. She enjoyed people from all walks of life, from governors

to the least politically connected, from saints to sinners, from the old to the young. She treated all with respect, kindness and was completely without prejudice. She saw the good in all. Many will miss the times when Shirlee would come by for an unscheduled visit, often with a friend or grandchild.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Garth, who died in 1993. A brother, Scott passed on in 2018 and a brother Dexter in 1970.

She is survived by a brother, Douglas (Sherry) Olsen, Casper, Wyoming and by her seven children: Greg (Patsy) Hurricane; Danna (Kelly) Esplin, Cedar City; Brad (Jan) Hurricane; Paula, Salt Lake City; Becky (Roger) McOmbler, Colleyville, Texas; Ken (Carolyn) Golden, Colorado; Ginette (Roger) MacDonald, Hurricane. She is also survived by two foster daughters: Karolyn Romero, Blanding, and LaVerne Bennett, Window Rock. She has 24 grandchildren and 30 great grandchildren.

The family would like to thank those who have sent cards and condolences. We especially thank her kind neighbors on Sycamore Lane and Pecan Avenue for their attentiveness toward our mother through the years.

Circumstances require a family only graveside service which will be held at 2:30 PM on Thursday, January 21st.

The family apologizes for the private service for we know that many have a special connection to our mother and would otherwise attend. We invite anyone to share any condolences or special memories of our mother at SerenityStG.com

Cemetery Details

Hurricane City Cemetery

200 E. 600 N.
Hurricane, UT 84737

Tribute Wall

JB

“ *Your mom and dad were wonderful. God bless you all.*

Jeri Bascom - February 13, 2021 at 03:59 PM

SH

“ *I have so many Childhood memories with Shirlee in them. From playing the piano so i could sing at church. To fixing a new shirt that ripped when I jumped from the swing. Just So I wouldn't get in trouble, And You all know trouble followed me around. What an amazing lady. She even talked me into trying out for a community play. Thanks for caring and being Like Christ in giving of yourself to other!!*

Sharon Ha - January 30, 2021 at 12:51 PM

CS

“ Dear Last Family,
The members of Uncle Hal's family wish to express our deepest sympathy on the loss of your mother and our cousin Shirley. We are so sorry we didn't hear of her passing sooner, so are late in our response.

She has been a big part of our lives and always welcomed us into her home. There are so many memories that will always be with us of great times spent together. She always kept us informed about Aunt Mae's family and let us know how they were doing, and all were accomplishing. It was a great comfort to us to know she would keep us in touch.

It is a deep hole in our lives but also a treasure trove of great memories.

We hope you find great comfort in those wonderful memories that she leaves with you.

Sincerely,

*Cam Scott
canbyscott@gmail.com*

Cam Scott - January 28, 2021 at 11:49 AM

FL

“ *Shirlee most be a Spectacular day in Heaven Thank you for all your kindness to my family acceptance . For hiring me as your house keeper All your beautiful stories Having my baby boy Luke on your advertisement for your new company. The many hours you spent encouraging me. Always taking time for my children. Good memories of you Shirlee love you sweet lady.*

Florence - January 23, 2021 at 09:50 PM

LR

“ I am truly saddened hearing of this. My sincere condolences to the family. I had the privilege of working for Southern Utah Home care, and I was hired by Shirlee. What a beautiful lady. I was present in many homes providing care when Shirlee would pay the unexpected visit. She had a way with people and everyone loved her.

Lisa Ross - January 23, 2021 at 11:05 AM

SK

“ Danna, Greg, Carson, and family, I'm privileged to have known this lovely woman who, with Garth were (Are) dear friends of my parents, Hal and Bonnie Goodrich. Danna, Carson, Greg I love you all, and so does Matthew! Heaven just became overflowing with grace.

Love Rob and Sheree Keller

Sheree Keller - January 22, 2021 at 06:11 PM

AF

“ I had the opportunity of working for the home health company that the Last's started in St. George. At one time Shirlee worked for the company and that is where I got to know her. She always brought a smile and laughter to the office with her. She will be missed by all who knew her. Alice Franks

Alice Fanks - January 22, 2021 at 01:16 PM

SS

“ I can't think of a time when I didn't see Shirlee with a smile. My condolences go out to the Last family. It is never easy to lose your mother at any stage of life. Shirlee was a bug asset to Hurricane. The kindness she showed me will always be remembered. What a wonderful lady!
Stan Smith

Stan Smith - January 21, 2021 at 09:09 AM

RM

To me Shirlee was the perfect blend of "on your toes" wit and loving compassion. Brad introduced his Mother to me probably 20 years ago and I became her investment advisor, a relationship I cherished as she made it clear early on, "If you lose my money, I will be moving in with you". The older I have become the more I value people for their entertainment value and Shirlee never disappointed. When I visited her @ home she would speak fondly of her children and grandchildren in the same glowing words as her art collection. Every child wears the characteristics of their parents and what I know of the Last progeny is that you rock your inner Garth and Shirley. Keep up the good work it is the finest tribute you can pay your parents.

My Mother also sends her condolences. Mom was an accountant @ the School District Office during the time your Dad was on the school board and got to know both of them. Best wishes to all of you, Rick and Maurine Miles

Richard Miles - January 21, 2021 at 11:24 PM

LP

“ Shirley was just a jewel! Whenever we came to southern Utah to visit family, which included Patsy and Greg's family, Shirley was near and was such a wonderful person to visit with. She was so generous and kind! I always enjoyed visiting with her and learning what she was doing, especially her family history work. I am sure she and Garth are celebrating being together again and great plans are being made to serve together on the "other side". What a wonderful example of love and charity she has been to so many! Love and thoughts are being sent to all her children, grandchildren, and greats. Sincerely,
Laurel Lee Pedersen, Patsy's aunt

Laurel Lee Pedersen - January 21, 2021 at 06:09 AM

JS

“ I truly loved her. Whenever I saw her she always acted concerned for my welfare . She loved everyone and we all loved her. She will be missed.

Joyce Gifford Spencer - January 20, 2021 at 05:57 PM

JN

“ So sorry for your loss.my family is sending condolences to your family at this time for comfort and peace for your family .love the noorlander and halladay family's.

Johanna noorlander - January 20, 2021 at 12:40 PM

JS

“ Sister Last was an elect lady. Shirlee, Doctor Last and the entire Last family left a lasting impact and legacy of good that have touched the lives of some many. God be with and bless you always.

Jared Stucki - January 20, 2021 at 10:42 AM

WJ

“ I TRULY don't know where to even start. Garth & Shirlee will ALWAYS have such a "SPECIAL SPOT in MY HEART" The 5th Ward gave me & my siblings a "SPECIAL FAMILY" when I was 12-13(I can't remember the exact age) and I was TRULY BLESSED with My SPECIAL family being the Last's💕 They would ALWAYS go ABOVE & BEYOND to make sure that I ALWAYS knew how much they CARED for and about Me💕 When I was expecting my 1st Child Shirlee opened her Beautiful home(Backyard) for My family & many friends for My baby shower💕 She and or Garth would try to do something SPECIAL for me at least twice a month💕 Garth & Shirlee taught me how to L♥VE without Judgement and to L♥VE without Conditions💕 I'm F♥REVER GRATEFUL to and for GARTH & SHIRLEE💕 I'm so HAPPY You & Your L♥VE are REUNITED💕 THANK Y♥U BEAUTIFUL Shirlee for L♥VING me Unconditionally💕 Until We Meet Again💕 PRAYERS being said & sent to YOUR AMAZING CHILDREN for COMFORT & STRENGTH💕

ALL OF MY L♥VE,
💕Wendy Harris Jones💕

Wendy Jones - January 20, 2021 at 04:43 AM

LA

“ I was truly saddened to hear this. I was just telling my son I wanted to make a trip to Hurricane and see friends after the pandemic. I was a neighbor to Garth and Shirlee for almost 15 years. She and I went on a church tour to Nauvoo one summer. Shirley was such a special lady! I will always treasure my friendship with her. Gone but certainly never forgotten. We will meet again my dear friend.

Linda and (Jimmy, deceased) Anderson - January 19, 2021 at 06:32 PM