



Shirley A. Lee

November 13, 1934 - May 3, 2022

Surrounded by her loving family, Shirley A. Lee (née Stokes) of Newark, Delaware peacefully passed away at home on May 3, 2022. She was born in Marshallton, Delaware on November 13, 1934, to the late Hugh Stokes and Bessie (Roberts) Stokes. She attended Absalom Jones Elementary School in Belvedere, Delaware and was a proud graduate of Howard High School, class of 1953. Shirley served in the Delaware Army National Guard and lived her entire life in the state of Delaware.

Understanding the importance of being gainfully employed, Shirley entered the workforce while in high school and participated in Howard's co-op program. After high school, she was employed at John Wanamaker Department Store where she worked several sundry jobs until she decided to pursue a career in childcare. It was a career that she not only loved, but she also excelled in. Shirley founded, owned, and operated the Lee Day Care for more than 30 years and mentored other individuals to become owners and operators of their own day care establishments. Throughout the years, Shirley received numerous commendations, but the one she was most proud of was the Governor's Award for Childcare. Through dedication and loving commitment to children, the Lee Day Care established a strong educational foundation for all its students, which led many of them to pursue professional careers as lawyers, doctors, nurses, ministers, and educators.

Shirley was a devout Christian who loved to read the Bible. She was active in many church activities, but her greatest love was singing in the choir. Other church activities included working in the Neighborhood House, Vacation Bible School, and the Dupont Park Church Love Feast Ministry. Nurturing was part of her nature, so she always took the time to comfort and counsel a hurting person. She would comfort others with the Word and with her delicious food. She loved to cook and was an outstanding one. She collected hundreds of magazines for the purpose of gathering recipes; however, she was a natural in the kitchen, and her family was blessed by her culinary talents. Shirley loved family gatherings and would use any excuse to celebrate. Spending quality time with her family was a priority. She coordinated yearly vacations to Williamsburg, Virginia and to the Outer Banks in North Carolina, where the fun never stopped. Games, water guns, cooking, beach time, and shopping filled up the family's vacation hours.

Shirley was the last of her exceptionally large family to pass. She took immense pride in each family member's accomplishments. Shirley was predeceased by her parents, Hugh O. and Bessie Stokes-Reason and stepfather Clarence Reason; sisters, Freida Harris and Joyce Bungy; brothers, Hugh (Hughie), Olen, Donald, Lorrain (Rainey), Leonard, LaRue (Rudy), and William; and a beloved grandson, Lewis L. Lee IV. In addition, all her dear aunts, uncles, and several close cousins predeceased her.

She leaves to celebrate her life, Lewis L. Lee, Jr., her husband of more than 65 years; two sons, Lewis L. III of Newark, Delaware and David (Yanet) of Neptune, New Jersey; two daughters, Karen Miller (Daniel) of Newark, Delaware, and Donna Ellis (Michael) of Vancouver, Washington. She was the proud grandmother to grandsons, Kenneth Myers (Samantha) of Nutley, New Jersey, and Alejandro Lee of Neptune, New Jersey; and granddaughters, Jennifer Myers of South Hadley, Massachusetts, and Alyssa Tanner (Maxwell) of Vancouver, Washington; one great-grandson, Dean Myers of Nutley, New

Jersey; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws, and friends.

A visitation will be held Wednesday, May 18, 2022, from 9:30-11 AM at Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home, 635 Churchmans Rd., Newark, DE 19702 followed by a service in celebration of Shirley's life at 11 AM. Burial will follow in Gracelawn Memorial Park. For directions or to send an online condolence visit www.stranofeeley.com

Cemetery Details

Gracelawn Memorial Park

2220 N. DuPont Highway
New Castle, DE

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 18. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home
635 Churchmans Rd
Newark, DE 19702
(302) 731-5459
info@stranofeeley.com

Celebration of Life

MAY 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home
635 Churchmans Rd
Newark, DE 19702
(302) 731-5459
info@stranofeeley.com

Burial

MAY 18. 12:30 PM (ET)

Gracelawn Memorial Park
2220 N. DuPont Highway
New Castle, DE

Tribute Wall

RC

“ *Ms. Lee was my daughter's daycare momma. She was awesome and wish I had found her earlier for my son. RIP Sweet Lady and thanks for being you. Robin Campbell*

Robin Campbell - May 23, 2022 at 03:35 PM

TR

“ *The Bakers Darlene and Robert purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Shirley A. Lee.*



The Bakers Darlene and Robert - May 18, 2022 at 10:14 PM

PS

“ *It wasn't a family gathering until aunt Shirley showed up! She had a sense of humor that put a smile on the face of anyone in earshot. Her distinctive voice made you want to stop and hear her words of wisdom no matter where you were.
Rest in love aunt Shirley.*



Paul Stokes - May 18, 2022 at 05:08 PM

VT

“ I was saddened to hear of the passing of Mrs. Lee. She was a beautiful person as was the family . My son Butchie Ingram loved her very much. She was his first daycare. Thank you all for your kindness and love to our family. God has her now. She will always be remembered. Love and prayers always.

Veronica Ingram Tucker

Veronica Ingram Tucker - May 18, 2022 at 03:42 PM

MW

“ Dear Brother Lee and family, we are so sorry about the loss of your dear wife and loved one. She was such a wonderful and exceptional person. She was always loving and a joy to be around. We will all miss her loving, smiling face. Please know you are and will remain in our hearts and prayers. Lovingly submitted, Mary and Curtis Wright

Mary Wright - May 18, 2022 at 11:27 AM

CB

“ This news is so very sad. I grew up with this family as I attended Lee daycare from being a small child, to working for Mrs. Lee as a pre-teen. She has always held a spot in my heart and always will. I am so sorry for this family's loss as I know how important she is to all of us.

Christina Bird - May 18, 2022 at 08:25 AM

VL

“ To the Lee family,so sorry for your loss,Shirley was a wonderful person loved her funny stories and her good food.Love to all.Ginnie and Elmo and family..

Virginia Lebron - May 17, 2022 at 02:40 PM

PK

“ Pat & Bill Kreer purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Shirley A. Lee.



Pat & Bill Kreer - May 16, 2022 at 10:14 PM

DS

“ My condolences to the entire Lee family. Mrs. Lee, you are going to be missed for a long time. You always made me feel like a part of your family. May you find peace and love in the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Dalton Shackleton - May 16, 2022 at 07:54 AM

RD

My condolences to the entire family.

Ramona Phillips (Rose & Jesse daughter's - May 16, 2022 at 04:44 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Shirley A. Lee.



May 16, 2022 at 12:41 AM

MC

“ To The Lee Family,

The Roberts & Cole Families Wish To Express Our Condolences To You For Mrs. Shirley. We have fond memories of visiting with you growing up. Mrs. Shirley was a loving & kind woman and We know she will be missed greatly! She was my mom's Best Friend and Mom always talked about their times growing up. Mom will be right there in Heaven waiting for her friend!

Lean On God At This Time, He Will See You Through, We Know Because God Carried Us It's Been 48 Years Since We Lost Mom. The Love & Memories Last Forever!



Mabel Cole - May 15, 2022 at 08:13 AM

MC

“ Mabel Cole lit a candle in memory of Shirley A. Lee



Mabel Cole - May 15, 2022 at 08:04 AM

MB

“ Michael Bongiorno purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Shirley A. Lee.



Michael Bongiorno - May 14, 2022 at 04:50 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Shirley A. Lee.*



May 14, 2022 at 03:32 PM



“ *Sis. Shirley Lee was a beautiful person—inside and outside! She was a true Christian lady, who loved others as Christ taught us to love. She was a joy to be around. I am happy my life was blessed and enriched by knowing and interacting with Shirley Lee. I pray that her mansion will be next door to mine!*

Joanne McKinney Campbell - May 14, 2022 at 01:57 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Shirley A. Lee.*



May 14, 2022 at 01:19 PM



“ *Mom, I'm thinking of you today. I have joy knowing you are at peace and that you are pain free. Love you.*



Karen Miller - May 14, 2022 at 11:39 AM

SS

“ *Samantha Stopyra lit a candle in memory of Shirley A. Lee*



Samantha Stopyra - May 13, 2022 at 11:40 AM

LS

“ *Linda Stevens lit a candle in memory of Shirley A. Lee*



Linda Stevens - May 12, 2022 at 12:30 PM

TA

“ *Tiffany Anderson lit a candle in memory of Shirley A. Lee*



Tiffany Anderson - May 09, 2022 at 07:23 PM

TS

“ THERE IS NEVER A GOOD TIME TO SAY GOODBY. THE BEST ABOUT THIS GOODBY IS AUNT SHIRLEY IS GETTING A LONG AWAITED REST. ONLY TO JOIN CHRIST JESUS WHEN HE RETURNS. ALL THE PRECIOUS MEMORIES MY AUNTEE LEFT ME WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. HER INFECTIOUS SMILE AND KNACK FOR TELLING AN HILARIOUS JOKE. REST ON AUNT SHIRLEY. JESUS IS COMING SOON.



TYREA SAMUELS - May 09, 2022 at 12:10 PM

SS

“ Dear Uncle Lewis, Lee, Karen, Donna and David,
My deepest condolences at the passing of your beautiful wife and mother and my lovely Aunt. I only have fond memories of my dear Aunt Shirley that always brings a smile and laughter to my heart. She was my mother's last living sister. May they both rest in God's eternal peace. We all know that she loved Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior, so we do not grieve as those who have no hope. If we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so those who sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. (1 Thess. 4:13-18). May that thought bring comfort to your hearts and May the Holy Spirit comfort and strengthen you during this difficult time. I love you and you're in my thoughts and prayers.
Love & Blessings,
Sharon R. Surratte

Sharon R. Surratte - May 08, 2022 at 07:51 PM

ES

“ *E. D. Stokes lit a candle in memory of Shirley
A. Lee*



E. D. Stokes - May 08, 2022 at 04:38 PM