



Shirley Bennett

July 3, 1947 - December 22, 2016

Mineral Point - Shirley Bennett, age 69, of Mineral Point, passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 22, surrounded by her family. She was born on July 3, 1947 in Lancaster to Leo and June (Reed) Hahn, and was the eldest of six children. After graduating Lancaster High School in 1965, she was given two choices: to become a teacher or a nurse. She chose the latter and attended St. Mary's School of Nursing in Madison, graduating in 1968. It was while living in Madison that she met her future husband, Don Bennett, on a blind date. Shirley and Don were married on April 19, 1969 and were blessed with three children, Stephanie, Todd and Scott.

Anyone who knew Shirley knew that she was put on this earth to help others. She spent most of her nursing career, over 43 years, at Upland Hills Health in Dodgeville, working in Med/Surg, the OR and the ER. She was a caring and compassionate face to those who were sick or worried, and a fierce patient advocate for those whose voices may not have always been heard. It was through her commitment to her patients that she helped create a new position, Surgical Education Coordinator, which she held for several years before retiring in 2011. Even upon retirement, Shirley was still very active in her nursing duties and helped to establish the first Parish Nurse program at St. Mary's-St. Paul's Catholic Church in Mineral Point. She was also an active member of the St. Mary's School of Nursing Alumni Board.

Shirley enjoyed crocheting and reading, and made the best pasty chili sauce ever, even though she had never heard of pasty until she moved to Mineral Point. Shirley also had a knack for shopping and always seemed to pick out the perfect gift for others.

Shirley and Don were able to enjoy several trips during her first few years of retirement, with a trip to Sedona, AZ being one of her favorites. She also enjoyed many "sister" trips with her siblings, with the last one taking them to Seattle this past summer to spend time with their cousins.

Shirley is loved and will be greatly missed by her husband of 47 years, Don, their children, Stephanie (Scott) Brokopp of Dodgeville, Todd (Shanon) Bennett of New Hartford, IA and Scott Bennett of Madison; her grandchildren Cade, Jadyn & Ty Bennett and Quincy & Eli Brokopp. She is further survived by her sisters and brother: Jeanne Kohlbeck of Wausau, Patricia (Rich) Bugalski of Dubuque, IA, Mike (Linda) Hahn of Lancaster, Mary Jo (Kevin) Roesch of Potosi and Barb (Bob) Arnold of Stoughton, along with many nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents, Leo & June Hahn, her niece, Sarah Andraski, her father-in-law and mother-in-law, Dick & Margaret Bennett, and her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, David & Karen Bennett.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, December 29, at 11:00 a.m. at Ss. MARY & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH in Mineral Point, with Fr. Jim Leeser officiating. Friends may call from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 28 at Ss. MARY & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH and from 10:00 a.m. until time of services on Thursday also at the church. A private burial will take place at a later date. All are invited to help celebrate Shirley with a meal after the service, to be held at the Catholic Center next to the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials to be used towards charities of Shirley's choice,

as well as establishing a scholarship fund for students pursuing a nursing degree, would be appreciated.

The family would like to thank the many people that have played an instrumental role in Shirley's life these past few years: Dr. Everett & Pat Lindsey, Dr. Gordon Grieshaber, Dr. Kent Kramer, Dr. Liu and the 6th floor Oncology staff at UW Hospital, Dr. Sarah Moore at St. Mary's, Dr. Michelle Mackay and the staff at Turville Bay, and last but certainly not least, the nursing staff at Upland Hills Health that showed Shirley and her family incredible care and compassion.

Tribute Wall



“ Shirley Bennett

November 15, 2022 at 06:49 AM



“ Shirley was a dear friend growing up and all through our adult lives. I will miss her.

Jenny Ritland - April 28, 2018 at 01:30 AM



“ Sorry for your loss, I respected Shirley so much, I learned much knowledge from her. I worked at the clinic not at hospital to just tell you how influential she was with my nursing career even though didn't work directly with her. I will only smile when I think of her.

Jackie Austin - April 28, 2018 at 01:30 AM



“ I think was a great pleasure to know Shirleys and work with her at the hospital. I have been there for over 23years total. I have known the family ever since I met my husband Dale, 25 years ago. My daughters went to school with Scott, (the McKenzie girls). I still have the glass dove, bird of paradise, Shirleys gave us at our wedding 20 years ago. Very nice to meet all the sisters and share the love your whole family shares. It was an honor to be there when she passed. God Bless each of you, your all a gift. My sympathy, Kim Schmitz.

Kimberly Schmitz - April 28, 2018 at 01:30 AM



“ So sorry to hear of your loss. Your family has my sympathy.

Doug Wayne - April 28, 2018 at 01:30 AM

BR

“ *Always a Friend. Thinking of you & your Family. Till we meet again.*

BARB REWEY - April 28, 2018 at 01:30 AM

CN

“ *My heartfelt sympathy goes out to all of the family and prayers are with you as you complete Shirley's celebration of life. I worked with Shirley for many years at Upland Hills Hospital. She was a most caring, compassionate and professional nurse. A role model for all of us; a co-worker that you could always count on. She was a true advocate for the patient, always putting their needs first and foremost. One of her many roles was mentoring students from SWTC. She provided gentle guidance, support, and words of wisdom that students praised her for. Heaven has gained another angel - we have the memories of love, friendship and blessings of a well-lived life.*

Carol Needham - April 28, 2018 at 01:30 AM

SM

“ *I feel so incredibly fortunate to have known Shirley. She cared so deeply about others. She was so very touched by the kindness and wonderful care she received from her husband. She loved her children and grandchildren tremendously and spoke of them often. All who knew her were touched by her generous and loving spirit. My thoughts, prayers, and love are with her family and friends.*

Sarah Moore - April 28, 2018 at 01:30 AM

LH

“ My most sincere sympathies go to all of Shirley's family and to her many close friends. Shirley touched my life in many ways during the 25 years we worked together at Upland Hills Health. I cherish the many conversations I had with Shirley about family, Nursing, and anything else that may have been happening in the world. She was a positive influence to me and to dozens of Nurses throughout her life, both new and veteran. She had a remarkably keen insight into the patient and their needs, not only physical, but emotional and spiritual as well. She worked tirelessly to ensure all these needs were addressed. I am saddened that Shirley did not have more time on this earth to enjoy more time with the family she cherished, but I know that she will be forever watching over them, especially the grandchildren that she so loved. Thank you Shirley for your caring influence that will continue to live on in so many. A true legacy for such a great Nurse!

Lynn Hebgen - April 28, 2018 at 01:30 AM

PC

“ Hello, So sorry for your loss. Shirley was one of kind and was always kind to everyone. She will be missed. Paula Carrington

Paula Carrington - April 28, 2018 at 01:30 AM