



Shirley Mae Poe

February 17, 1936 - January 9, 2026

Shirley M. Poe, born February 17, 1936, passed peacefully on January 9, 2026, on the eve of her 90th birthday. Her daughter Judy, and grandchildren Sarah and Zachary were with her.

Shirley's early years were spent with her parents, Fred and Marie Smith, and her sister Margie in Pennington Gap, Virginia. Shirley graduated from Pennington High School in 1953. She soon married and relocated to Monroe, Michigan, where son Gary was born in 1956. A year later she moved to Columbus, Ohio, where her daughters Judy (1958) and Jacqueline (1968) were born.

In 1974, Shirley went to work at Riverside Hospital in Columbus, as an office assistant in one of Ohio's largest radiology groups. She continued there until retirement in 2000 and soon became reacquainted with a beau from high school, Daniel Poe of Jonesville, Virginia. Shirley and Daniel made a home in Jonesville, beginning in October 2001, until Daniel's death in April 2007. Shirley continued to live happily in Jonesville, near where she graduated from high school, for the rest of her life. Lee County is where she always wished to be.

Shirley was a voracious reader with more than 1,000 titles on her Kindle. She loved poetry and the visual arts. She was an accomplished painter and cross-

stitcher. Among her papers was a more than seventy-year-old exegesis of Thomas Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard." And she could be heard endlessly reading poetry to her children when they were growing up, especially Longfellow's "Paul Revere's Ride" and "The Song of Hiawatha," which she recited from memory, along with "Christmas, Don't Be Late," by Alvin and the Chipmunks.

Shirley was deeply loved. She is survived by, in addition to her eldest two children, her beloved brother-in-law, Lester, her grandchildren, Heather, Lindsay, Sarah, Jordan, John, Jake, Jack, and Zachary, and by ten grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Her life was a rich tapestry full of loving highlights and a deep belief in God, for all of which she was ever grateful.

Her Memorial Service will be held at Lee Memorial Gardens in Pennington Gap, Virginia on May 9, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

Cemetery Details

Lee Memorial Gardens

1986 Hickory Cir Rd
Pennington Gap, VA 24277
(276) 546-2523

Previous Events

Graveside service

MAY 9. 11:00 AM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

JB

“ I got acquainted with Shirley when she came into the post office where I work. We became instant friends through our love of books and reading. She introduced me to several new authors for me to read books by. We always enjoyed sharing our thoughts on books we had each read; plus other talk of crafts, etc. She was a very special lady that I will miss! Prayers for her family! Joyce Baker

Joyce Baker - May 05 at 05:19 PM

JW

Books were Mom's language. She instilled a love for books/reading in all of us. Thank you for sharing, Joyce.
Judy-Daughter

Judy Wilson - May 06 at 08:41 AM