



Shelby Ann Shell

September 18, 1936 - September 3, 2020

Shelby Ann (nee Mouser) Shell was born in Marquand, Missouri on September 18, 1936 and was called away to her Heavenly home on September 3, 2020 at the age of 83.

Shelby had a love for teaching, having spent her professional career teaching overseas in Germany, several years at various schools in Southeast Missouri, and the majority of her time spent at Cape Junior High School in Cape Girardeau, Missouri teaching Algebra. After having graduated from Marquand-Zion High School, she earned her teaching degree from Southeast Missouri State University, and later earned her Masters Degree.

On October 26, 1957 at Mt. View Mission Church in Marquand, Missouri, she was united in marriage to the love of her life, Benny Lee Shell. Benny and Shelby loved traveling the world and experiencing various cultures from the far reaches of six continents.

Shelby was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, Benny Lee Shell, mother and father, Elwood and Wanda Mouser, and sister, Alice Kay Mouser.

Survivors include her son, Loren Shell of Cape Girardeau, Missouri; daughter, Laura Shell of Las Vegas, Nevada; sisters, Linda (Bill) Ross of Fenton, Missouri and Dee Vitt of Glendale, Missouri; and many loving nieces and

nephews and great-nieces and great nephews.

In recent years, she devoted incredible time and effort as curator of The Depot Museum in her home town of Marquand, Missouri. Her love of the community and its wonderful inhabitants (past and present) is evident when touring the museum.

Shelby loved teaching, her students, traveling, had a unique zest for life, hosting and narrating trivia events, spending time with her family and music (playing piano and singing, having been a longtime faithful member and choir member of Centenary United Methodist Church in Cape Girardeau, Missouri).

She was an avid fan of the St.Louis Cardinals and enjoyed watching them play as often as possible.

The family is having a private graveside service at Mouser Cemetery in Marquand.

In lieu of flowers, donations are requested to the Mouser Cemetery Preservation Fund in Marquand, Missouri or Centenary Methodist Church in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Tribute Wall



“ I just learned today of Shelby's passing and I want to say how sorry I am. She brought my family and me to Cape Girardeau to host an annual trivia night at Centenary each year beginning in 2003. We will always remember her kindness, graciousness, and passion for missions. After each trivia night, we would talk about how welcoming she and her friends were. She will be missed.

John Brocato - November 28, 2020 at 05:50 PM



“ Laura, I'm so sorry to hear that your mother passed. She was a fantastic teacher, and such a sweet, patient lady. You are in my prayers. Pam

Pam Ogles - September 08, 2020 at 11:09 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Mrs. Shell's passing. She was an amazing Algebra teacher! May perpetual light shine upon her and give her peace.

Layna Kirchner - September 08, 2020 at 09:09 PM



“ Laura so sorry for your loss. Mrs. Shell was my 8th grade Algebra teacher. I met Laura when I was 19 at work, Ford Groves in Cape Girardeau. Laura invited me to go to Gatlinburg, TN and Mrs Shell actually drew us a map with major landmarks. We had a great time. She was a sweet kind soul who will be missed.

Holli Hess Jacobs - September 08, 2020 at 09:05 PM

WP

“ Laura, I'm so sorry for the passing of your mother. I remember your family fondly. Doug Powers

William Douglas Powers - September 08, 2020 at 08:35 PM

LB

“ Shelby was such a special caring and loving woman in our church. Singing in our choir and announcing the birthdays and anniversary dates etc at each choir practice. Years ago she taught at Fredericktown where I went to high school and I lived a year in Marquand. Loved Shelby- she will be sorely missed. Linda Metheny Belote

linda Belote - September 08, 2020 at 09:35 AM

BK

“ Loren and Laura, we were so sorry to hear about your mother's death. She was a wonderful next door neighbor and we have so many great memories. She was a powerhouse, always cheerful, and loved her yard and flowers. Her windows made so many smile. We were blessed to know her. Paul and Bonnie Kipper

Bonnie Kipper - September 08, 2020 at 09:14 AM

PS

“ Loren, I am so sorry for your families loss. Your mother was a cheerful positive teacher. I remember her fondly. When my daughter, Shelby Ann was born 30 years ago, your mother wrote a congratulations note to us on her birth. I always thought that was special. Your family is in my prayers.

Pamela Roth Saucier - September 08, 2020 at 07:55 AM

MM

“ We have so many fond memories of traveling with Shelby and Ben, especially attending the Passion Play and touring Germany with them. As we toured Berlin we very quickly learned that they knew more about the city than our tour guide. They lived behind the Berlin Wall in West Berlin while Ben was in the military. We learned that he spoke English only when at home and about the fear they felt when traveling by train during the night (the safest time) with two young children through Communist East Germany to West Germany to shop and visit friends. We loved hearing stories about their German neighbors, their apartment, etc.

Very few people have experienced the life that they and you two young children did during this time in our history.

We also toured the Holy Land and Egypt with them. Shelby's breakfast always consisted of hard rolls and fruit. I don't think she ever looked at anything else on the breakfast buffet.

The last day on the bus Shelby would read a lengthy poem that she had written about the people on our bus and the experiences we shared. What talent! She was truly an extremely gifted person.

The parties that they hosted for our Sunday school class with games, decorations and food were out of this world.

In 2017 we became neighbors on the third floor at Chateau Girardeau and that was another treat. She soon became involved here, organizing an Academy Night, a Trivia Night, writing thank you notes for our entertainers, speakers, etc here. She will truly be missed but not forgotten.

Ralph and Martha Maxton

Martha Maxton - September 07, 2020 at 08:44 PM

GF

“ I was so sorry to learn of the passing of Shelby. I spent many years at CJHS with Shelby and I have tons of memories. She was an excellent teacher always willing to go that extra mile, always ready to help with anything that needed doing and who can forget Wednesdays in the teachers lounge, you could count on Shelby to bring something homemade and delicious. Shelby hosted our faculty Christmas party several times and they were memorable. After we retired our monthly breakfasts were not to be missed but most of all I will just miss Shelby, she was one of of kind a very special lady. Love to you my friend.
Gretchen Fee

Gretchen Fee - September 07, 2020 at 01:58 PM

VH

*Such an intelligent, dear lady.
My condolences.*

Vera Huffman Hayman - September 07, 2020 at 03:36 PM

HR

“ Shelby was "always there". Whether it be her Museum, Clipper Sunday School Class, Centenary Church activities (too many to mention), Chateau programs & activities, and her many many friends, she was "always there".
A life so well lived, a true loss to all of us.

Harry Rediger

Harry Rediger - September 07, 2020 at 10:26 AM

DW

“ I honestly cannot remember a time when this lady didn't inspire me to be all I could be. With a smile and a handful of encouraging words, Shelby Mouser-Shell could command any audience. I consider myself privileged to have been a prodigy of her endeavors to preserve and maintain the rich history of our community. These photos remind me of just one of the many times Shelby rallied to the aide to do her part in celebrating the dedication of the new Veterans Memorial in our park. What an amazing lady and one of four incredible sisters, all of whom are near and dear to my heart. Love you Linda, Dee, Loren & Laura... my thoughts are with you today and always. ❤️



Denny Ward - September 06, 2020 at 10:23 PM

DB

“ When I was a young child I thought Shelby was the prettiest women I had ever seen. In my adult life I realized that she was as beautiful on the inside as she was on the outside. She was always giving of herself to others. She was a blessing to our community and she will be greatly missed.

Diane Braswell - September 06, 2020 at 05:39 PM

PB

“ *Dee, I will always remember Shelby's smile! Her enthusiasm and tireless work at the musuem have brought back wonderful memories and history of our community not only for those of us who grew up here but for our children and grandchildren as well! Her work at alumni events, trivia nights etc will be greatly missed! Our condolences to all of you.*

Phil and Oretha Brewster - September 06, 2020 at 04:53 PM