



Shirley Thomas

August 11, 2023

Shirley Thomas, 88, of Cape Girardeau, peacefully passed away, surrounded by her loving family and friends, on August 11, 2023, at her home in Cape Girardeau. She was born on January 19, 1935, in Cape Girardeau to James Eldon and Della Mae (Martin) Wright. Shirley's life was one of love, family, and dedication to her community.

On December 18, 1954, Shirley married Dick Thomas, and together they embraced the joys and challenges of raising two daughters. Shirley's legacy extends beyond her immediate family, as her skill and dedication as a seamstress for Lyn-Mil Drapery service left an indelible mark on countless homes and businesses throughout Cape Girardeau.

Beyond her work, Shirley enjoyed the simple pleasures of life. She and her husband were known for their graceful twirls on the dance floor, captivating all who watched. To the kids of Alma Schrader, they were affectionately known as the "Twirling Thomas's" on 50's day. Shirley's caring heart extended even further, as she became a regular blood donor at the American Red Cross. Over her lifetime, she donated an astounding 14 gallons of blood, giving selflessly to those in need with each visit.

Shirley's legacy lives on through her daughters, Gina (Cathy) Thomas of Cape Girardeau and Kelly (Dennis) Kern of New Hamburg, along with her

grandchildren Lindsay Kern & Eric Essner of Scott City, Alicia Kern & Luke Wilhite of Oran, and Thomas (Kristen) Kern of New Hamburg. She was also blessed with two great-granddaughters, Timber Raye Kern of New Hamburg and Aubrey Paige Wilhite of Oran, and her sister Phylis Conyers of Springfield, Missouri.

Shirley's heart was open to many, and she embraced bonus grandchildren with the same warmth. Savanna Amonds of Bonne Terre, Jerry Amonds (Chelsie) of Bonne Terre, and Grant (Hailey) Amonds of Jonesboro, Arkansas were dear to her heart. Kimberly Sides, her devoted caregiver, held a special place in her life as well. Shirley's expansive family also included numerous nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends, all of whom she cherished.

Shirley was preceded in death by her parents, seven brothers, and six sisters. Her memory will forever be etched in the minds of those who knew her, adorned with the ever-present smile that brought joy to all who encountered her. Her impact on the world will be deeply missed, as she was truly loved by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

In accordance with her wishes, there will be no funeral service. Shirley's desire to contribute to the advancement of knowledge led her to choose body donation for scientific purposes. To honor Shirley's memory, her family encourages you to make a donation of blood through the American Red Cross or at a blood drive.

The family will organize a celebration of Shirley's life at a later date, a gathering that will undoubtedly reflect the warmth, love, and community spirit that defined her existence.

Tribute Wall

SW

“ I was surprised to see Shirley had passed,so glad I was able to visit her.prayers for all the family. A very true classmate and friend.RIP. Shirley.

Shirley Waterman - August 29, 2023 at 10:07 PM

GT

Thank You Shirley.
Gina

Gina Thomas - September 11, 2023 at 08:40 AM

KB

“ My deepest condolences to the family. Great mother and wonderful lady. RIP Shirley!!! Your kindness during my stay in Cape will never be forgotten.

Kristine Bolton - August 19, 2023 at 03:58 PM

GT

Thanks Kristine

Gina R Thomas - August 21, 2023 at 08:58 PM

RG

Sincerest sympathy and condolences.

ROGER GRAHAM - August 24, 2023 at 10:09 AM

GT

Thanks Roger

Gina Thomas - September 11, 2023 at 08:41 AM

TT

“ Tammy J Terry sent a virtual gift in memory of Shirley Thomas



Tammy J Terry - August 18, 2023 at 10:06 AM

TT

Sorry for your loss, Sending Prayers to the family and friends. Until we meet again. (tell Emma Jean Terry I love her ❤️)

Tammy J Terry - August 18, 2023 at 10:08 AM

GT

Thanks Tammy ☐

Gina R Thomas - August 21, 2023 at 08:59 PM

RP

“ So sorry to hear of your mom's passing Gina. She was a super sweet lady. My thoughts and prayers are with you and Kelly.

Rhonda Price - August 17, 2023 at 11:07 PM

GT

Thanks Rhonda ☐

Gina R Thomas - August 21, 2023 at 08:59 PM

KV

“ Sorry to hear about your moms passing. Be happy that she is with the Love of her life. Kelly hope life is treating you well, Leen

Kathleen Vinyard - August 17, 2023 at 07:32 AM



Thanks Kathleen □

Gina R Thomas - August 21, 2023 at 09:00 PM