



## Shirley M. Anderson

April 21, 1927 - June 11, 2025

Shirley Mae Anderson, age 98 of Highland, IL, died Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at Breese Nursing Home in Breese, IL.

She was born on Thursday, April 21, 1927, in Highland, IL, the daughter of Elmer and Florence (nee Geller) Mueller.

On Wednesday, November 8, 1950, she married Earl "Moon" Robert Anderson in Arkansas, who passed away on Saturday, March 24, 2012.

She was a member of Evangelical United Church of Christ. She was also a member of Women's Guild of Evangelical United Church of Christ, Auxiliary to V.F.W. Post #5694, Highland, IL, Belleville Area College's Seniors Volunteer Program, Belleville, IL, Senior Citizen Club, Highland, IL, and the St. Louis Polka Club, St. Louis, MO.

Mrs. Anderson was born on the family farm north-west of Highland, IL in Marine Township. She grew up there and attending the old Oak Grove Grade School in St. Jacob Township. She was a 1945 graduate of Highland High School. Shirley worked at Alton Box Company until 1951; then raised her family. She reentered the job market in 1967 to work at Highland Auto White Sales; she left there in 1969 and went to work at Tri-Ford in Highland. She retired in 1981. Her pride and joy were her grandchildren and great

grandchildren. She and her husband enjoyed traveling, dancing and playing cards. In her retirement, she volunteered for over 30 years at the Highland Home, teaching exercise classes three times a week. She also worked as a house sitter at the Highland Home on a part-time basis.

Survivors include:

Son - Wayne E. (Joan) Anderson, Highland, IL

Daughter - Di Ann (Gary) Rufer, Highland, IL

Grandson - Michael (Christine) Anderson, Highland, IL

Grandson - Christopher (Paige) Anderson, Highland, IL

Granddaughter - Andrea (Keith) Woll, Highland, IL

Granddaughter - Shelly (Jack) Bittle, Saint Jacob, IL

Great Grandchild - Robert Bittle, Saint Jacob, IL

Great Grandchild - Wyatt Anderson, Highland, IL

Great Grandchild - Nolan Anderson, Highland, IL

Great Grandchild - Hattie Anderson, Highland, IL

Great Grandchild - Easton Anderson, Highland, IL

Great Grandchild – Kolton Anderson, Highland, IL

She was preceded in death by:

Husband - Earl "Moon" Robert Anderson died 3/24/2012

Father - Elmer Ferdinand Mueller, died 6/20/1979

Mother - Florence Louise Mueller, nee Geller, died 8/03/1987

Brother - Duane "Butch" Mueller, died 11/25/1977

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Visitation will be held from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at Evangelical United Church of Christ in Highland, IL.

Funeral Service will be at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at Evangelical United Church of Christ in Highland, IL, with Rev. William E. Kapp, pastor, Evangelical United Church of Christ, officiating.

Interment will be at Keystone Cemetery in Saint Jacob, IL.

Memorial contributions may be made to Highland Home; Highland Senior Center; Evangelical United Church of Christ; or Charity of Donor's Choice.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 17. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Evangelical United Church of Christ  
2520 Poplar Street  
Highland, IL 62249  
(618) 654-7459

## Funeral Service

JUN 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

Evangelical United Church of Christ  
2520 Poplar Street  
Highland, IL 62249  
(618) 654-7459

# Tribute Wall

DG

“ I have enjoyed these recent years of friendship with Shirl since connecting with her via my mother, Laurene Riggs, who was a high school classmate with Shirl. Shirl and I met in California long ago and developed a friendship bond through calls, letters, and visits continuing even after Mother’s passing. Shirl will be missed. I am thankful to have known this seeet Lady!

*Diann Riggs Gute*

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**Diann Riggs Gute** - June 20, 2025 at 02:24 PM

JB

“ I have known Shirl since I was a young child. The Andersons are our extended family. She was a beautiful person inside and out. She had a heart of gold and was a kind soul. I enjoyed our weekly phone calls. We had many laughs about Earl the "the peacock" which appeared at my parents farm after Earl passed away, and his feathers that I sent via snail mail to Shirl. I will cherish the many fond memories we shared with Polka music and my dads Polka band. I was always excited knowing when Earl and Shirl were coming to stay with us at the farm. They are both gems in my book and will be dearly, dearly missed.

*It was an honor to cross paths with them in this lifetime.*

*Respectfully and with Honor, Julie Blumer*

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**Julie Blumer** - June 17, 2025 at 11:22 AM

BS

“ Shirley was a wonderful woman. Sending sincere sympathy to her family. God Bless 🙏🙏

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**Bob & Beckie Schrupf** - June 16, 2025 at 10:46 PM

SD

“ I am so saddened to hear of Shirley's passing. She has been in my life since I was a small child and I have so many fond memories of her and her family. To Diane and Wayne I am so sorry for the loss of your mother. She was truly a very special person and will be missed by all.

Sheila Dunn - June 16, 2025 at 07:39 PM

BB

“ I sure loved this lady a lot. One of my favorites at EvUCC. Thoroughly enjoyed her visits to the church office. Always dressed to the nines with hair, makeup, nails and jewelry. She sure loved Earl and her family, but most of all Jesus! RIP beautiful Shirley! We will all miss your smile, wit and caring, optimistic nature.

Barb Bray - June 15, 2025 at 01:51 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley M. Anderson.



June 14, 2025 at 09:35 PM

DS

“ Deborah Spears lit a candle in memory of Shirley Anderson



Deborah Spears - June 13, 2025 at 09:37 PM

DS

“ Shirley will be deeply missed at the Highland Home. I have been doing her hair there for the past 6 years. Ill miss our talks. RIP Shirley.

My deepest condolences,  
DEBORAH SPEARS

Deborah Spears - June 13, 2025 at 09:36 PM

MM

“ I will always remember you as this fabulous lady who loved bingo and cats 🐱 and the cookies I brought. Ms. Shirley always looked fabulous too. I am glad we got to visit one last time. I'll miss you!

Mae McNamee - June 13, 2025 at 08:17 PM

JB

“ June Barney lit a candle in memory of Shirley Anderson



June Barney - June 13, 2025 at 07:45 PM

JB

“ June Barney lit a candle in memory of Shirley Anderson



June Barney - June 13, 2025 at 07:34 PM



“ *Rita Rinderer lit a candle in memory of Shirley Anderson*



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**Rita Rinderer** - June 13, 2025 at 03:17 PM

PL

“ *Shirley was the matriarch of the family. Many fun times with her, especially playing rounds of hand and foot. And her fun personality will be missed by many.*

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**Pam & Aimee Lecerf** - June 13, 2025 at 03:10 PM