



## Shirley J. Wheeler

October 15, 1936 - July 25, 2021

Shirley Jean (nee Smith) Wheeler, 84, Highland, Illinois, finished her mission on this earth on July 25, 2021 at Highland, IL.

Shirley was born on Thursday, October 15, 1936 in Dieterich, Illinois; the daughter of Charles and Iva (nee Shouse) Smith. On November 09, 1952, she married Wilbert Raymond Wheeler at Dieterich, IL. Shirley was a military wife for 20 years. She was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served seven missions at Martin's Cove in Alcova, WY with her husband. Shirley also worked in the St. Louis Missouri Temple for 12 years. Shirley drove a school bus for over 40 years. She was an avid reader and collector of Beanie Babies and recipe books. She loved growing flowers and was a wonderful cook. She was well known for her banana cream, pecan, and lemon meringue pies. She raised Himalayan cats for 25 years under the name of Whispurrkiss, because her husband liked the name "Whisper" for quiet kittens. She was a loving mother to seven children, who she considered her most precious work on earth.

She was preceded in death by: Father - Charles F. Smith; Mother - Iva Jane Smith, nee Shouse; Husband - Wilbert R. Wheeler; Daughter Susan M. Newton; Sister - Maxine Hirtzel; Sister Phyllis Edwards; Brother - Charles Leroy Smith; Grandson - Joshua Neidholdt; Great Grandson - Porter Neidholdt.

Surviving Family Members: Daughter - Sandra (Douglas) Neidholdt, Grain Valley, MO; Daughter - Twilla (Douglas) Sleeth, Bonaire, GA; Son - Steven (Tina) Wheeler, Highland, IL; Son - Rodney (Jeanna) Wheeler, Troy, IL; Son - Bradley (Kerry) Wheeler, Highland, IL; Daughter - Deborah Alma Wheeler, Highland, IL; Grandchildren: Carl Neidholdt, Jesse Neidholdt, Lehi Neidholdt, Rene Lockman, Theresa Jackson, Jason Schwartz, Tonya Arnold, Andrew Sleeth, Ryan Sleeth, Michaela Wheeler, Marissa Wheeler, Zachary Wheeler, Sam Wheeler, Sean Wheeler, Morgan Dickens, Justin Wheeler; Grandchildren 20.

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

Graveside Service will be at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at Oakridge Cemetery in Effingham, IL.

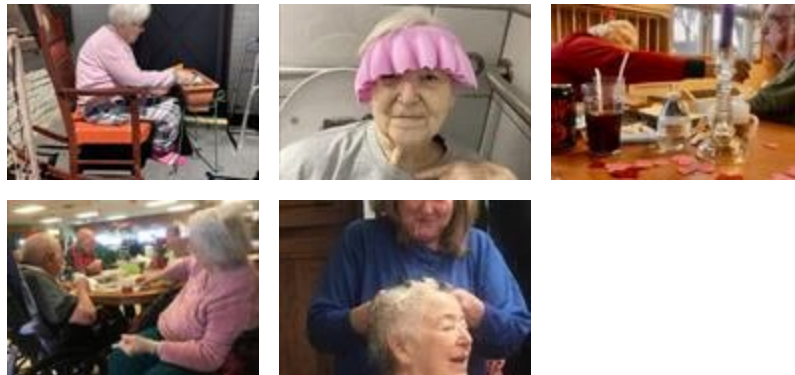
Interment will be at Oakridge Cemetery in Effingham, IL.

Memorial contributions may be made to LDS Missionary Fund, C/O, Bishop Bryce Sever, 102 Wolf Ave., Hamel, IL 62046

# Tribute Wall

DD

“ 15 files added to the tribute wall



deborah wheeler daugjter - July 30, 2021 at 09:01 AM

MB

“ Mary Beth Broughton lit a candle in memory of Shirley J. Wheeler



Mary beth Broughton - July 27, 2021 at 10:07 PM

MB

“ My thoughts prayers and love hugs going to the family. I'm very sorry for your loss

Mary beth Broughton - July 27, 2021 at 10:06 PM

Kaytie Faye

“ I had the pleasure to work with Shirley for many years and always enjoyed her, my prayers are with her family as I am sure you will miss her very much!

Kaytie Faye - July 27, 2021 at 12:56 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Twilla Sleeth** - July 26, 2021 at 11:27 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Twilla Sleeth** - July 26, 2021 at 11:22 PM



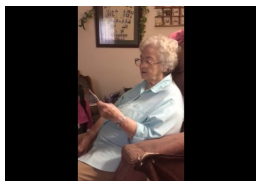
“ *Twilla Sleeth sent a virtual gift in memory of Shirley J. Wheeler*



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**Twilla Sleeth** - July 26, 2021 at 10:59 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Shirley Wheeler*



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**Twilla Sleeth** - July 26, 2021 at 10:40 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Twilla Sleeth** - July 26, 2021 at 10:37 PM



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**Twilla Sleeth** - July 26, 2021 at 10:36 PM



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**Twilla Sleeth** - July 26, 2021 at 10:35 PM

DS

“ Shirley was my Mother-In-Law for 40 years, knowing her for 43. She was my 2nd mom. She was so sweet! Raising 7 kids with her air force husband (deceased), they moved so much, yet she was a great mom to her kids! I thank her for raising Twilla, my wife of 40 years! I also am eternally blessed and grateful as Shirley brought the Gospel to her family and through Twilla to me. That is the greatest blessing in my life. And with that knowledge and understanding, I know Shirley will continue to be blessed in heaven and all eternity! What a great mom! Sadly missed until we all return unto our Father in heaven. Eternal hugs and kisses to you mom. Peace be with you until we meet again.

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**Doug Sleeth** - July 26, 2021 at 10:23 PM