



Ms. Shirley Mae Spence

July 22, 1947 - February 8, 2021

Ms. Shirley Mae Spence, 73, of Peoria, IL transitioned from this life at 12:20 PM on Monday, February 8, 2021 at UnityPoint Methodist Hospital.

Shirley was born on July 22, 1947 in Peoria to Magnolia (McPeace) and Wiley O'Neal, Sr. She and her family were long time members of Holy Temple C.O.G.I.C. Shirley was a 1964 graduate of Manual High School. She went on to work for Caterpillar, Inc., for 15 years. Upon leaving Caterpillar, Shirley went to work for District 150, retiring in 2009.

Shirley had a great sense of humor; yet she did not tolerate nonsense. She was a caring person who had many friends. Shirley adored her family; especially the grand and great grands. She loved gardening, shopping at garage sales and boutiques. Shirley was a member of the "Old School Reunion Committee" sponsored every year at the Trewyn Pavilion.

Shirley leaves to cherish her precious memories her children, Monica and Michelle both of Peoria, IL, Stephen of San Antonio, TX and Anton (Heather) Spence, Adrian O'Neal and Calvin O'Neal, Jr., all of Peoria, IL; one sister, Viola O'Neal-South of Peoria, IL; four grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, other family and friends. She is preceded in death by her parents, 6 brothers, Levi, Elias, Alvin, Elijah, Wiley, Jr. and Calvin O'Neal Sr. and 6 sisters, Ineal Ross, Mae O'Neal, Mary Carroll, Adele Thomas, Odessa Plumlee and Gladys Ware.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Simons Mortuary is entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be

made at SimonsMortuary.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ms. Shirley Mae Spence*

January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



“ *Ms. Shirley Mae Spence*

January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM



“ *My condolences to the family. Several fond memories.*



Kimberly Cary - February 21, 2021 at 01:41 AM



“ *Shirley, I enjoyed working with you on the Old Skool Reunion committee. You will be missed. My sister Dian will miss working with you at the Salvation Army and also on the Old Skool Reunion committee. RIH*

Lauretta Grantham - February 21, 2021 at 12:27 AM



“ *Chandra and i are so sorry to hear of your loss. We will always keep her smile and her loving, caring ways in our hearts. She was truly a special lady.*
Cheryl Reed and Chandra Guy

cheryl reed - February 15, 2021 at 06:01 PM

ED

“ Sorry for your loss I'm keeping the Spence family in prayers much love from Lamont and the Davis family

edward - February 15, 2021 at 10:16 AM

SK

“ Ooh This lady was truly a good soul & will b missed. Shirley & my mom (Willie Bell) was friends & their kids use 2 b 2gthr a lot so we have plenty memories 2 remember this woman smile laughter & big hugs which was the best. Every time she see me whn i was younger she wld tk her hand put 2 fingers 2gthr & c how far she cld go up my skinny chicken arms she called them b4 her fingers broke apart. Use 2 b able w mk it all the way up. Her food was so delish. Monica, Michelle, Stephen, & Anton ya was & always will b my siblings from another mother. Love & my true condolences. Rih momma Shirley.

Sheena K. - February 15, 2021 at 10:13 AM

RH

“ We are sadened for your Great loss family. We send our deepest love and sympathy to each and everyone of you. My daughter loved Ms. Shirley so much she met her at Woodruff High School. Ms. Shirley would always ask how my daughter was doing whenever I saw her. I would often see Ms. Shirley when she came to UP Proctor for her appointments. Her son would walk her to her appointment and he would come in each time and go to pick her up..(Ms. Shirley had he own personal escort!) He would let her and I talk on the way in and on the way out. He was always so kind and patient never expressing he had other duties awaiting his busy day. I must say you are a Blessed Good son! Look to the hills family where your Help comes from as your Mom smiles down on you all each and every day. Sgt. Johnnie, Ontisha ,Rena Webster- Horton & Family.



Rena Horton - February 14, 2021 at 10:28 PM

CC

“ Sincerest condolences to the entire Spence family.

CC - February 13, 2021 at 04:35 PM

JU

“ Shirley an her kids lived on idaho st with me an my family monica Tim an julie parker. Shirley was wonderful lady. Hugs to all of you if u need anything call julie 3093408718 hugs to you all julie parker jackson juliejackson.1410@gmail.com

Julie - February 13, 2021 at 11:42 AM

SR

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Miss Shirley at Salvation Army. She had a beautiful soul, her smile showed it. 💔

Suzi Rudd - February 13, 2021 at 11:41 AM

KC

“ Kathy Collins lit a candle in memory of Ms. Shirley Mae Spence



Kathy Collins - February 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM

GT

“ Gladys Tracey lit a candle in memory of Ms. Shirley Mae Spence



Gladys Tracey - February 12, 2021 at 11:58 PM

GA

“ Shirley always had a smile on her face and was friendly to everybody. It was a joy to work with her. I am honored to have known her and been part of her life at the Salvation Army. She'll be smiling at everybody in heaven and brightening up the atmosphere !!! 💖 😊 ❤️

Gretchen Amick - February 12, 2021 at 06:11 PM



“ Sincere condolences to the family. May the memories sustain you during this difficult time.



Evelyn Tate-Clayton - February 12, 2021 at 05:26 PM

NK

“ Our condolences to the family.



Nathan Kurtz - February 12, 2021 at 03:52 PM

ZB

“ Zerlyna Burse-Taylor lit a candle in memory of Ms. Shirley Mae Spence



Zerlyna Burse-Taylor - February 12, 2021 at 12:59 AM

MJ

“ *Mama Shirley was a kind and happy person that would make you laugh everytime you saw her.
She will be missed so immensely.*

Michelle and Monica I love you and will be there if you need any help.

Many, many condolences for peace and comfort.



M Jones-Douglas - February 11, 2021 at 05:07 PM

CG

“ *Cheryl Reed and Chandra Guy purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ms. Shirley Mae Spence.*



Cheryl Reed and Chandra Guy - February 11, 2021 at 12:47 PM

TS

“ *I am so sorry of hearing this I worked with Shirley many Christmas's at The Salvation Army. We had so much fun I loved her. She always had a smile and her laugh was contagious.*



Tina Schmidt - February 11, 2021 at 01:17 AM