



Mrs. Shirley VanLiere

January 7, 1936 - July 8, 2025

Shirley VanLiere, age 89, of Cocoa, Florida & Bear Lake, Michigan entered the presence of her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on July 8, 2025. She was the beloved wife of the late Rev. James VanLiere, with whom she shared 60 wonderful years of marriage.

Born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to Maynard and May DeYoung, Shirley graduated from Creston High School. She faithfully served as a missionary with Continental Baptist Mission, and alongside her husband, helped plant two churches: Heritage Baptist Church of Manistee, MI, and Heritage Baptist Church of Grayling, MI. Shirley was also deeply committed to Christian Women's Clubs and served passionately in women's and children's ministries within her church communities. She had a very warm and inviting personality and made all feel welcome.

Shirley was an extremely talented seamstress and quilter. She loved to garden and because she was Dutch, she loved to sweep outside! Shirley walked every day and talked all along the way to everyone she met. She loved a good garage sale just to talk to and meet people. She will be remembered and missed because of her outgoing personality and friendly smile.

Shirley is survived by her sisters, Carol Dykstra and Marcia DeYoung; her

daughters, Jan VanLiere (Dennis Feters), Sandy Tomaszewski, and Vicki (Jeff) Bettig; and her grandchildren, Jill (Josh) Baker, Travis (Jessi) Tomaszewski, Holly (Zak) White, Alexi Bettig, and Lynsey Bettig. She was also blessed with eight great-grandchildren: Jack, Jonas, Jett, Hudson, Weber, Ada, Jude, and Archer, along with many beloved nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and her son-in-law, Don Tomaszewski.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Monday, July 14, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at Bethel Baptist Church, 1950 Michigan Ave., Cocoa, Florida. A fellowship luncheon will follow. A graveside service will take place in Bear Lake, Michigan at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to:

Bethel Baptist Church
1950 Michigan Ave
Cocoa, Florida 32955

Or

Lake Ann Camp
P.O. Box 109
Lake Ann, MI 49650

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL 14. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel Baptist Church
1950 Michigan Ave
Cocoa, FL 32922
(321) 636-0865

Tribute Wall

JK

“ Shirley what is my best friend I . I would stop by your house and say I'm going to go here or there and say you want to go and her response was just a minute I got to get my purse. Her and I would ride the golf cart and talk to anybody that we could along the way she was a lot of fun and talk about seamstress she was the very best. I know she's in heaven and I know she's a very happy lady right now but she will be missed by a lot of people. So Sandy thank you for sharing your mother with me it was a joy even though I told her that she was sometimes irritated me we still loved each other immensely. Good job Shirley I love you.

Judy king - July 09, 2025 at 08:16 PM

WE

Shirley, was a very good friend. As she had many. I sure miss her walking down the road each morning, and stopping to say hello. And asking me do you want to walk around the block with me? My answer was I don't think I can make it around the block I would have to ride your cart, she would laugh. I know that she is in a good place now. God called her home, and I know she was ready. I know that she is back with her husband now. And they are looking down upon us. And their beautiful family. Thank you for being my friend Shirley, I will miss you and love you for always. Wanda Evans and family.

Wanda Evans - July 15, 2025 at 09:59 AM