



Shirley Ellen Russell

April 15, 1937 - June 10, 2014

Shirley E. Russell, 77, of Aurora, NE died Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at Saint Francis Medical Center in Grand Island. Funeral services will be Saturday, June 14, 2014, at 10:00 A.M. at Messiah Lutheran Church in Aurora with Pastor Sheryl Kester Beyer officiating. Burial will be in the Aurora Cemetery. Visitation will be Friday, June 13, from 5-7 P.M. at Wagner Funeral Home in Central City.

Shirley Ellen Russell, daughter of Burton Hiram and Clara Pauline (Erickson) Jacobson, was born in Humboldt County, IA on April 15, 1937. She grew up and attended Gilmore City High School where she enjoyed playing basketball, being a cheerleader, and playing the drums.

She was united in marriage to Thomas D. Russell in Aurora and they moved near Phillips to farm until 1967 when they moved to Lamar, NE to farm and raise their family.

Shirley was a member of Messiah Lutheran Church in Aurora, Teammates, SCORE, and a board member of the Hamilton County Food Pantry. She enjoyed playing softball in the early years in Hampton, gardening, helping run the farm, playing cards, dancing, volunteering, and following her children and grandchildren's activities.

Survivors include her three daughters and sons-in-laws, Kae Russell of Aurora, NE; Kristi and Steve McClung of Big Springs, NE; Kerilyn and Bill Mersch of Aurora, NE, granddaughters, Kiersten, Kylie, and Kelsey Mersch of Aurora, NE; Stephanie and Kailin McClung of Big Springs, NE; and Jasmine

Russell of Aurora, NE, a great-granddaughter, Kinley Russell also of Aurora, NE, brothers and sisters-in-law, Joe and Floy Jacobson of Lee's Summit, MO; Earl and Mardell Jacobson of Waseca, MN; Gary Jacobson of Rochester, MN, and many nieces, nephews, family members, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, Don and Arlo Jacobson, one sister, Norma (Jacobson) Klute, three nephews and two nieces, sisters-in-law, Connie and Betty Jacobson, brother-in-law, Art Klute, and her in-laws, Howard and Florence Russell.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Hamilton County Food Pantry or Hamilton County Cancer Fund and condolences may be sent to the family at the funeral home website, www.wagnerfuneral.com.

Music:

Pianist: Connie Nicklasson

Soloist: Erik Jacobson – “Amazing Grace”

Congregational Hymns – “Borning Cry”, “How Great Thou Art”, and “The Old Rugged Cross”

Pallbearers:

Bill Mersch, Steve McClung, Richard Jacobson, John Jacobson, Erik Jacobson, and Rick Gustafson .

Cemetery Details

Aurora Cemetery

Aurora, NE

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 13. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Solt-Wagner Funeral Home
1507 17th St.
Central City, NE 68826
(308) 946-3303
soltwagnerfuneral@gmail.com
<https://www.wagnerfuneral.com/>

Funeral Service

JUN 14. 10:00 AM (CT)

Messiah Lutheran Church
415 S. 18th St.
Aurora, NE 68818

Tribute Wall

NP

“ We learned to know Shirley when she volunteered for the Prison Fellowship Bible study with us at the Nebraska Correctional Center for Women. She was a wonderful volunteer, she really cared about the women. When we would meet her in Aurora, she always asked about the ministry and about women that she remembered. Her caring attitude was always evident to us. She was a special friend and we grieve with you, her family. You are in our thoughts and prayers.
With Deepest Sympathy,
Nadine & Al Peters

Nadine Peters - June 13, 2014 at 07:02 PM

SC

“ Kerilyn and Family, We are so sad to hear about the passing of your mother. I pray that God gives you comfort and peace during this difficult time. We are making a donation to the Hamilton County Food Pantry in your mothers honor. - Sarah and Paul Clark

Sarah Clark - June 13, 2014 at 04:16 PM

TM

“ My condolences for your family. My God bless you and give you strength during this time of need. Love, Tisha McCurdy (friend of daughter Kerilyn)

Tisha McCurdy - June 13, 2014 at 01:47 PM

RN

“ Kae & family: we are so sorry for the loss of your mother, Shirley. She is in the Lord's place. We pray that God will comfort you all.

Ruby & George Nekola

Ruby Nekola - June 13, 2014 at 12:37 PM

JP

“ Shirley, my first cousin, was so much fun to be around. She could tell such a good story and was entertaining. Always a great treat to see her. Wanted so much to come to the funeral and see her family also, but MapQuest says it would take us 5 1/5 hours. This week has been so busy with plans already made for Sunday. So sorry we can't be there. Only my thoughts and prayers will be with you. Love, Janice Olson Pflibsen Parker (daughter of Earl and Aldean [Jacobson]Olson)

Janice Parker - June 12, 2014 at 04:14 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Shirley Ellen Russell.



June 11, 2014 at 08:32 PM