



Shirley Ann BeShears

April 14, 1954 - October 12, 2022

A celebration of life will be held for Shirley Ann BeShears at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 16, 2022, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Jason Murphree officiating. Visitation will be from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. prior to the service.

Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Wife, mother, Mimi, and the original Southern Starlet Shirley BeShears's love of life did not come to an end with her death. Shirley passed away on October 12, 2022, at the age of 68 after a courageous battle with aplastic anemia and cancer, surrounded by loved ones who will continue to honor her legacy by living their lives to the fullest.

Although her first love was her daughter Candy, Shirley fell madly in love with and married Mitch BeShears, the man who would love her in sickness and health. However, it may only be fair to add that the only man who could do no wrong in Shirley's eyes is her grandson, Grant Roland.

Becoming a West Point High School majorette in the late 1960s was the spark that ignited Shirley's love of baton twirling. In fact, her name is synonymous with the Southern Starlets, the school she established to share her lifelong passion for baton twirling and dancing. She also devoted four decades to

mentoring and coaching the Cullman High School majorettes and several other school teams throughout the state. In addition to winning national and world competition titles, many of her students have been chosen to be majorettes or dancers at colleges and universities throughout the country. Continuing her legacy of mentoring young women, some of Shirley's former Southern Starlets are currently head coaches at UAB, Auburn University, and the University of Alabama. Clearly, Shirley has made an impact that is widespread and long-lasting, and she will be missed by so many students, who she inspired to chase their dreams.

She chose the colors red, white, and blue for her Southern Starlets because she has always been patriotic. In fact, she cast her last vote from her hospital bed by absentee ballot. However, what may have been her biggest strength was her unshakeable faith. She trusted God for a miracle as she battled her disease. Her doctors will tell you that she was the toughest lady they had ever seen. The fact that she surpassed the life-expectancy of most people with aplastic anemia is a testament to God giving Shirley her miracle. Each extra day with her was a miracle.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Dwight Johns; and brother-in-law, Donald Faulkner.

Survivors include her husband, Mitchell BeShears; daughter, Candy Byrd Miller; son-in-law, Jason Miller; grandson, Grant Roland; mother-in-law, Ruth "Nana" BeShears; sisters, Doris Faulkner, Annette Brooks, and Carol Striker; and a host of nieces and nephews.

The family would like to give a special thanks to her medical teams and the staff at CRMC and Vanderbilt University Hospital.

In lieu of flowers, please make a financial or blood donation to the American

Red Cross.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **16**. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Cullman Heritage Funeral Home
255 County Road 1435
Cullman, AL 35058
(256) 734-0208
info@cullmanheritage.com
<https://www.cullmanheritage.com>

Celebration of Life Service

OCT **16**. 2:00 PM (CT)

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255 County Road 1435
Cullman, AL 35058
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Tribute Wall

AK

“ Mitch, I'm so sorry on the passing of Shirley, you are in my thoughts and prayers, Our Lord Jesus Christ will be with you and your family during your sadness, Shirley was a wonderful caring person, she will be very much missed,

Ann kuykendall - October 16, 2022 at 10:31 AM



“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann BeShears.



October 14, 2022 at 03:15 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann BeShears.



October 14, 2022 at 01:27 PM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann BeShears.



October 14, 2022 at 01:17 PM

AK

“ Mitch, I'm so sorry for your loss of your beloved wife Shirley, you and your family our in my thoughts and my prayers ANN KUYKENDALL



Ann kuykendall - October 14, 2022 at 12:42 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann BeShears.



October 14, 2022 at 09:39 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann BeShears.



October 13, 2022 at 12:35 PM

LF

“ Love, Your Radar & Care Plus Family purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Shirley Ann BeShears.



Love, Your Radar & Care Plus Family - October 13, 2022 at 12:03 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann BeShears.*



October 13, 2022 at 11:13 AM



“ *I'm so sorry for the loss of Shirley, obviously an amazing woman. I didn't know her but followed her struggle on FB. Her family is a testimony of what a wonderful woman she was. I've known the BeShears family for years & know that Mitch is a fine man & I'm thankful he was there to help take care of her. My thoughts & prayers are with all of you.*

Joyce (Parker) Boggan - October 13, 2022 at 10:57 AM



“ *Please be aware of our prayers and our thoughts during this time. If we may help you in any way, please don't hesitate to call.*

*Delbert Freeman
Chaplain Cullman Regional*

Delbert Freeman - October 13, 2022 at 10:17 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann BeShears.*



October 13, 2022 at 09:50 AM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann BeShears.



October 13, 2022 at 04:10 AM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann BeShears.



October 12, 2022 at 11:14 PM