



## Shirley Agnes Yvonne McKay

July 20, 2022

Shirley McKay (nee Butchart) on July 30, 2022 in her 86th year. Shirley was born December 16, 1936 in Toronto where she grew up and in her early years was swept off her feet by the man of her dreams Robert “Bob” McKay at a local dance. They married in 1957 and raised their family of 3 children, several dogs, and a cat in Thornhill and then mainly lived in Don Mills. After her ‘Mom’ duties were over she worked in the financial sector in Toronto and then landed a position at Reebok Canada. In 1985 Shirley and Bob pursued a love of horses and they moved to a Stouffville hobby farm. In 1996 they decided to wind down and embraced the retirement community at Parkview Village in Stouffville where they moved into a beautiful suite on the 3rd floor overlooking the gardens. Shirley was a strong, kind, caring and compassionate soul who never stopped helping others. She could be seen running friends to appointments and bringing meals to those who needed support. And if you play bridge, she would have you targeted for the infamous Monday night game where the trophy was the prize, and the prize would be proudly displayed outside the winner’s unit door. And importantly, Shirley was a Christian who lived the values of her faith. She was a proud member of St James Presbyterian Church in Stouffville, a wonderful congregation she enjoyed being with. And most of all, Shirley enjoyed her family; with 3 children, 4 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren, nephews, nieces and all the adoptive family who considered her a mother, grandmother & great-grandmother; she recently shared that she has had a full and good life. Just

this year she was able to attend 2 weddings and a family reunion and this made her very happy.

Shirley is predeceased by her brother James (Jim) Butchart, daughter Susan Harmsen (Peter) and son Bruce McKay (Ed). She leaves behind her beloved husband of 65 years Bob McKay, sister Ruth Nayler, son Brad McKay (Venessa), grandchildren; John Harmsen (Julia), Courtney Harmsen, Taylor Sedran (Robby), Erin McKay and great-grandchildren Mackenzie, Easton, and Cameron.

A celebration of life for Shirley McKay will take place at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking that you consider a donation to Shirley's place of worship, St James Presbyterian Church in Stouffville. <https://pccweb.ca/stjames-stouffville/contact/>

# Tribute Wall

UR

“ *To a wonderful lady. I took care of her apartment at Parkville for many years. Shirley was always so welcoming and kind. I miss her so much. Xo Ulrika*

Ulrika Rhynold - September 18, 2022 at 07:43 PM

BM

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Brad McKay - August 10, 2022 at 09:37 PM

BM

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Brad McKay - August 10, 2022 at 09:35 PM

BM

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



Brad McKay - August 10, 2022 at 04:51 PM



“ So very saddened to hear of your Mom's passing, Brad. She was the McKay cornerstone for sure and always had time for everyone, especially those who carried the heaviest crosses. What a magnificent and strong, devoted woman. Although we were never blood relatives, she was always Aunt Shirley to me. I will always remember the beautiful shower she gave me way back in 1979. Nothing was ever too much for her and her cooking and baking of course is legendary. Her legacy will live on through you and all her beautiful grandchildren.

*May the road rise up to meet her.  
May the wind be always at her back.  
May the sun shine warm upon her face;  
the rains fall soft upon her fields and until we meet again,  
may God hold her in the palm of His hand.*

*With love and deepest condolences, Debbie Busby Fisher*

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**Debbie Fisher** - August 05, 2022 at 08:02 PM

EW

“ Deep sympathy to all the McKay family and so sorry to hear of Shirley's passing.  
I only have good memories of Shirley and Bob and my husband Harry worked together for a number of years. Shirley and I spent time shopping when the men were working when in Kingston. Also on other occasions work related and a wedding in Mexico where we were guests.  
I am sure she will be deeply missed by her family and the many people who knew her.  
We kept in touch usually with a yearly Christmas card and that meant a lot.  
Deepest sympathy,  
Edith and Harry Willett

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**Edith Willett** - August 04, 2022 at 08:06 PM

AC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Anne Cornellier** - August 04, 2022 at 06:25 PM

AC

“ Our hearts are broken with the sad news of our wonderful friend and adoptive grandmother. Shirley has blessed and enriched so many lives with her kind soul, warm heart and generous nature. We will miss her smile, her laughter and her beautiful blue eyes. I read a quote some time ago and I find it comforting and it reflects Shirley and her strong faith. It goes as follows, “If something makes you sad when it ends, it must have been pretty wonderful when it was happening. Everything ends.....everything dies. But if you step back and look at the whole picture, you will see the end is not sad. It’s the start of the next, incredible, beautiful thing”. Thank you for giving all of us the opportunity of knowing such an amazing woman who is now resting safely in God’s arms.

*Love always,*

*Anne, Andre, Alison (Lyver) and Paul Cornellier*

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**Anne Cornellier** - August 04, 2022 at 06:12 PM

TB

“ To the McKay family,  
Condolences to all of you from Al and I. Bob and Shirley were a big part of our life for many years. For most of these years laughter is the first thing that comes to mind, we had such great times with them on the farm. Shirley packed the best lunches for Bob and I when we would go horseback riding for hours, always a couple of cold beers to go with the sandwiches.  
Shirley was one of the strongest, kindest woman and the very best cook that I have ever met. We shared many meals together and crazy stories and we were always busting a gut laughing.  
Shirley will be missed by so many xo  
Much love,  
Al and Trudy Barron

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Trudy Barron - August 04, 2022 at 04:19 PM