



## Shirley Jean Merrell

July 3, 1937 - May 12, 2021

Shirley Jean Merrell, age 83, passed away on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at Forrest General Hospital of complications from a fall she took three weeks earlier. She was surrounded by her family and passed peacefully into the arms of her Lord and Savior and will be forever missed.

She was a loving, selfless woman that always put others needs before her own. Her wit and sense of humor was non stop and she was always laughing. Her love for her family was evident every day of her life. Her favorite hobby was gardening. Planting flowers, pulling weeds and any type of yardwork was her therapy and her beautiful yard showed her labor of love.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 52 years, Thomas "Tracy" Merrell; son, Larry Merrell; sister, Edna Earl Temple; brothers, A. E. "Sonny Boy" Livingston and James Allen "Charlie" Livingston and her parents, S. E. "Stud" Livingston and Lois Livingston.

Survivors include her sons, Joey Merrell (Anita) and Marty Merrell; and her daughter, Joni Bush (Nathan). She is also survived by her grandchildren, Tracy Merrell, Miles Merrell, Tucker Bush (Hanna) and Megan Yarbrough (Andrew); and her great grandchildren, Raeanna, Oaklynn and River. She leaves behind two treasured friends, Janis Hill Newton and Flora Catherine Seymour.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, May 16th at 1:00 p.m. until service at 3:00 p.m. at Memory Chapel Funeral Home. Burial will be at Lake Park Cemetery. Bro. Randy McCleod will officiate.

Pallbearers will be Marc Herrington, Matthew Lee, Lance McGee, Casey Shedd, Eric Womack and Mark Womack.

To sign the online guest book, visit [www.memorychapellaurel.com](http://www.memorychapellaurel.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Lake Park Cemetery

1303 Old Bay Springs Rd  
Laurel, MS 39440

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 16.** 1:00 PM (CT)

Memory Chapel Funeral Home  
3100 Audubon Drive  
P. O. Box 674  
Laurel, MS 39440  
(601) 428-5235  
memorychapel@comcast.net  
<https://www.memorychapellaurel.com/>

## Service

**MAY 16.** 3:00 PM (CT)

Memory Chapel Funeral Home  
3100 Audubon Drive  
P. O. Box 674  
Laurel, MS 39440  
(601) 428-5235  
memorychapel@comcast.net  
<https://www.memorychapellaurel.com/>

# Tribute Wall

MF

“ Shirley was more than a sister-in-law. She was my "big sister" and my "Go To" person while I was growing up. For advice, for "boy troubles", for majorette costumes to making my wedding dress and being my Maid of Honor, she was always there for me. She was also always there for my parents. You are loved Shirley and you will be missed. Martha Merrell Furr



Martha Merrell Furr - May 15, 2021 at 09:07 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Shirley Jean Merrell.



May 14, 2021 at 06:54 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley Jean Merrell.



May 14, 2021 at 02:43 PM

TF

“ *The Windham Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Shirley Jean Merrell.*



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**The Windham Family** - May 14, 2021 at 01:26 PM

BH

“ *Love to Shirley and family. Many wonderful memories of our extended family.*



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**Bobbie Hinman** - May 14, 2021 at 12:28 PM



“ *Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Shirley Jean Merrell.*



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May 14, 2021 at 11:55 AM

CT

“ *Anita and Joey, we are so sorry to learn of Shirley's passing. I know she was greatly loved and will be greatly missed by you. Our deepest sympathies and prayers for the family. We love you. Cathy and Lynn*

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**Cathy Tompkins** - May 14, 2021 at 11:39 AM

CT

“ *I didn't know Shirley, except that she was the mother of a wonderful son, Joey.*

*Charlie Tompkins, Anita's brother*

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**Charlie Tompkins** - May 13, 2021 at 10:19 PM

CT

“ *Charlie and Judy Tompkins purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Shirley Jean Merrell.*



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**Charlie and Judy Tompkins** - May 13, 2021 at 10:14 PM

RB

“ *Mrs. Merrell was one of the kindest people I've ever met. Praying for comfort for this family in the loss of one loved so dearly.*



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**Ruth Bryant** - May 13, 2021 at 07:35 PM

KG

“ *Ms. Shirley was one of the most loving, spirited, funny women EVER. She always made me laugh every time I got to be around her. This world will miss this beautiful soul. We love the Merrell's and Bush's. We're hugging all of you.*

*Tony, Kathy, Bryce, and Bailey Gilbert*



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**Kathy Gilbert** - May 13, 2021 at 05:34 PM